

BRENTOR CHURCH

9th January 2022
1st Sunday of Epiphany
Baptism of Christ
Prayer and Praise
Led by Liz Bastin



**We warmly welcome everyone joining our
service**

**All children (quiet or noisy) are welcome to church, toys are
at the back, and parents, please don't worry about them!**

Welcome

Opening Responses

With nature in its power and beauty, with rain and wind and sunshine,
with the ancient rocks and the soon to be budding flowers,

We gather in praise of God.

With believers and seekers, the whole world wide,
with people in every land and speakers of every language,

We gather in praise of God.

With the angels and saints in heaven,
with all who are part of the community here
and with all who have worshipped in this place,

We gather in praise of God.

With Jesus who promised his presence
and the Spirit who showers her blessings,

We gather in praise of God.

Here, let heaven and earth embrace

Here may God's people find their home.

Song: On Jordan's Bank, (no 46 A&M)

Call to prayer: sit or kneel.

Eternal God, maker of the skies above,
lowly Christ, lover of the earth and its people,
unfettered Spirit, giver of gracious gifts,

You are present among us.

O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul within all souls,
in all we touch, in all we meet,

You are present among us.

As bearers of your image, we come to be reshaped,

Dependent on your mercy,

We ask to be made new.

Saying sorry

For the right roads we avoided travelling and the kindly words we refused
to share, for the false gods who received our worship and the true selves
we have starved of love.... God in your grace,

Forgive us.

For the hidden hurts we have held to tightly,
and the promises which we never kept,
for the careless use of our time and money
and the lame excuses we never should have made.
God, by your grace,

Forgive us.

Pause

For all we should be and all we can amend,
God in your love,

Renew us.

For all you have in store for us and all you may demand of us,
God, in your love,

Prepare us.

Let us hear and believe the words of Jesus,
'Your sins are forgiven, Go in peace, Come and follow me.'

Pause

Glory to the Creator who gives us life.

Glory to Jesus whose love remakes us.

Glory to the Spirit, companion on our journey.

Glory to God forever.

Amen.

The collect

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Psalm 113: From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

² Blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time on and forevermore.

³ From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of the LORD is to be praised.

⁴ The LORD is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who is seated on high,

⁶ who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?

⁷ He raises the poor from the dust,
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

⁸ to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.

⁹ He gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.

Praise the LORD!

SONG: Glory to God - Peruvian worship song.

Glory to God, Glory to God

Glory to the Father

To Him be Glory For Ever,

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen.

Glory to God, Glory to God

Son of the Father

To Him be Glory For Ever,

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen.

Glory to God, Glory to God

Glory to the Spirit

To Him be Glory For Ever,

Alleluia Amen, Alleluia Amen.

The Gospel: *Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

All Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel reading: Luke 3v15-17, 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."

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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ



Reflection

SONG: Be Thou My Vision, (no 595 A&M)

Creed

We believe in God the Father, God almighty, by whose plan earth and heaven sprang to being, Son of God, all created things began.

We believe in Christ the Saviour, Son of God in human form, virgin-born, the child of Mary upon whom the Spirit came.

Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led, suffered under Pontius Pilate, he descended to the dead.

We believe in Jesus risen, heaven's king to rule and reign, to the Father's side ascended 'til as judge he comes again.

We believe in God the Spirit, in one Church, below, above; saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and in love.

So by faith, our sins forgiven, Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend.

We shall rise with him in glory to the life that knows no end.

Amen

We have had 2 years now of battling with covid. They have not gone without leaving their mark. Some have experienced loss, loneliness and I guess we have all experienced an element of fear. So, as a gesture of loving support for each other let us sing the first 2 verses of, 'Put peace into each other's hands.'

SONG: (for the Peace) Put peace into each other's hands verses 1&2, (no 566- A&M)

Intercessions

Let us pray,

Maker and lover of all, in the mystery of your kindness you have bound us to each other, and called us to care for the earth and its people.

Thank you that you hear us as we pray in this ancient place of worship, for the churches in our locality, that they may ever be centres of faith, hospitality, and imagination, modelling the future, rather than lamenting the past, and calling all to worship you Lord, in Spirit and in truth.

Pause

Lord in your mercy

Grant us our prayer.

Grateful for the life in our bodies, we pray for those whose lives are diminished by ill health, depression, grief, or rejection. Help us to reach out to them with your words of healing, affirmation, encouragement and understanding to help and to restore them.

Pause

Lord in your mercy

Grant us our prayer.

Conscious of the peace of this place, we pray for those who have no peace because of war or fear of war, or the threat of violence, or the grip of hunger, or the loss of hope. May the voice of the victims be heard and the work of the peacemakers be blessed.

Pause

Lord in your mercy

Grant us our prayer.

Surrounded by the rugged and tender beauty of our locality, we pray for the earth, especially where it is damaged by human carelessness and threatened by human greed. Lord, we ask that we may learn to care for the earth, as you would have us do.

Pause

**Lord in your mercy
Grant us our prayer.**

We join our words to those Jesus taught us, saying:

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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

SONG: When we walk with the Lord. (no 760- MP)

Blessing

May the everlasting God shield us wherever we go
and the blessing of God be upon us
the blessing of the giver of life
The blessing of God be upon us
the blessing of the Christ of love
The blessing of God be upon us
the blessing of the Spirit of peace
May the blessing of the Holy Trinity be upon us, now and evermore.
Amen.

Dismissal

Now as we go from here may God go with us.

May Christ be our companion,
and the Spirit enliven us.

May we know God's true presence and peace with us, today and every day.

Amen.

Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers: Nick & Julie, Lydia, Margaret, Lin Bristow, Beryl, Peter Cameron, Dave, Edward Walter, Izzy, Fran and family, Becky, Alex and family, Noah and his family Andrew, Clare and Elijah, Shirley, Steve, Hannah, Tom and families.

Please pray for the souls of the recently departed, especially their family and friends.

Your prayers this week are asked for:

Mon Political conflicts and the communities they affect
Tues Those affected by extreme weather conditions around the world
Wed Thanks for the NHS, hospitals and care workers still dealing with the overwhelming COVID conditions
Thurs Volunteers and charities supporting those in need especially those worrying about the increase costs in utility bills
Fri Thoughts for the Military Forces stepping in to help the NHS
Sat Thanks for the continuing strength of our Christian Communities

Next week:

9:45am: Holy Communication at Christ Church with The Reverend Tony Vigers

Please also continue enjoying our Services online see the brentorchurch.org.uk
Donations to support the upkeep of the building and the work of the church are welcome. If you would like to make a regular donation, please contact either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.
Online donations can be made at <https://www.give.net/20188530>