



Established 1718

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL, MUMBAI

The Church of North India • A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

The Baptism of Jesus *and* Covenant Sunday



The First Sunday of Epiphany
Choral Eucharist

Sunday 7th January 2024
8.45 a.m.

Welcome to St Thomas' Cathedral for this service

We are the mother church of the Diocese of Bombay in the Church of North India, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Christian worship has been offered to God here for over 300 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

The basis for our worship is the *Book of Common Prayer*, our common liturgical heritage with Anglicans across the world (all churches descended from the Church of England). We are rooted in tradition but celebrate the richness and diversity of the Communion. Music and hymnody represent the best of the Anglican choral tradition.

Follow the readings and the Order of Service for the Lord's Supper from *The Book of Common Prayer* (refer page numbers).
The hymns can be found in *The English Hymnal*.



We kindly request that you do not take photographs, or video or sound recording in the cathedral at any time during services. You are welcome to take photographs at any other time.

You are encouraged to take this booklet home with you to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit. If you do not intend to take this booklet with you, leave it in the box provided, so that it can be recycled.

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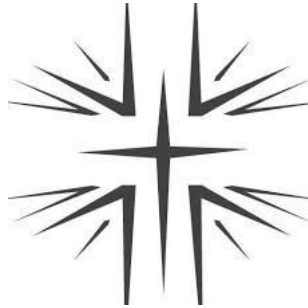
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Today we remember the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. The Christmas season, which celebrates the revelation of God through Christ, reaches its fulfillment with today's commemoration. At Jesus' baptism, God declares Jesus' identity: he is a son. God also expresses what that relationship means to him: Jesus is a 'beloved' son. A single glorious acclamation links two moments of revelation in the Gospels: first, the baptism (as today), and, later, the Transfiguration.

All that we ever really want from life is to be truly beloved. What a moment of ecstasy, then, when the letters of Paul reveal that we too have become God's beloved children! Why does God bother with us? Isaiah records his answer: 'because I love you'.

The baptism of Christ is described in all four Gospels, and marks the beginning of his public ministry. It is a day in which we also remember and celebrate our own baptism, as we renew and reaffirm our own baptismal promises.

The Gathering

Voluntary

'Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern' (‘How brightly beams the Morning Star’)	Johann Pachelbel, 1653 - 1706
Prelude on 'Come down, O Love divine'	H. Ley, 1887 - 1962
Kingsfold Trumpet ('I heard the voice of Jesus say')	Alfred Fedak, b. 1953

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship.

Introit

sung by the choir

Come down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour
glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame
bestowing.

Words: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434

Tune: DOWN AMPNEY
R. Vaughan Williams, 1872 - 1958

All stand and face the West Door

Opening Acclamation

The Presbyter

Alleluia, alleluia.

We have seen his star at its rising,

All

and have come to pay him homage.

The Lord of glory be with you.

The Lord bless you.

Continued

The Presbyter

This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ
in the waters of baptism.

All

Alleluia. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All sing

Carol at the Entry

**We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.**

Refrain **O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

² **Born a King on Bethlehem's plain** ³ **Frankincense to offer have I;**
Gold I bring to crown Him again, **Incense owns a deity nigh;**
King forever, ceasing never, **Prayer and praising, all men raising,**
Over us all to reign: **Worship Him God on high:**

⁴ **Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb:**

⁵ **Glorious now, behold Him arise;
King, and God, and sacrifice!
Heaven sings Alleluia
Alleluia the earth replies.**

John Hopkins Jr., 1820 - 1891

Please be seated.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Day

Read by the Presbyter

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 again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1: 1 - 5

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ♦
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; ♦
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; ♦
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

- 4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; ♦
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; ♦
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf ♦
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

- 7 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.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare; ♦
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'
- 9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; ♦
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
- 10 The Lord shall give strength to his people; ♦
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**Open our ears, glorious Lord Christ,
to hear the music of your voice
above the chaos of this world;
open our eyes to see the vision of your glory,
for you are our King, now and for ever.**

New Testament Reading

Acts 19:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior 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.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and join in singing.

Gradual Hymn

**Christ, when for us you were baptized
God’s Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove, and yet
As urgent as a flame.**

**² God called you his beloved Son,
Called you his Servant too;
His kingdom you were called to preach,
His holy will to do.**

**³ Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God’s service we
May perfect freedom find.**

Words: E. Tucker, 1895 - 1984

Tune: MARTYRDOM # 367
Smith’s ‘Sacred Music’, 1825
Possibly an old Scottish melody

*Remain standing for the Gospel
as the cantor sings the Alleluia and we respond.*

The Gospel of Christ

St. Luke 3: 15 - 17, 21 & 22

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

The Gospeller The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke

All **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable. Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

At the conclusion of the reading

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
All **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Remain standing for the Creed and all recite together.

