



# **LANCASTER PRIORY**

A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

## **ALL AGE EUCHARIST**

Baptism of Christ

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**10.00am**

# Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

Between Epiphany (06 January) and Candlemas (02 February), the Bible readings explore different aspects of the coming of Christ as “a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel” (Luke 2.32). This Sunday’s Gospel recounts the first “luminous mystery” of Jesus’s adult ministry: namely, his baptism in the Jordan. In the weeks that follow, we will reflect on the further “mysteries” of his miracle at Cana and his proclamation of the Kingdom.

The Church continues to look for the revelation of Christ in our own generation and so today we also take the opportunity to remember our own calling to reveal Christ to the world given to us at our baptism.

The restrictions under which our services are being conducted at the moment are part of our responsibility to ensure that all who worship and visit the priory feel safe and valued. These are available on an additional flyer at the back of church. Thank you for your patience.

## Today’s service (Baptism of Christ):

President: The Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders, Vicar of Lancaster

Preacher: Mrs Lois Kirtley, Licensed Lay Minister

The Readers: Peter Hopwood, Miriam Jenkinson. Intercessor: Hilary Hopwood

Organist: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist. Choir: Full Choir

Setting: *Missa media nocte* (Tarney)

## Acknowledgements

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*Before the service starts, look around at the things in the building. What can you see from your seat? Can you see...*

*a cross   a brass eagle   a crown   organ pipes   a pink candle*

## The Welcome and Notices

*Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter during an organ improvisation, we then sing the hymn and the altar is censed.*

### Hymn (SP119, T:101ii)

1 Awake, awake: fling off the night!  
For God has sent a glorious light;  
And we who live in Christ's new day  
Must works of darkness put away.

2 Awake and rise, with love renewed,  
And with the Spirit's power endued.  
The light of life in us must glow,  
And fruits of truth and goodness show.

3 Let in the light; all sin expose  
To Christ, whose life no darkness knows.  
Before the cross expectant kneel;  
His light will judge, and judging, heal.

4 Awake, and rise up from the dead,  
And Christ his light on you will shed.  
Its pow'r will wrong desires destroy,  
And your whole nature fill with joy.

5 Then sing for joy, and use each day;  
Give thanks for ev'rything alway.  
Lift up your hearts; with one accord  
Praise God through Jesus Christ, our  
Lord.

John Raphael Peacy 1896-1971

### The Greeting *The president says*

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

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

### Prayers of Penitence and Forgiveness

*The deacon says*

By the mercies of God, let us confess our sins and present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to him, which is our spiritual worship.

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of peace:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

## **The Kyrie** *The choir sings*

Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.

*Watch how some people move their hands in front of them during this prayer. What shape are they making?*

## **The Absolution**

*The priest says*

The God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, and be cleansed from all your sins through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Gloria** *The choir sing*

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** *The priest says 'let us pray' and silence is kept.*

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## **The First Reading** Isaiah 43.1-7

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. 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. 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. 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. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; 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 – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm 29**

**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.

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.

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.

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.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare;

in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'

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.**

## **The Second Reading** Acts 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.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Hymn** (LP11)

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Come, bow before him now,  
with 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.

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour 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.

3. 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.

David J Evans b. 1957

## **The Gospel Reading** Luke 3.15-17,21-22)

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation, the cantor sings*

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 Luke **Glory to you, O Lord**

*During these words, some people make the sign of the cross with their thumbs on their heads, mouth and chest. This reminds us that the words in the gospel should be in our minds, on our lips and in our hearts.*

(In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.) 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 Sermon** *Please sit.*

### **The Affirmation of Faith** *Please stand*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world? **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church. **This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*Sometimes people light candles when they say prayers. How many lit candles can you count around the church today?*

## **Prayers of Intercession** *Please sit.*

*This response is used* Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

*And at the end* Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **The Peace** *Please stand.*

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

*We acknowledge one another with a sign of peace.*

## **The Offertory Hymn** (56) *During this hymn a collection will be taken.*

Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar;  
branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in man made manifest.

2. Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
and at Cana wedding-guest  
in thy Godhead manifest;  
manifest in power divine,  
changing water into wine:  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in man made manifest.

3. Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
manifest in valiant fight,  
quelling all the devil's might;  
manifest in gracious will,  
ever bringing good from ill:  
anthems be to thee address,  
God in man made manifest.

4. Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
stars shall fall, the heavens shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine;  
all will see his glorious sign;  
all will then the trumpet hear,  
all will see the Judge appear:  
thou by all wilt be confest  
God in man made manifest.



5. Grant us grace to see thee, Lord,  
mirrored in thy holy word;  
may we imitate thee now,  
and be pure, as pure art thou;  
that we like to thee may be  
at thy great Epiphany;  
and may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

Christopher Wordsworth 1807-1885

## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

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**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

*The choir sing*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

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

*The priest 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,

*What is happening on the altar during this hymn? Can you see all of the things that we are offering to God with thanks?*

*Look out for the person with smoke (this represents our prayers rising to God). Listen out for the bell ringing too!*

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* Jesus Christ is Lord: **Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.**

*The priest 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:

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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the 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.**

## **The Agnus Dei** *Please sit as the choir 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.

## **The Giving of Communion**

*The priest invites the congregation to receive communion.*

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

**Lord, give us this bread always.**

*The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.*

*Whilst we wait quietly for everyone to receive communion or a blessing, have another look around. Look at the stained glass windows. What else can you see?*

## **Communion Anthem** *The choir sings Be thou my vision (Chilcott)*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, be all else but naught to me, save that thou art; be thou my best thought in the day and the night, both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word, be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord; be thou my great Father, and I thy true son; be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

## **Prayer After Communion** *The president prays*

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**

## **Christ is revealed in the water of Baptism**

*Holy water is brought from the font by a child.*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe: you bring waters out of the stony rock. For with you is the well of life, and in your light shall we see light.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Hymn (466)

*A verger leads the president to sprinkle the congregation in remembrance of our baptism into Christ.*

Thou, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the Gospel-day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.

2. Thou, who didst come to bring  
on thy redeeming wing  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
O now to all mankind  
let there be light.

3. Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy Dove,  
speed forth thy flight;  
move on the water's face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.

4. Holy and blessed Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might;  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the earth far and wide  
let there be light.

John Marriott 1789-1825

*The president says*

Remember your baptism into Christ Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

## **The Blessing and Dismissal** *The priest prays*

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory; 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* Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**

## **Organ Voluntary** *Postlude on 'Was lebet' (Tambling)*

*Please remain standing while the servers, choir and clergy depart.*