

St Matthew's – All Age Worship & Baptism

10.45am Sunday 7th November 2021

Theme: God is with us when we are on our own

Welcome to St. Matthew's. Please join us for tea or coffee after this service. Today's service is an All Age Worship service so the children will be in church for the whole service. The service will last about an hour. A special welcome to the family and friends of Tangeni who will be baptised during the service. Please place any financial gifts in the collection box at the back, use the contactless machine or donate via the church website.

Welcome and Notices

Opening words

Why are we here?

We are here to worship God.

Why are we here?

We are here to hear from God.

Why are we here?

We are here to pray to God.



Introductory Activity (Jim)

Song:

Water You turned into wine

Opened the eyes of the blind

There's no one like You

None like You

Into the darkness You shine

Out of the ashes we rise

There's no one like You

None like You

Our God is greater

Our God is stronger

God You are higher than any other

Our God is healer

Awesome in power our God our God

Bridge

And if our God is for us

Then who could ever stop us

And if our God is with us

Then what could stand against



Saying Sorry

We're sorry for the times when we've forgotten about you or ignored you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We're sorry for the times when we've not helped friends who need our care and support.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.



We're sorry for the times when we've left people out and failed to reach out to lonely people.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Baptism

Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit, that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love, and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presentation of Candidate

[The minister addresses the congregation]

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome this child and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Parents and Godparents, the Church receives this child with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith. Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Parents and Godparents, in baptism this child begins his journey in faith. You speak for him today. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

[Water is poured into the font]

Prayer over the water

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. He was baptized in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him.

Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever. **Amen.**

Decision

Parents and Godparents, in baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask: Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

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

I come to Christ.

Signing with the cross

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

[The sign of the cross is made on the candidate's forehead]

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

Profession of Faith

[The congregation stand]

Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.

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

I 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?

I 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?

I 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.

[The congregation sit]

Baptism

[Name], I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

Giving of candle

Receive this light. This is to show you have passed out of darkness into light. God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith. We are children of the same heavenly Father. We welcome you!

Keep fit with Rev Jim

Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me?

I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me

Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am



Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me

Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am
In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes I am

Bridge:

I am chosen
Not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me
Not against me
I am who You say I am

Bible Reading

Verses from Genesis 28:10-22 (ERV)

[At the end]

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



Talk (Jim Trood)



(Prayer ministry is available in the side chapel)

Song

Faithful One,

So unchanging,
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on you,
I call out to you again and again,
I call out to you again and again.



You are my rock in times of trouble,
You lift me up when I fall down;
All through the storm
your love is the anchor -
My hope is in you alone.

Prayer Activity

[These responses may be 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.**



Lord's Prayer

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.



Song:

My hope is built on nothing less

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name.



Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong
in the Saviour's love
Through the storm He is Lord,
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.

When he shall come
with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in him be found.
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless, I stand before the throne.

Offering Prayer

Though many, we form one body in Christ.

We belong to one another.

By God's grace we have different gifts.
We will use them in faith.

Rejoice in hope, stand firm in trouble,
be constant in prayer.

**Filled with his Spirit we will serve
the Lord.**

Take home explanation



Blessing

May Christ's holy, healing, enabling Spirit be with you and guide you on your way at every change and turn; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.