



Baptism of Jesus Yr A – 11th January 2026

Greeter:

Leader: *David Pigott*

Meditation Hymn: Come Holy Spirit (hear us calling)

Chorus:

**Come holy spirit (hear us calling)
Come holy spirit (hear us calling)
Come holy spirit (hear us calling to you)
Come holy spirit (hear us calling)
Hear us calling, hear us calling to you**

**Come give your gifts (edify your church)
Come bring your truth (glorify our lord)
Come be our guide (point the way)
Come walk beside. X3**

Welcome:

Greeting:

As we celebrate the baptism of Jesus today,

may the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Christ Candle:

In this season of Light, we light this candle to remind us of God's light shining in the darkness. May we carry this light of hope, peace, and justice to the world around us every day.

Acknowledgement First Peoples:

As we gather to worship God, we acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of this country on which we gather today; the Gadigal and Wangal people. And we pay our respects to their Elders past and present, together with all descendants.

We commit ourselves to support Voice, Treaty, Truth – justice for First Nations Peoples.

Call to Worship:

God says:

Look! See my chosen servant, the One in whom I utterly delight; **I have placed my Spirit on him, he will bring true justice to the nations.**

When Jesus was baptised, the heavens opened up, and the Spirit came down like a dove; and there was a voice from heaven saying:
“This is my dearly loved Son, with whom I am delighted.”

Opening Prayer:

Most wonderful God, we too delight in your beloved Son. As we gather in his name today to praise you, may the heavens be opened for us, that we may catch a glimpse of that Light and Love that

transforms our lives and our world with a
beauty not of our making.
Through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen

Hymn: Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining TiS 675

**Lord, the light of your love is shining, in
the midst of the darkness, shining; Jesus,
Light of the world, shine upon us, set us
free by the truth you now bring us — shine
on me, shine on me.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land
with the Father's glory; blaze,
Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light.**

**Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from
the shadows into your radiance; by your blood
I may enter your brightness: search me, try me,
consume all my darkness — shine on me,
shine on me.**

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the
Father's glory; blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts
on fire. Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with
grace and mercy; send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.**

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness, ever
changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story — shine
on me, shine on me.**

Shine, Jesus, shine,

**fill this land with the Father's glory; blaze, Spirit,
blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy; send
forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

Prayer of Confession:

We come to God
knowing that we have failed to obey the call of Jesus
to love God and one another with our whole hearts;
but we come also to a God who reaches out to us with
healing and reconciliation.

In this knowledge, let us pray

Loving God, we confess that we have not always paid much attention to the baptism of Jesus, but viewed it as a nice story which begins Jesus' ministry.

We don't always see ourselves as standing in that long line of those marked for service; and therefore, it is easy for us to dismiss this as a nice story and nothing more.

Yet you have called us by name, knowing each of us, and loving us. We are astonished by this.

We know that we have behaved in very unloving ways and in some behaviours which do not promote your love and peace.

God of water and life, forgive us.

Help us to be people who not only recognise the light, but who are willing to live in that light, bringing help to others in your name.

For we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

Words of assurance:

People of God, you are known and loved by the Creator.
You are marked as God's chosen ones to bring hope
and peace to others.
Be at peace and live in hope.

Hear then the words of Christ to us:

“Your sins are forgiven.”

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

Hymn: Be Thou my Vision

**Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art Thou
my best Thought, by day or by night, Waking or
sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

**Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou
in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High
King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.**

**High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun! Heart
of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.
Now let your servant depart in peace**

Moment for the young at heart: Jen Richardson

Bible Readings: Alison Burnett

Isaiah 42 1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

2 He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

3 a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

4 He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

5 Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

6 I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,

7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

8 I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

9 See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Matthew 3:13-17 - The Baptism of Jesus

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15 But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.

16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;

17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: *Chris Longfoot*

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: *Andrew Thornley*

The 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**

Community News:

25th January: Aboriginal Sunday (Day of Mourning)
26th January: Australia Day
4th February: Wednesday Morning Prayer & Communion Service(resumes)
16th February: Women's Spirituality Group (resumes)
18th February: Ash Wednesday
1st March: Welcome Liesel Homes as she begins her student practicum.
6th March : World Day Prayer

Offering Prayer:

Thank you, God of grace, for all the gifts you give us.
Help us to be gracious givers in response to all that
you have given us.
Use these gifts, here today, to be your light in the world
Amen.

Song: The Power of your Love

**1: Lord I come to You,
let my heart be changed, renewed,
flowing from the grace that I found in You.**

**And the Lord I've come to know,
the weaknesses I see in me
will be stripped away by the power of Your love.**

**Ch: Hold me close, let Your love surround me.
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.
And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle,
and I will soar with You,
Your spirit leads me on
in the power of Your love.**

**2: Lord unveil my eyes,
let me see You face to face,
the knowledge of Your love as You live in me.
Lord renew my mind,
as Your will unfolds in my life
in living every day by the power of Your love.**

**Ch: Hold me close, let Your love surround me.
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.
And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle,
and I will soar with You,
Your spirit leads me on in the power of Your love.**

Benediction & Blessing:

May God strengthen you and bless you with peace;

May Christ Jesus bring forth justice for you and among you;
And may the Holy Spirit alight on you and affirm you as
God's beloved ones.

3-fold-amen

Pastoral Prayers:

Acknowledgements:

Image: Severino Blanco, Simeon Blessing the Christ Child, 1980s. Ayopaya Mission.