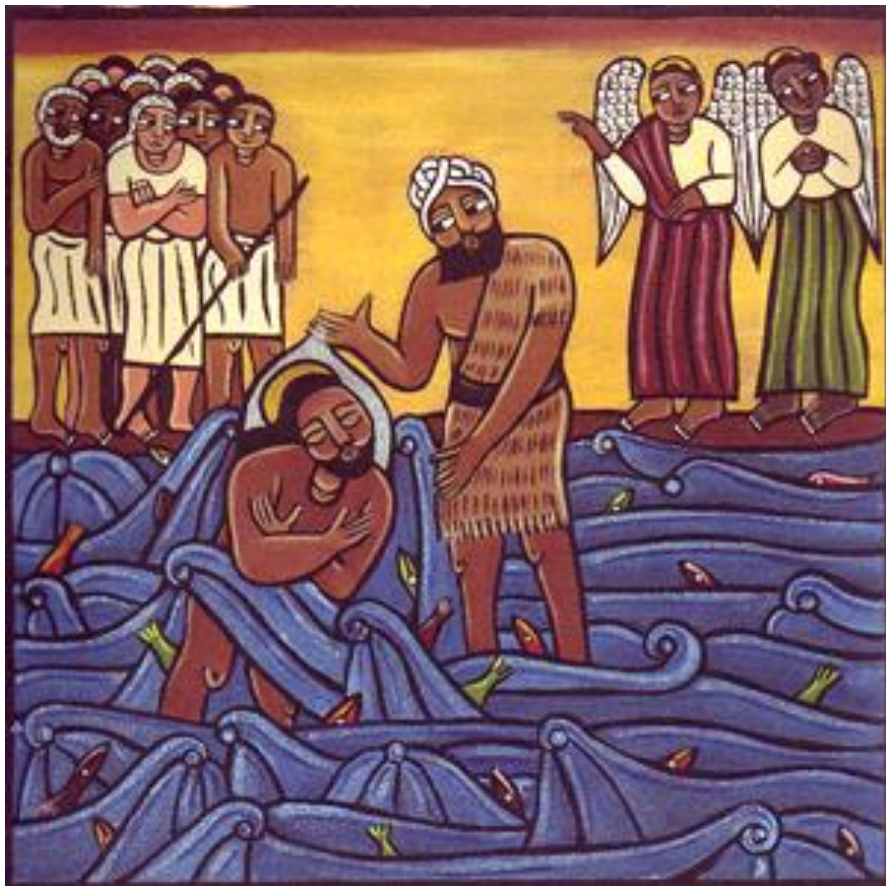




***All Age Eucharist  
on the festival of The Baptism of Christ***



**St Alphege Parish Church, Solihull**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 9.30am**

## GATHERING HYMN – HON 112 Come, now is the time

**Come now is the time to worship,  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are to worship,  
Come, just as you are before your God.  
Come.**

**One day every tongue will confess you are God.  
One day every knee will bow.  
Still, the greatest treasure remains for those  
Who gladly choose you now.**

## THE GREETING

In my head (touch head)  
in my heart (touch heart)  
and all around me (touch shoulders one by one)  
Jesus is here (open hands in front, facing upwards)  
Amen.

**All: In my head** (touch head)  
**in my heart** (touch heart)  
**and all around me** (touch shoulders one by one)  
**Jesus is here** (open hands in front, facing upwards)  
**Amen.**

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

**All From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

*Please sit as the President introduces the service.*

Welcome to our service of all-age worship.  
Today we remember the time when Jesus was washed with water  
in the River Jordan and saw the Holy Spirit of God resting on him.

## WE SAY SORRY

As we remember the wrong choices we make:  
the things we think and say and do that hurt other people,  
hurt ourselves, and hurt God;  
we remember that God is merciful,  
saving us through the water of rebirth  
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.

*We keep a moment of stillness.*

*(Hands held out in front of us, palms facing outwards.)*

Loving God, for the times we have kept others at arms' length,

**All Forgive us and help us.**

*(Hands curled into fists.)*

For the times we have refused to share what we have,

**All Forgive us and help us.**

*(Hands placed over heart.)*

For the times we have only thought of ourselves,

**All Forgive us and help us.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

*(Hands with palms facing upwards.)*

Lord, please wash us from our sins  
and help us to live differently.

In Jesus' name.

**All Amen.**

Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism.

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.