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

While seated, we sing

**When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptised by John,
he did not come for pardon,
but as his Father's Son.
he came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.**

Words: F. Pratt Green, 1903 - 2000

Tune: AURELIA
S. S. Wesley, 1810 - 76

The Presbyter pours water into the font saying,

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.

The Presbyter stands before the water and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps His promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
for your gift of water in creation;
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,
bringing light and life;
for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptized in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,
washing away our sins.

Act of Penitence and Dedication

God of truth, you are faithful to the covenant
you have made with us;
look in mercy on your people.

From all our sins,

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have broken the pledges of our baptism,
and failed to be your disciples.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Though we are saved by Christ
and dead to sin through the deep waters of death,
we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have shown indifference to those in need
and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember
your repeated forgiveness of our sins.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Today we rejoice and give thanks
because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the Jordan.
Through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism
for the remission of our sins.

From all our sins, ○ Lord

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Through water and Spirit you give us new life as the people of God,
and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant.

From all our sins, O Lord:

O Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

The Presbyter says

Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us
to be temples of your Holy Spirit.

May we, whom you have counted worthy,
nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith,
and worship you with upright lives;
through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Water is sprinkled.

*All **STAND** and say the Covenant Prayer.*

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will,

set me with whom you will;

put me to doing, put me to suffering;

let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,

exalted for you or brought low for you;

let me be full, let me be empty;

let me have all things, let me have nothing;

I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things

to your pleasure and disposal.

And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

you are mine and I am yours.

So be it.

And the covenant now renewed on earth,

let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

All sing

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make:
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break;
come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most –
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.**

Words: F. Pratt Green

Tune: AURELIA
S. S. Wesley

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All STAND

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to
come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.
cf Corinthians I. 22

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

All

*Members of the congregation greet one another.
Remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.*

*At this time the altar is set with the gifts of bread and wine and the
gifts of the people are gathered and presented. Thank you for your generosity.*

All join in singing

Hymn at the Offertory | # 582

Take my life, and let it be

Tune: NOTTINGHAM

See inside front cover for bank details to make your offering.

All say

Offertory Prayer | page 270

The General Confession & Absolution | **pages 275, 276**

The Consecration | **page 277**

Proper Preface | **page 279**

The Communion | **page 284**

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion.

During the administration of Communion, while seated we sing.

Hymn at the Communion | **# 574**

I heard the voice of Jesus say

Tune: KINGSFOLD

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Stand as the Presbyter says

Let us pray.

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All then say

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

All sing

Gloria in Excelsis | page 288

The Presbyter

The Blessing

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you,
that your lives may be a light to the world;
† And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All sing **Amen.**

Hymn at the Closing | # 39

As with gladness men of old

Tune: DIX

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

We have seen His glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

'Est ist das Heil uns kommen her', BWV 638
(‘Salvation has come to us’)

Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685 - 1750

Please stay back after the service for a time of fellowship over a cup of coffee.
Introduce yourself to the Presbyter if you are worshipping with us for the first time.

Birthdays this week

*“You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”*

Psalms 16:11

Kusum Parker (9). Manju John (13)

Wedding anniversaries this week

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge
and depth of insight."*

Philippians 1:9-11

Paul & Sheila George (7), Ravichandran & Latha (12)

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** Our prayers are with the people of Japan. Pray for relief work and rehabilitation in the wake of the recent earthquake • We continue to pray for peace in the Land of our Lord's birth. Pray for peace and reconciliation in all areas experiencing conflict.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Pray for the containment and reduction of COVID cases • Pray for the safety of our security forces who guard our borders.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** In the *Anglican Communion* - The Scottish Episcopal Church and the Most Reverend Mark Strange.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** For the Diocese of Jabalpur and the Right Reverend Ajay Umesh James • The Diocese of Medak. Pray for God's guidance for the selection of a Moderator.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for St. Paul's Church (Tamil Pastorate), Byculla and the Reverend P. Abraham.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for all care providers • For the Presbyter and his family.

Notices

- A Bible quiz will be conducted on Sunday 25th February 2024. Questions will be based on the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah and Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians.

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given
to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the lives of
the late Reverend V. Samuel and late Mrs. Sornam Samuel
(beloved grandparents of Samuel Joseph).
They served in the Diocese of Tirunelveli.*

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Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.

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