

St Nicholas Church, Shepperton



**Sung Parish Eucharist
to celebrate
the Baptism of Christ**

**Sunday 12th January 2025
at 10.00am**

12th January 2025 The Baptism of Christ

*In the name of the Lord Jesus we welcome you to St Nicholas Shepperton today. It is wonderful that you have chosen to worship with us. For centuries, people have gathered on this site to support each other, to laugh and cry together, to sing and pray and to come before God and be nourished and sustained at the altar rail. It is our hope that you will leave here today having been given a glimpse of God's kingdom. **Please join in where indicated in bold.***

Hymn: 527

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake, and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

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

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

Introduction and words of welcome

Invitation to Confession.

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.

We keep a moment of silence

God of Truth, you are faithful to the covenant you have made with
us; look in mercy on your people.
From all our sins, O 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:
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:
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:
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, O 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, O 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:

Wash us, and we shall be clean.

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.**

As we sing the Gloria, the children are invited, if they wish to do so, to join the SNAP team in the Parish Centre where they will be able to take part in a bible story through the use of Godly Play. They will rejoin us in the service as Communion is distributed.

Gloria

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on

earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

The Collect

Let us pray

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.**

Please sit

First Reading – Isaiah 43: 1-7

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 Saviour.

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.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Acts 8: 14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

HYMN

Chorus

***We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully,
singing joyfully; we shall draw water joyfully
from the well springs of salvation.***

**Truly God is our salvation;
we trust, we shall not fear.
For the Lord is our strength,
the Lord is our song;
he became our saviour.**

Chorus

**Give thanks, O give thanks to the Lord;
give praise to his holy name!
Make his mighty deeds known
to all of the nations;
proclaim his greatness.**

Chorus

**Sing a psalm, sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds.
Make known his works to all of the earth;
people of Zion, sing for joy,
for great in your midst,
great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel.**

Chorus

Please remain standing

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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.’

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We pray with and for the People of God in every place.

Lord hear us

Lord Graciously hear us

At the end of our prayers

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government
and of peace there shall be no end.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory hymn: 221

A collection for the mission and ministry of the parish will be taken during this hymn. Many people give regularly by standing order so do not put a gift into the bag each Sunday, but we hope that everyone will contribute to the life of the church according to their own means. Thank you for your generosity.

**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 water cover the sea.**

**From the east to the utmost west
wherever foot has trod,
Through the mouths of his messengers,
echoes forth the voice of God,
“Listen to me, ye continents,
ye islands, give ear to me,
That the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea’.**

**How can we do work of God,
to 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?**

**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 every captive free,
That the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.**

**All our efforts are nothing worth
unless God blesses 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.**

Prayer over the gifts.

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement, draw us from hatred to love, make the frailty of our praise a dwelling place for your glory.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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

The priest prays the Eucharistic prayer and we join together to sing...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

The priest recalls the Last Supper....

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

We all join together to sing:

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world

Have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world

Have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world

Grant us peace

Giving of Communion

The priest shows the consecrated host to the congregation and says:

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The president and people receive communion.

Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies Amen

If you usually receive communion in your own church, you are very welcome to receive communion here today, or to receive a blessing if you wish.

(a Prayer for personal and silent use before receiving communion)

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

Choir Anthem.

Communion Hymn 615

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mould me,
fill me, use me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on us.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on us.**

**Melt us, mould us,
fill us, use us.**

**Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on us.**

Prayer after Communion

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**

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.

Notices

Hymn: 411

Lord Jesus Christ

You have come to us,

You are one with us,

Mary's son.

**Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
Pouring Your love and goodness in;
Jesus, our love for You we sing,
Living Lord.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
Now and every day
Teach us how to pray
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
This in remembrance, Lord, of you:
Into our lives your power breaks through,
Living Lord**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
You have come to us,
Born as one of us,
Mary's son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
Risen from death to set us free,
Living Lord Jesus, help us see
You are Lord.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
We would come to You,
Live our lives for You,
Son of God.
All Your commands we know are true,
Your many gifts will make us new,
Into our lives Your power breaks through,
Living Lord.**

If you are able to, please remain standing for the Blessing

Blessing and Dismissal

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.**

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

*After this service, everybody is most welcome to join us
for refreshments in the Parish Centre*

