

St Benedict's Bennetts End and St Mary's Apsley End

Family service to celebrate the Baptism of Christ



Sunday 10 January 2021

10.00am

Led by Revd Richard Howlett

Musician Melanie Henley

WELCOME via 'Zoom'!

Link to [weekly bulletins](#) for St M's & St B's

The Gathering

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

and also with you.

Welcome and Introduction

Hymn No 117 Come Holy Ghost our hearts inspire

1. Come Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire,
let us thine influence prove;
source of the old prophetic fire,
fountain of life and love.
2. Come, Holy Ghost - for, moved by thee,
thy prophets wrote and spoke -
unlock the truth, thyself the key,
unseal the sacred book.
3. Expand thy wings, celestial Dove,
brood o'er our nature's night;
on our disordered spirits move,
and let there now be light.
4. God, through himself, we then shall know,
if thou within us shine;
and sound, with all thy saints below,
the depths of love divine.

Prayers of Penitence

The grace of God has dawned upon the world
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself,
and cleanse us from all our sins
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

[The Collect – the special prayer for today](#)

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born of water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Reading one, read by Alan Gowlett](#)

A reading from the book of Acts 19 v1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

This is the word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Reading two, read by Carole Camp

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

Mark 1 v4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

Talk

We look at family pictures of baptisms and Richard talks about what Baptism in Christ really means.

A short period of silence may follow.

Offertory Hymn No 506 O let the Son of God enfold you

During this hymn please consider giving to St Benedict's or St Mary's. At the offertory we present both ourselves and our resources to be blessed by God and used in his service. You will find links & QR codes at the end of this service sheet to help you do this.

1. O let the Son of God enfold you
with his Spirit and his love,
let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you,
and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs,
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
2. O come and sing this song with gladness
as your hearts are filled with joy,
lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness,
give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs,
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

Prayers led by Katharine Harper

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hymn No 221 (Omit verse 2) God is working His purpose out

1. God is working his purpose out,
as year succeeds to year;
God is working his purpose out,
and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be:
when the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.
3. How can we do the work of God,
how prosper and increase
harmony in the human race,
and the reign of perfect peace?
What can we do to urge the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea?
4. March we forth in the strength of God,
his banner is unfurled,
let the light of the gospel shine
in the darkness of the world:
strengthen the weary, heal the sick
and set ev'ry captive free,
that the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.
5. All our efforts are nothing worth
unless God bless the deed;
vain our hopes for the harvest tide
till he brings to life the seed.
Yet ever nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled
with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

Blessing

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace. Proclaim the word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God. Amen.

Notices:

Link to [weekly bulletins](#) for St M's & St B's

<i>QR code for donating to St Mary's</i>	<i>QR code for donating to St Benedict's</i>
	
<u>Or use this link for St Mary's</u>	<u>And this for St Benedict's</u>