

## Sunday 10th January – Baptism of Christ

### 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.

### First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.  
And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he 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.

### Psalm 29

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.

### **Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' <sup>3</sup>Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' <sup>4</sup>Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – <sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

### **Gospel: Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'