

8th January 2017
The Baptism of our Lord

Hymns: 275, 250, Pew sheet, 457



Baptism of Jesus *Gustave Doré, 1866.*

Introit Hymn

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The Liturgy continues on page 119 Green Prayer Book

SENTENCE

A voice came from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.” *Matthew 3.17*

THE COLLECT

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42. 1-9

[A prophecy of God’s coming servant, who fulfils God’s promise, and who will bring justice and comfort.]

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

‘Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.’ This is what God the Lord says – the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: ‘I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. ‘I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols. See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 29

[An exhortation for the heavenly beings to give glory to God, for God’s mighty, majestic voice.]

Response: May the Lord bless his people, bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness./R

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice./R

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf and Sirion like a young wild ox./R

The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh./R

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare; in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'/R

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace./R

SECOND READING

Acts 10. 34-43

[Peter preaches about the Jesus who was baptised by John and empowered by God's Spirit, who taught about God's reign and did good, and who is now the judge of all and the one who brings forgiveness.]

A reading from the Acts of Apostles

Peter began to speak: 'I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached – how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. 'We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen – by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, | the Beloved,
with whom I | am well pleased."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 3. 13-17

[Jesus appears at the Jordan and John hesitates to baptise him, but ultimately submits to Christ and baptises him. Then the heavens open, the Spirit descends on Jesus as a dove, and God's voice proclaims God's pleasure in Jesus.]

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Creator God, our soul's delight, your Spirit moved over the waters, liberating the future from the past; in the Spirit's power and through the waters of rebirth, you declared Jesus as your blessed and beloved Son, and anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim good news to all people; sanctify us by the same Spirit, that we may proclaim the healing power of the gospel by acts of love in your name. God of grace and glory; **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for the governments and leaders of nations, including our own, grant them wisdom and compassion as they work for peace and justice in the world; we pray for peace and reconciliation in Syria and South Sudan; and for all affected by earthquake in Fiji..

God of grace and glory **hear our prayer.**

Ever-living Lord, pour out your Spirit of renewal upon the Church as it seeks to fulfil your mission in the world; we pray for all who proclaim your love; may your Spirit dwell upon John our Bishop, and Revd Maryann as she takes up a call to ministry in Cobram; and on our parish, as we remember our baptismal covenant, as we faithfully follow the way of Jesus in our love for you and our neighbour.

God of grace and glory; **hear our prayer.**

Christ our healer, we pray for all who are sick, hospitalised, shut-in, lonely, depressed, for those suffering pain and distress; for the dying and those in bereavement; for those in need; and for those who have requested prayer;

Chris Schafer, Karen Goodger, Jean Evans, Belinda Shannon, Jenny Curry, Barbara Kaye, Seth Gunter, Tom Scrivens, Mark Bennetts, Faye Muddyman, Rob Muddyman, Sharon De Battista, Eunice Downie, Carey Bickoff, Lorraine Lipson, John Leonard, Elaine Haddock, Joy Rowe, Rosalia Bendastinto.

We give thanks for healing and blessings wherever received.

God of grace and glory; **hear our prayer.**

Everliving God, you grant us the gift of eternal life at our baptism and welcome your beloved into your kingdom; we pray for the recently departed; for *Elise Ester Stock* and those years mind we remember at this time:

8th Michael Perry, Judith Carboon, Irene Anderson; 9th George Brown, Ernest Shinn; 10th David Nolan; 11th Alma Fleming, Terence Guinelly, Joan Scale, June Arbuthnot; 12th William Harrington, Cynthia Hill; 13th Vera Brereton, John James; 14th George Glover, Mildred Ollett, Sydney Edge; 15th Laurel Kennard, William Begley, Bruce Insley.

