

# **St Matthew's – Morning Praise & Baptism**

## **10.45am Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Theme: Revelation: A revelation from Jesus Christ**

**Welcome to St Matthew's.** Please join us for tea or coffee after this service. Children leave for Children's Church after the All Together song, returning at midday.

Please place any financial gifts in the bags which will be passed around during our 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**

Almighty God,  
your Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence.  
Give us new hearts and constant wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**



## Song



**Give thanks to the Lord**, our God and King:  
his love endures forever,  
For he is good, he is above all things,  
his love endures forever,  
sing praise, sing praise.

With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm,  
his love endures forever,  
for the life that's been reborn,  
his love endures forever,  
sing praise, sing praise,  
sing praise, sing praise.

For ever, God is faithful,  
for ever God is strong,  
for ever God is with us,  
for ever, for ever.

From the rising to the setting sun,  
his love endures forever;  
by the grace of God we will carry on,  
his love endures forever.  
Sing praise, sing praise,  
sing praise, sing praise.

## **Saying Sorry (Confession)**

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.



**O King enthroned on high,  
filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name,  
Lord God almighty.  
In our sinfulness we cry to you  
to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Forgiveness (Absolution)**

May the Father forgive us  
by the death of his Son  
and strengthen us  
to live in the power of the Spirit  
all our days.  
**Amen.**



## **Baptisms**



### **Presentation of the Candidate**

*[The minister addresses the congregation]*

Do you wish to be baptised or reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ?  
*(Candidates)* **I do.**

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 these candidates and uphold them in their new life in Christ?  
*(All)* **With the help of God, we will.**

## **Decision**

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?  
*(Candidates)* **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?  
*(Candidates)* **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?  
*(Candidates)* **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?  
*(Candidates)* **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?  
*(Candidates)* **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?  
*(Candidates)* **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 each of the candidates]*

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.**

## **Prayer over the water**

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptized in the river Jordan: we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us. We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land. We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water, that these candidates are to be washed in, that they may be made one with Christ in his death and, in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Send your Holy Spirit upon him; bring him to new birth in the household of faith, and raise him with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority, and power are yours, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## **Profession of Faith**

Let us affirm, together with Candidates, 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.**

**Baptism** *(The candidates & minister enter the pool)*

*[Name]* is this your faith?

*(Candidate)* **This is my faith**

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

**Affirmation** *(The candidates & minister enter the pool)*

I am *[Name]* and I am a disciple of Jesus Christ.

As I continue to follow him, I want to dedicate myself to his service and embrace all that was promised at my baptism.

*[Name]* I affirm your baptism  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## All Together Song



In my wrestling and in my doubts  
In my failures You won't walk out  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence, You won't let go  
In the questions, Your truth will hold  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

### *Chorus*

My lighthouse, my lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness. I will follow You  
My lighthouse, my lighthouse  
I will trust the promise, you will carry me  
Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore  
Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings  
With each morning I'll rise and sing  
My God's love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

### *Bridge*

Fire before us  
You're the brightest  
You will lead us  
Through the storms (hey)  
(REPEAT 3X)

***Children leave for their groups.***

## Song



### **Lord I come to you**

Let my heart be changed, renewed  
Flowing from the grace that I found in you  
And Lord I've come to know  
The weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away  
By the power of your love.

Hold me close, let your love surround me  
Bring me near, draw me to your side  
And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle  
And I will soar with you  
Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of your love.

Lord, unveil my eyes  
Let me see you face to face  
The knowledge of your love, as you live in me  
And Lord, renew my mind  
As your will unfolds in my life  
In living every day  
By the power of your love.

## **Intercessions** (Ben Butterfield)

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**



*At the end*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**



## **Collect**

God, our light and our salvation:  
illuminate our lives,  
that we may see your goodness in the land of the living,  
and looking on your beauty  
may be changed into the likeness of 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.**



## Sung Worship



**You were the Word** at the beginning  
One With God the Lord Most High  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a beautiful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us  
So Jesus, You brought heaven down  
My sin was great, Your love was greater  
What could separate us now

What a wonderful Name it is  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a wonderful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You,  
the veil tore before You  
You silenced the boast,  
of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring,  
the praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival,  
You have no equal  
Now and forever, Our God reigns  
Yours is the Kingdom,  
Yours is the glory  
Yours is the Name,  
above all names

What a powerful Name it is  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a powerful Name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

**1<sup>st</sup> Bible Reading – Revelation 1: 1-8 (NIVUK)** (Rita Chilton)



<sup>1</sup> The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who testifies to everything he saw – that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup> Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

<sup>4</sup> John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup> 'Look, he is coming with the clouds,'  
and 'every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him';  
and all peoples on earth 'will mourn because of him.'  
So shall it be! Amen.

<sup>8</sup> 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.'

*[At the end]*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Bible Reading – Revelation 1: 9-19** (Alyson Green)

<sup>9</sup> I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup> On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup> which said: 'Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.'

<sup>12</sup> I turned round to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash round his chest. <sup>14</sup> The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup> His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: 'Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

<sup>19</sup> 'Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later.

*[at the end]*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** (Jeremy Sargent)



## **Response Worship**

*(including Offering)*

**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.

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.

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 forevermore.

## **Offering Prayer**



## **Blessing**

Faithful God,  
who fulfilled the promises of Easter  
by sending us your Holy Spirit  
and made known to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal:  
open our lips by your Spirit,  
that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Christ our ascended King  
pour upon you the abundance of his gifts  
and bring you to reign with him in glory;  
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.**

## **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** *(Cards and Bibles are given to the candidates)*

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!**

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

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