

# **St Matthew's – All Age Worship & Baptism**

## **10.45am Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

Theme: Jesus is the centre of God's big story

**Welcome to St Matthew's.** Please join us for tea or coffee after this service. Today's service is an All Age Worship service which means the children will be in church for the whole service. The service will last about an hour. If those with children would like to sit near the front, there are table activities for during the talk for the younger children.

Please place any financial gifts in the bags which will be passed around during the offertory song. If you prefer you may use the contactless machine at the back of church or donate via the church website.

### **Welcome & 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.**



## **Song**

### **Let our praise be Your welcome**

Let our songs be a sign  
We are here for You,  
we are here for You  
Let Your breath come from heaven  
Fill our hearts with Your life  
We are here for You,  
we are here for You



To You our hearts are open  
Nothing here is hidden  
You are our one desire  
You alone are holy  
Only You are worthy  
God, let Your fire fall down

Let our shout be Your anthem  
Your renown fill the skies  
We are here for You,  
we are here for You  
Let Your Word move in power  
Let what's dead come to life  
We are here for You,  
we are here for You

### *Bridge*

We welcome You with praise  
We welcome You with praise  
Almighty God of love  
Be welcomed in this place  
Let every heart adore  
Let every soul awake  
Almighty God of love  
Be welcomed in this place

## **Introductory Activity** (Jim)

## **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 the 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 Ezra and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

Parents, the Church receives Ezra 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, in baptism Ezra begins her 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 baptised in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.

Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptised 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, 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**

Ezra Isiaah Barrett, 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 a 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!**

## **Song**

**Here we are people of faith**

Some with smiles others with fears at their face

Here we come ready to bring who we are

God is good

God is good to us

All through time

Every hour every minute

God is good

God is good



Here we are children of God

Family joining together as one

Here we come ready to sing who You are

*Bridge*

O praise Him for He is good

O praise Him for He is good

O praise Him for He is good

O praise Him for He is good

He is good

## **Saying Sorry**

Father God, we are sorry for the times when we have ignored or forgotten you. Help us to be more aware of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**



Lord Jesus, we are sorry for the times when we haven't noticed you at work in the world and our lives. Help us to see you more clearly.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, we are sorry for the times when we haven't pointed to Jesus. Help us to show the way so more people can find him.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Bible Reading** (Hannah/William Dallaway)

- Luke 4:16-22 (ERV)

<sup>16</sup> Jesus travelled to Nazareth, the town where he grew up. On the Sabbath day he went to the synagogue as he always did. He stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> The book of Isaiah the prophet was given to him. He opened the book and found the place where this is written:

<sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is on me.

He has chosen me to tell good news to the poor.

He sent me to tell prisoners that they are free

and to tell the blind that they can see again.

He sent me to free those who have been treated badly

<sup>19</sup> and to announce that the time has come for the Lord to show his kindness.”



<sup>20</sup> Jesus closed the book, gave it back to the helper, and sat down. As everyone in the synagogue watched him closely, <sup>21</sup> he began to speak to them. He said, “While you heard me reading these words just now, they were coming true!”

<sup>22</sup> Everyone there said good things about Jesus. They were amazed to hear him speak such wonderful words. They said, “How is this possible? Isn’t he Joseph’s son?”

*[At the end]*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## **Song**

**Jesus, be the centre**

Be my source, Be my light,  
Jesus.



Jesus, be the centre

Be my hope, be my song,  
Jesus.

Be the fire in my heart,  
Be the wind in these sails,  
Be the reason that I live,  
Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision  
Be my path, be my guide,  
Jesus.

## **Talk & Table Activities** (Jim Trood)



## **Response and Take Home**

## **Creedal Song**

### **I believe in Jesus**

I believe He is the Son of God  
I believe He died and rose again  
I believe He paid for us all

I believe He is here now  
Standing in our midst  
Here with the power to heal now  
And the grace to forgive

I believe in You Lord  
I believe You are the Son of God  
I believe You died and rose again  
I believe You paid for us all

And I believe You're here now  
(I believe that You're here)  
Standing in our midst  
Here with the power to heal now  
(With the power to heal)  
And the grace to forgive.



## **Prayer Activity**



## **Collect**

Creator God,  
you made us all in your image:  
may we discern you in all that we see,  
and serve you in all that we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**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.**



## **Offering 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**



## **Blessing**

Almighty God,  
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.  
May it be a lantern to our feet,  
a light to our paths,  
and a strength to our lives.  
Take us and use us  
to love and serve  
in the power of the Holy Spirit  
and in the name of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.



And may 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.**

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***St Matthew's Church: Worshipping God; Equipping his people;  
Growing his kingdom; Serving Walsall***

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