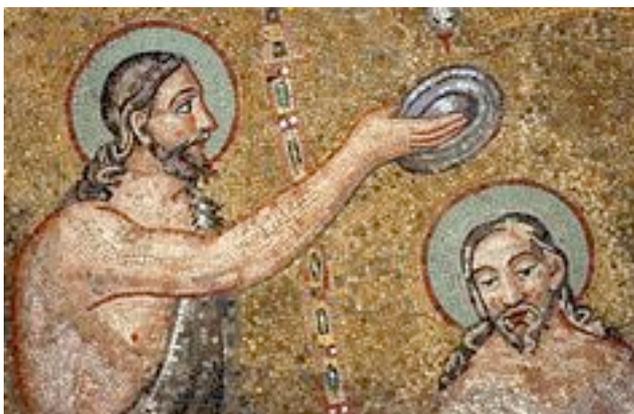
Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord; **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**
God of grace and glory; **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the heavens and the earth you call us into a covenant of baptism and empower us with your spirit, hear us as we pray for ourselves.....; may we be enlivened once more in the power of the Spirit as we bring our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our baptised Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: Down by the Jordan [Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8

1. Down by the Jordan, a prophet named John was baptizing,
Preaching a message the people found bold and surprising:
"God will forgive! Show that you'll change how you live!
Surely God's new day is rising!"
2. There by the river, the crowd came with great expectation:
"Are you God's Chosen One, sent here to rescue our nation?"
"No!" John replied. "He who is mightier than I
Judges and offers salvation."
3. Jesus, you went to be baptized along with the others,
Taking your place among sinners, God's lost sons and daughters.
Then with great love, God's Spirit came as a dove!
Your work began in those waters.
4. Here in the Church, we are baptized and filled with God's Spirit.
Freed and forgiven, we're welcomed with joy! Can you hear it?
This is God's sign! This is how God says, "You're mine!"
Let's take the good news and share it!

© 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.



The Baptism of our Lord,
Battistero Neoniano, Ravenna, Italy

Reflections on the Readings

The twin themes of proclamation and justice run through the readings this week. Isaiah prophesies the servant who fulfils God's previously proclaimed promise and who brings justice by proclamation without raising his voice, in word and action. The voice of God, which causes strong responses in creation, is praised in Psalm 29. In Acts, Peter's proclamation of the Gospel is the focus, and he points people to Jesus' own message, proclaimed and demonstrated in words and acts of compassion and justice. In the encounter with John, Jesus proclaims that what they do is in fulfilment of righteousness (what God requires) and then God proclaims Christ to be God's well-beloved son, in whom God delights. The beautiful challenge of these readings is that justice, God's reign, God's presence and God's salvation in Christ, must be proclaimed, and be seen to be proclaimed, for them to have impact and influence in our world. However, as Isaiah indicates, and Peter preaches, the proclamation is quiet, without a raised voice, and is shown to God's "hand-picked" witnesses who must then carry the message further. The Baptism of Christ, then, is for us a listening to God's proclamation of who Christ is, and what Christ has come to do. We are the witnesses to Christ. And then, it is also a call for us to be proclaimers, messengers, carrying what we have seen and experienced into the world in quiet, but significant, words and deeds.

John van de Laar (2017) www.sacredise.com

Notices

Congratulations to Revd Maryann who has been appointed Priest in Charge of the Parish of Cobram and Chaplain to Cobram Anglican Grammar School. Maryann's last Sunday in the parish is next Sunday 15th January. A service of thanksgiving for her ministry will be held 11am St Matthew's Broadford followed by a farewell bring and share luncheon in Gavan Hall at 12 noon.

There will be no service next Sunday 15th January at St Stephens or Transfiguration and all are welcome to the combined 11am service at St Matthew's.

Catherine, Steve and Arden Farrell are moving to Albury and wish to express their thanks for the warm welcome and have enjoyed being part of the parish for the past 15 years. They too will be farewelled on Sunday 15th January.

Renovation of Christ Church has commenced and a huge thank you to everyone who assisted at the working bee last Monday to strip the Church. Grateful thanks to Ian and his team as this work commences.

