

# 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

reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

## 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.**

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

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

## Song

- Let our praise be Your welcome



## Introductory Activity



## 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

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**



### **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**

- Luke 4:16-22 (ERV)



*[At the end]*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Song**

- **Jesus, be the centre**



## Talk & Table Activities



## Response and Take Home

### Creedal Song

- I believe in Jesus



### 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



## 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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