



12 January 2025 Baptism of Jesus

Greeter: **Roger Thompson**

Leader : **Heather Thompson**

Meditation Song: **He became poor that we may be rich (John Bell)**
(please remain seated)

***He became poor that we may be rich,
Loving the world and leaving his throne,
King of all Kings, Lord of all Lords,
Flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone.***

(repeat)

Welcome:

Greeting: As we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus and bring to an end the season of
Christmas.

May the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

As we begin our service, let's take a moment to be still and aware of God's

presence within and all around us.

Christ Candle

We light this candle to remind us that Christ, the light of the world is present among us.

Acknowledgement of Land

This is God's land and God's Spirit dwells here.

We acknowledge and give thanks for the Gadigal and Wangal people who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual relationship of the First Nations Peoples to this Country.

We commit to walking with and learning from the elders of this land, and to the ongoing journey of justice and reconciliation.

Call to worship

Come, all who are called by God's name, and celebrate the Light of the world, Jesus Christ!

We gather in awe, remembering the waters of creation, the waters of baptism, and the Spirit that moves within us.

As God spoke creation into being, we too hear the call to life and renewal.

With joy, we offer our hearts to God, ready to receive the life-giving Spirit.

Let us open our hearts to the voice of God, the Spirit that empowers us to walk in faith.

With gratitude and reverence, let us worship the Lord!.

Opening prayer:

Most wonderful God,
foolish and flawed though we are,
we too delight in your beloved Son.

As in his name we gather in the house of many praises,
may the heavens be opened for us,
that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love
that transforms our common days
with a beauty not of our making.

Through Christ Jesus our Lord

Amen.

Hymn: **From heaven you came TIS 256**

**1. From Heaven You Came Helpless Babe
Entered Our World, Your Glory Veiled
Not To Be Served But To Serve**

And Give Your Life That We Might Live

Chorus:

***This Is Our God, The Servant King
He Calls Us Now To Follow Him
To Bring Our Lives As A Daily Offering
Of Worship To The Servant King***

***2. There In The Garden Of Tears
My Heavy Load He Chose To Bear
His Heart With Sorrow Was Torn
'Yet Not My Will But Yours,' He Said***

Chorus:

***This Is Our God, The Servant King
He Calls Us Now To Follow Him
To Bring Our Lives As A Daily Offering
Of Worship To The Servant King***

***3. Come See His Hands And His Feet
The Scars That Speak Of Sacrifice
Hands That Flung Stars Into Space
To Cruel Nails Surrendered***

Chorus:

***This Is Our God, The Servant King
He Calls Us Now To Follow Him
To Bring Our Lives As A Daily Offering
Of Worship To The Servant King***

***4. So Let Us Learn How To Serve
And In Our Lives Enthroned Him
Each Other's Needs To Prefer
For It Is Christ We're Serving***

Chorus:

***This Is Our God, The Servant King
He Calls Us Now To Follow Him
To Bring Our Lives As A Daily Offering
Of Worship To The Servant King***

Prayer of confession:

Gracious God, in the waters of baptism, you claim us as your own.

Yet, we confess that we have not always lived as those who bear your name.

We have turned from your call to justice and mercy and have failed to live in the light of your Spirit. Forgive us for the times we have resisted your grace.

Renew us in the waters of your love and empower us to live as faithful witnesses to your truth. **Amen.**

Words of assurance

Beloved, hear the good news:

As Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, the voice of God proclaimed,
"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you, I am well pleased."

In Christ, you are forgiven and made new.

With you, God is well pleased!

Thanks be to God!

Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with one another from where we are seated

Hymn: You servants of God TIS 215

***1 You servants of God,
your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad
his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious
of Jesus extol:
his kingdom is glorious,
and rules over all.***

***2 God rules on high,
almighty to save;
and still he is nigh,
his presence we have;
the great congregation
his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation
to Jesus our King.***

4 Then let us adore,

*and give him his right,
all glory and power,
all wisdom and might,
and honour and blessing,
with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing,
and infinite love.*

Young People's Time: **Hector Abrahams**

Readings: **Marian Grills**

Introduction to Hebrew Bible reading:

The theme linking the first reading and the Gospel passage for this Sunday is closeness. In Luke's account of Jesus' baptism, Jesus is the chosen one. After the Holy Spirit rests upon him, a heavenly voice speaks directly to Jesus, calling him "Son" and "Beloved," one with whom God is pleased. In Isaiah 43:1–7, Judeans living in Babylon are the ones of God's choosing. Found within a section of the book often called Second Isaiah because the words reflect the fifth-century setting of the Babylonian exile and not the eighth-century setting of Isaiah of Jerusalem, these comforting words assure the community that God knows them and they belong to God.

Isaiah 43:1-7

43 But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

3 For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. 4 Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. 5 Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; 6 I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— 7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16 John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Baptism of Jesus

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: **Roger Abrahams**

Prayers of the People: **Andrew Thornley**

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name.
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever.**

Amen

Offering Prayer:

Holy one, we dedicate these gifts and our lives to you.

May our offerings be a reflection of the love and grace you pour out on us.

Use these gifts to further your kingdom and bring healing and hope to the world.

Amen.

Notices:

- 26th December- 20th Jan - Rev Joy Annual Leave
- 19th January - Aboriginal Sunday
- 21st January- Church Council Meeting
- 26th January - Australia Day
- 2nd February – Family Fun Church resumes
- 5th February - Wednesday Prayer/Communion resumes
- 17th February - Women's Spirituality Group resumes
- 9th March - Future Directions- Congregational meeting
- 16th March - Future Directions-Congregational meeting

Song: ***Father welcomes all his children***

***Ch: Father welcomes all his children
to his family through his Son.
Father giving his salvation,
Life for ever has been won.***

***1. Little children, come to me,
for my kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give,
Mercy for your sin.***

***Ch: Father welcomes all his children
to his family through his Son.
Father giving his salvation,
Life for ever has been won.***

***2. In the water, in the Word,
in his promise be assured:
Those who are baptised and believe
shall be born again.***

***Ch: Father welcomes all his children
to his family through his Son.***

***Father giving his salvation,
Life for ever has been won.***

***3. Let us daily die to sin;
Let us daily rise with Him.
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord.
Live in the peace of God.***

***Ch: Father welcomes all his children
to his family through his Son.
Father giving his salvation,
Life for ever has been won.***

Benediction & Blessing

Go in peace; love and care for one another in the name of Christ;
and may the Spirit of God which filled John and Jesus,
fill your hearts, souls and minds;
may the power of God which upheld them,
strengthen you for each day;
and may the love of God which directed their every action
be your guiding light and your shining star,
both now and forevermore.

Amen.

Three-fold Amen

Pastoral prayers: **Chris Westworth**

Acknowledgements:

Image Baptism of Jesus: qi hi art

Opening Prayer: www.bruceprewer.com/DocA/10BAPTIS.htm

Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Words of assurance, Offering Prayer:

Pastor Jason Elder www.pastorjasonelder.com/liturgy/liturgy-for-baptism-of-our-lord-sunday-year-c-luke

Benediction: Nathan Nettleton- <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/01/benediction-epiphany.html>