Direct Debit Offerings - Account details have changed - Account details: BENDIGO BANK - Account Name 'Anglican Parish of Kilmore'; BSB 633-000; Account Number 158946921. Parishioners using direct debit or electronic funds transfer please change your bank details when making offerings.

Parish life this week

Tuesday 10th	10.30am Staff meeting
Thursday 12th	10.00am Eucharist St Matthews 10.00am Eucharist Willowmeade 4.00pm Eucharist Dianella
Friday 13th	10.00am – 4.00pm Op Shop Church House
Saturday 14th	10.00am – 12noon Op Shop Church House

Next Sunday: 15th January Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49.1-7; Ps 40.1-14; I Corinthians 1.1-9; John 1.29-42

Christ Church at Senior Citizens Club	9am	Holy Eucharist
St Matthews	11am	Sung Eucharist
St Stephens	11am	Combined service @ StMatthews
Transfiguration	4pm	No service this day

Parish Clergy

Rector Revd Dr Kim Benton, 9 Union Street, Kilmore, 3764; Ph 5782 1155
m 0407 569 343; rector@anglicankilmore.org.au

Hon Associate Priest Revd Maryann Leonard, 78 High Street, Broadford, 3658;
Ph 5784 3007; m 0439 066 553; associatepriest@anglicankilmore.org.au

Priest (PTO) Fr John Young, 9/40 Powlett St, Broadford, 3658 Ph 5784 2224

PO Box 289 Kilmore 3764 www.anglicankilmore.org.au

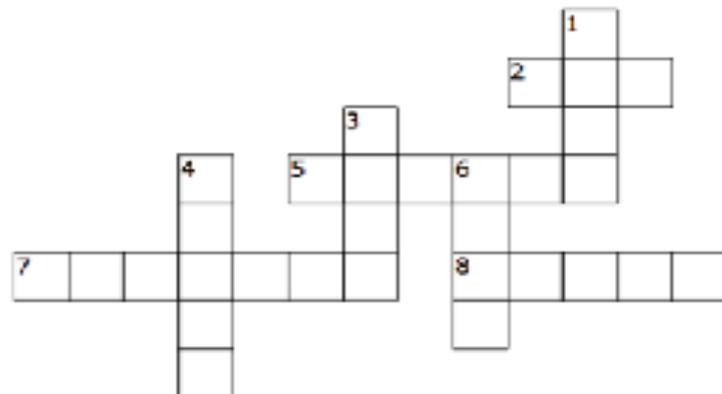


Parishioners and visitors are advised that photographs may be taken of activities in the Parish from time to time for use on Parish website, Facebook and for publication in the Advocate. If you do not wish to be included in a photo please stand clear of the group at the time. Photos are never taken without a warning.

The Baptism of Jesus

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 3:13-17



ACROSS

2. A male offspring
5. The river where Jesus was baptized
7. To cover briefly completely in water or pour water over a person's head
8. The sound produced by vibration of the human vocal cords

DOWN

1. The name of the man who baptized Jesus
3. A deep feeling of affection for a person
4. Clear, colorless, odorless, tasteless liquid; H₂O
6. A bird often used as a symbol of peace

VOICE	LOVE	WATER	JORDAN
SON	DOVE	BAPTIZE	JOHN

The Baptism of Jesus

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



C	U	A	K	I	E	V	G	W	B	Z	F	X	Q	S	R	O	L	P	H	T	D	M	Y	J	N
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

1. 10-3-19-21-5-11-8 _____
2. 9-3-21-6-16 _____
3. 22-17-7-6 _____
4. 7-17-5-1-6 _____
5. 20-6-3-7-6-25 _____
6. 20-17-18-24 _____
7. 15-17-26 _____
8. 18-17-7-6 _____

SON	DOVE	BAPTIZE	HEAVEN
HOLY	LOVE	VOICE	WATER