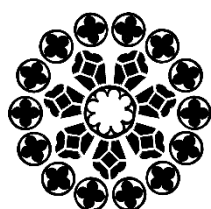


Festal Eucharist for the Feast of The Baptism of Christ



Truro
Cathedral

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Welcome to Truro Cathedral and to this Eucharist. In it we recall the last meal of Christ with his friends in the Upper Room, and we recognise him in the breaking of the bread. Although our faith is grounded in history, this service is not a nostalgic looking back to the events of the past: it is a celebration that in the Eucharist Christ is truly present to us now, and a promise of the glory that will be ours when the whole universe is made complete in him.

The season of Epiphany (or the Manifestation of Christ) celebrates the glory of Jesus being revealed to the world. It begins with the Feast of Epiphany itself, as we travel to Bethlehem with the wise men to see the one who is born King of the Jews. Today's celebration recalls the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan by John, the decisive event that marked the beginning of Christ's public ministry, and revealed him as God's chosen one. At the beginning of another year, we recall our own baptism into Christ, and confess our failure to live up to our calling as Christians. Then holy water is sprinkled on us as a sign of God's cleansing and forgiveness, as we commit ourselves anew to sharing in the mission of Christ, and ask that his glory may be revealed in our lives.

The service uses the older form of words (in English, or in Latin and Greek) in certain places so as to allow the use of the Church's traditional settings.

All who usually receive Holy Communion in their own church are warmly invited to do so today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please bow your head as a signal to the minister.

The congregation remains seated while the choir sings the Introit.

The congregation stands to sing the Opening Hymn.

During the hymn the choir and the ministers enter and the altar is censed.

Hail to the Lord's Anointed!
Great David's greater Son;
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free;
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth:
Before him on the mountains
Shall peace the herald go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
To him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All-blessing and all-blest:
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever;
That name to us is Love.

Tune: Crüger NEH 55
from a chorale by Johann Crüger (1598–1662)

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854) after Psalm 72

The president says

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

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.

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

All and also with you.

Words of welcome and introduction may be said.

The choir sings the Gloria in excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus,
Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe, Domine Deus,
Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis
peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem
nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu:
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

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.
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.
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.
Amen.

The Collect

The president says

Let us pray

and all remain standing for a period of silent prayer.

The president says the Collect.

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Sit

First Reading

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Remain seated

May the Lord bless his people with peace.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

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.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare;
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.
May the Lord bless his people with peace.

Second Reading

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Reading

All turn to face the Book of the Gospels as it passes in the procession.

The following acclamation heralds the Gospel reading.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The deacon says

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

At the end the deacon says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

All remain standing while the Gospel procession returns.

The preacher says an opening invocation or prayer, and then all sit.

Sermon

At the end of the sermon all remain seated, standing when the president stands.

Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

As the procession moves to the font the following hymn is sung

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.

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

Straightway and steadfast until death
You then obeyed his call,
Freely as Son of Man to serve,
And give your life for all.

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

Prayer over the Water

The deacon pours water into the font and says

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 president 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.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit
move upon these waters. Restore through them the beauty of your
creation, and bring those who are baptized
to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,
anoint your children with power from on high,
and make them one with Christ
in the freedom of your kingdom.
For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Act of Penitence and Dedication

The deacon says

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, O 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, O 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, O 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.

The president says

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Sprinkling

*The president invites the people to receive the sprinkling as a reminder
of their baptism.*

'Come' say the Spirit and the Bride,
'Come, you who are thirsty,
receive the water of life,
the free gift to all who desire it.

*The president is sprinkled by a minister, and then sprinkles the ministers
and the people.*

During the sprinkling the following hymn is sung.

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy one is here
Come bow before him now
In reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on Holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy one is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with Holy fire
With splendor He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister His grace
No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.

Tune: Be Still A&M 358

Words and music: David Evans (b. 1957)

The president concludes the Thanksgiving for Baptism with the following collect.

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new.
Transform the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Please kneel or sit

The intercessor introduces the intercessions with these words:

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy *or* Lord, hear us.
hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

At the end of the prayers the intercessor says

Rejoicing in the fellowship of Magi, shepherds, angels
and of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph,
let us join our prayers with theirs as we say:
Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please stand

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace with this sentence

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.

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

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table
Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Offertory Hymn is sung during which the altar is prepared.

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluya, alleluya!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluya, Alleluya!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest man both warmth and light:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!

And all ye men of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, Alleluya!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on him cast your care:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluya!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya!

Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen 263 NEH
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)
after a melody in Geistliche Kirchengesäng Cologne, 1623

Words: St Francis of Assisi (1182–1226)
translated by William Draper (1855–1933)

The president takes the bread and wine and says

Open the heavens, Lord our God,
and send your transforming Spirit
on us and on these gifts.
May we who are baptized into Christ
be ready to share his cup of suffering
and strengthened to serve him for ever.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer A

The president says

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
You celebrated your new gift of baptism
in signs and wonders at the Jordan.
Your voice was heard from heaven
to awaken faith in the presence among us
of your Word made flesh.
Your Spirit was seen as a dove,
revealing Jesus as your servant,
and anointing him with the oil of gladness
to preach the good news to the poor.
Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,
we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

All remain standing as the president continues

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

The deacon says

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

The Prayer continues

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love

and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

All standing

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.

Giving of Communion

The president says the following invitation to communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

All sit. Please follow the direction of the Lay Assistants during the distribution of communion.

At the distribution the minister says

The body of Christ.
The blood of Christ.

The communicant replies each time Amen, and then receives.

During the distribution the following may be sung

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi:
dona nobis pacem.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi:
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

At the end of the distribution the president returns to the altar and says

Let us pray

Stand

The president says the Post Communion prayer

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.

Faithful God,
in baptism you have adopted us as your children,
made us members of the body of Christ
and chosen us as inheritors of your kingdom:
we thank you that in this Eucharist
you renew your promises within us,
empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,
and send us out as disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The final hymn is sung.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining,
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall:
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would his favour secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

*Tune: Epiphany NEH 49ii
Joseph Francis Thrupp (1827-67)*

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

The president uses this blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May God the Father,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from light,
lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.
Amen.

May God the Son,
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.
Amen.

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you
who have come to the waters of new birth.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The deacon says

We have come to Christ, the living water.
Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

The ministers and people depart.

Please do not take this order of service away.

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