

## **THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST**

### **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.

### **FIRST READING Isaiah 43.1–7**

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers,  
they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be  
burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the  
Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in  
exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love  
you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear,  
for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will  
gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up,'  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my  
daughters from the end of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom  
I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

### **SECOND READING Acts 8.14–17**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of  
God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them  
that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon  
any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then  
Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Reader:** This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

### **GOSPEL Luke 3.15–17, 21–22**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke*

**Glory to you O Lord**

In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance. As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord* **Praise to you O Christ**

**POST COMMUNION**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens  
and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.