**All Amen.**

*Please stand if you are able*

GLORIA by George Salazar

**Glory! Glory! Glory to God!**  
**Glory! Glory! Glory to God!**

**Glory to God in the heights of the heavens.**  
**Peace to God's people, all people on earth.**  
**Chorus**

**Son of the Father, all glory and worship;**  
**praise and thanksgiving to you, Lamb of God.**  
**Chorus**

**You take away the sin of the world;**  
**have mercy on us, receive our prayer.**  
**Chorus**

**Seated in pow'r at the right of the Father,**  
**Jesus alone is the Lord, the Most High.**  
**Chorus**

**And with the Spirit of love everlasting,**  
**reigning in glory for ever. Amen.**  
**Chorus**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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

At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River. He came to John and wanted John to baptise him. But John tried to stop him. John said, “Why do you come to me to be baptised? I should be baptised by you!”

Jesus answered, “Let it be this way for now. We should do all things that are right.” So John agreed to baptise Jesus.

Jesus was baptised and came up out of the water. Heaven opened, and he saw God’s Spirit coming down on him like a dove. And a voice spoke from heaven. The voice said, “This is my Son and I love him. I am very pleased with him.”

*At the end of the Gospel:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ**

*Junior Choristers sit in the nave of the church. Please sit*

THE TALK

*Please stand*

WE BELIEVE

Let us declare our faith in God.

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

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

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

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

## PRAYERS

*Prayers to include:*

In baptism, water is a sign of the washing away of our sins  
and a sign of the new life God gives us through his resurrection.  
In this bowl, we have water that has been taken from the font.  
With the help of the children all of us will now be sprinkled with it  
to wash us clean and remind us of our baptism.

*Children to sprinkle congregation with water on conifer branches*

## 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.

**All And also with you.**

*We remain in our places and offer one another a sign of peace.*

## OFFERTORY SONG – SoF223 I Bless the Lord O my soul

*Chorus*

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship your holy name.**

**The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
it's time to sing your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
let me be singing when the evening comes.**

*Chorus*

**You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,  
your name is great and your heart is kind.  
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.**

*Chorus*

**And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come,  
still my soul will sing your praise unending;  
ten thousand years and then forever more!**

*Chorus*

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

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.

**All    Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away  
you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.

*All* **You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.

*All* **He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

*All* **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

*All* **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**



As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

*All* **As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*All* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might:  
heaven and earth, heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
your pow'r and might.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As God's children, loved and cherished, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

***All 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

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may,  
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.

Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,  
but because you need mercy and help.

Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.

Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

*We receive communion.*

*We are all invited to draw near to God today.*

*If you, or your children, regularly receive the bread and wine at any Christian church,  
you are most welcome to do so today.*

*If you do not usually receive the bread and wine, or prefer not to do so today,  
you are invited to come forward to receive a prayer of blessing.*

*If you do this, you may want to hold your hands together in prayer  
so that we know your intention.*

Abba, Father, let me be  
yours and yours alone.  
May my will forever be  
more and more your own.  
Never let my heart grow cold,  
never let me go.  
Abba, Father, let me be  
yours and yours alone.

SONG DURING COMMUNION – HON 495 O let the Son of God enfold you

**O let the Son of God enfold you  
with his Spirit and his love,  
let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.  
O let him have the things that hold you,  
and his Spirit like a dove  
will descend upon your life and make you whole.**

*Chorus*

**Jesus, O Jesus,  
come and fill your lambs.  
Jesus, O Jesus,  
come and fill your lambs.**

**O come and sing this song with gladness  
as your hearts are filled with joy,  
lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.  
O give him all your tears and sadness,  
give him all your years of pain,  
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.**

*Chorus*

## 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.

**All    Amen**

## NOTICES

*The President gives out any notices.*

*Please stand if you are able*

FINAL HYMN – HON 21 vs 1,3,5 (tune SoF 12 in C) All over the world

**All over the world  
the Spirit is moving,  
all over the world  
as the prophets said it would be;  
all over the world  
there's a mighty revelation  
of the glory of the Lord,  
as the waters cover the sea.**

**All over the Church  
the Spirit is moving,  
all over the Church  
as the prophets said it would be;  
all over the Church  
there's a mighty revelation  
of the glory of the Lord,  
as the waters cover the sea.**

**Deep down in my heart  
the Spirit is moving,  
deep down in my heart  
as the prophets said it would be;  
deep down in my heart  
there's a mighty revelation  
of the glory of the Lord,  
as the waters cover the sea.**

## **THE BLESSING**

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

**All    Amen.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

We have come to Christ, the living water.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All    In the name of Christ. Amen.**