

The Holy Spirit descended 22-1-18



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

Greeting

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

Amen.

Leader. Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

R1. From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.
The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Leader. O God, make speed to save us.

All. O Lord, make haste to help us.

Leader. You laid the foundation of the earth

R1. and the heavens are the work of your hands.

Leader. Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
our light and our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.

To dispel the darkness of our night you sent forth your Son, the
firstborn of all creation, to be the Christ, the light of the world.

Rejoicing in the mystery of the Word made flesh, we acclaim him
Emmanuel, as all creation sings to you:

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All. Blessed be God for ever.

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Act of penitence.

R1. 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:

All. wash us, and we shall be clean.

R2. We have broken the pledges of our baptism, and failed to be your disciples.

From all our sins, O Lord:

All. wash us, and we shall be clean.

R1. 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:

All. wash us, and we shall be clean.

R2. We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember your repeated forgiveness of our sins.

From all our sins, O Lord:

All. wash us, and we shall be clean.

R1. 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:

All. wash us, and we shall be clean

R2. 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:

All. wash us, and we shall be clean.

Leader. We Pray that God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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R1. The Collect; Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism.
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.**

R2. Said Hymn . On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

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

Then cleansed be every life 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 sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen**

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The Word of the Lord,

R1. A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. 8. 14-17

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. **All Thanks be to God.**

Leader. May the Lord be in our minds, on our lips and in our hearts as we hear the words of the holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke*

All. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader. **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.**

The Creed: Let us declare our faith in God.

Leader. We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

R1. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

R2. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

All. **We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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(Prayers of Intercession)

Leader. Mighty God, thank you for the precious gift of baptism: especially our Lord Jesus Christ' baptism, when you opened the door of heaven and sent the Holy Spirit down upon him.

Lord, we ask for your goodness and blessings to be poured out on all Baptised Christians throughout the world.

Especially for those who have been recently Baptised or Confirmed here from St Matthews'.

We pray that they are given the grace, courage and perseverance to faithfully follow your path.

We pray for those who are ministering to us here at St Matthews during this interregnum, for Fr Trevor and indeed all those who are called to spread the good news of your Kingdom, #

may they have wisdom in actions to help our church grow in numbers, In spiritual commitment, and in service to our local community;

Lord in your mercy: - **Hear our prayer**

R1. Lord of Peace,, we pray for a time where just as the dove came down as Jesus was baptised, peace will descend upon the earth.

we pray for peace and integrity in all conflicts and wars,

For the people of the world who have never known peace;

bring healing to those suffering from the violence,

and comfort those mourning the dead.

Lord in your mercy: - **Hear our prayer**

R2. Healing God We hold before you today those who are struggling with life because of ill health, whether that be physical, mental or spiritual.

we pray for **your** strength to uphold them,

your peace within them,

your love surrounding them

and **your** healing touch on their lives.

And may those who have **the** care of them have the wisdom, knowledge and compassion they need to be effective.

In a moment of quietness, we name in our hearts those we know or love who are in **need or ill** at this time.....

Moment of Quiet

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

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Leader. Lord we bring before the named sick

May Christs healing hand rest upon them and give Them wholeness of body, mind and spirit and also give their families peace and comfort
Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

Father of comfort and hope, we remember those who have died recently or who have anniversaries around this time.

Lord we lift to you those who are grieving or preparing for the loss of someone they love,
we ask for you to bless them, comfort them, and give them peace in those difficult times.

**LET LIGHT PERPETUAL SHINE UPON THEM
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE
AND RISE IN GLORY**

Father, we rejoice all our prayers in fellowship with St Matthew, all the saints, with those of our Blessed Mother.

In your unfailing love for us, hear and answer our prayers through your Son, as we honour his mother and say:

**Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen**

Merciful Father, Please accept these prayers For the Sake of your Son
Our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Peace

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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

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All. and also with you. AMEN

Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

Leader. God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

All. Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.

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. **Alleluia. Amen.**

An act of Spiritual Communion

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
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*:

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

Leader. Pour out your Holy Spirit
The Light of God surrounds us;
The Love of God enfolds us;
The Power of God protects us;
The Presence of God watches over us;
Wherever we are, --God is----

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 them that trespass against
us;
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil;
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen.**

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Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; *John 11.25*

PRAYER OF Spiritual Communion

Leader Let us say together the prayer of the act of Spiritual communion.

All. My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself
wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Those who have an order of service may want to view the picture of our holy sacrament or others may imagine yourself receiving the Bread of Heaven, be still and rest in the love of God. Thank Him for entering beneath the roof of your soul with these words:

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Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, inebriate me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesu, hear me.

Within your wounds hide me.

Suffer me not to be separated from you.

From the malicious enemy defend me.

In the hour of my death call me and bid me come to you.

**And that with St Matthew and all your Saints O most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother, may I know you more clearly,**

love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day

Amen.

Almighty God, through Your Blessed Sacrament,
keep me united with all my brothers and sisters here at St Matthews and
throughout the church. Bind us together in Word, Sacrament and Love, until
we are reunited again in Your church. . **Amen.**

Moment of Silence

Leader The Lord be with you. **R2.: And also with you**

R2. Loving Father,
we thank you for sustaining us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

NOTICES

Leader. Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to
trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with
you always. **Amen.**

Leader. Let us go in peace. We go into the world to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love

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and to reflect God's glory. Amen.

All. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore

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- Goodbyes

Leader. Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

Loud Response by All. I come to Christ.

Leader. The Lord bless us and keep us;

The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace

All, And may the Peace of the lord Jesus Christ be always with you
And also, with you.