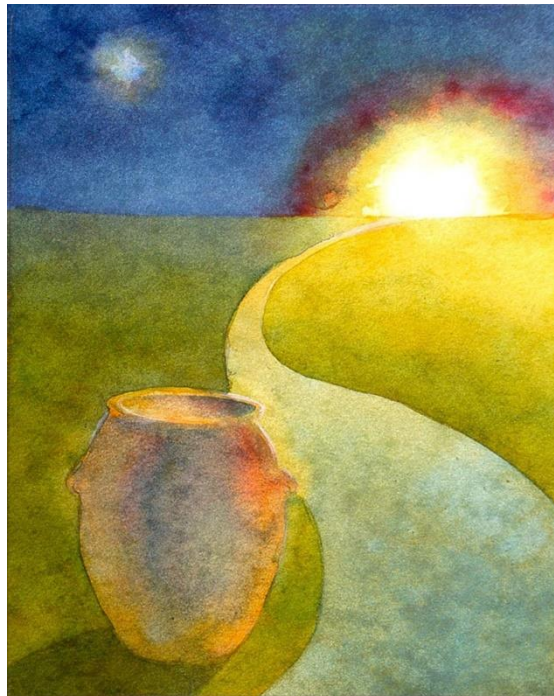




**Leicester Cathedral**  
*A beating heart for City and County*

# **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

from the Community  
of Leicester Cathedral



**Sunday 10 January 2021**  
**The Baptism of Christ | Epiphany I**

*The Very Revd David Monteith, Dean of Leicester, leads the service.*

*David Cowen, Associate Organist, plays on the Organ*

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam BuxWV180

*Dietrich Buxtehude (c.1637–1707)*

## **Welcome and Greeting**

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
true God of true God,  
**We Bless You.**

Object of the Magi's search,  
subject of an old man's song,  
fulfilment of the Baptist's preaching,  
**We Bless You.**

Mary's son,  
Joseph's son,  
God's only son,  
**We Bless You.**

(©1997 WGRG)

We meet in the presence of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

*Isaiah 60.1*

*Dean David continues with words of welcome.*

Today Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism being anointed with the Holy Spirit and with words of love, 'You are my Beloved: with you I am well pleased'. It is an opportunity for us to reconnect with our baptism and identity in God and the newness being loved brings.

## **Penitence** Asking for God's forgiveness and healing

Because God was merciful,  
he saved us through the water of rebirth  
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.  
But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism.  
Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises  
by confessing our sins in penitence.

*Titus 3.5*

*Silence is kept*

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.**

## **Absolution** God's forgiveness for us

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

## **The Collect**

Let us pray.

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.**

## The First Reading

### Genesis 1.1–5

*Read by Carys Underdown*

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Second Reading

### Mark 1.4–11

*Read by Sara Burgess*

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Reflection

The Revd Dr Tom Wilson, Director, St Philip's Centre

*David Cowen plays*

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam BWV684

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

*Christ our Lord came to the Jordan in accordance with his Father's will,  
He received baptism from Saint John to fulfil his work and ministry.*

*Bev Collett leads*

## Prayers of Intercession

*The following response is used*

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

*and this response may be used at the end:*

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

*The prayers conclude with The Lord's Prayer*

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.**

Thank you for joining us today for this service. **This is the usual time in a service that a collection would be taken** and collections are a vital source of income for us so please give generously – you can give by text or online – <http://easydonate.org/PLATE> (please see the final page for details). Your gifts enable us to continue to do this work and to keep the building open and safe for all that visit. **Thank you.**

All sing

## The Hymn

**Come down, O Love divine,  
seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near,  
within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,  
till earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the power of human telling;  
for none can guess its grace,  
till he become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

DOWN AMPNEY (AM238i)  
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Bianco da Siena (d.1434)  
translated by Richard Frederick Littledale (1833–1890)

*Dean David leads*

## **The Blessing and Dismissal**

We have beheld his glory,  
glory as of the only Son of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

*John 1.14*

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.**

We have come to Christ, the living water.  
Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*David Cowen plays*

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam BWV685

*Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

## **Leicester Cathedral needs your help**

We understand that not everyone will be able to help in this uncertain climate. But if you are able to continue your giving, or to make a donation now, it will be enormously helpful.

We have limited reserves, our earned income has come to a standstill, and giving by collection plate and envelope has ceased. As a result, we are experiencing very real financial pressures.

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