

# Following Jesus in Loving Community

*The Baptism of Christ - 11th January 2026*

## **All Together Service**



St Lawrence  
with St Paul  
Longridge

### **The Welcome & introduction**

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

### **Opening songs**

#### **Praise is rising**

Eyes are turning to You

We turn to You

Hope is stirring

Hearts are yearning for You

We long for You

'Cause when we see You

We find strength to face the day

In Your presence

All our fears are washed away

(Washed away)

*Hosanna hosanna*

*You are the God who saves us*

*Worthy of all our praises*

*Hosanna hosanna*

*Come have Your way among us*

*We welcome You here Lord Jesus*

Hear the sound of

Hearts returning to You

We turn to You

In Your Kingdom

Broken lives are made new

You make us new

'Cause when we see You

We find strength to face the day

In Your presence

All our fears are washed away

(Washed away)

*Hosanna hosanna*

*You are the God who saves us*

*Worthy of all our praises*

*Hosanna hosanna*

*Come have Your way among us*

*We welcome You here Lord Jesus*

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#### **I will worship (I will worship)**

With all of my heart (with all of my heart)

I will praise You (I will praise You)

With all of my strength (all my strength)

I will seek You (I will seek You)

All of my days (all of my days)

I will follow (I will follow)

All of Your ways (all Your ways)

*I will give You all my worship*

*I will give You all my praise*

*You alone I long to worship*

*You alone are worthy of my praise*

I will bow down (I will bow down)

And hail You as King (and hail You as King)

I will serve You (I will serve You)

Give You everything (everything)

I will lift up (I will lift up)

My eyes to Your throne

(my eyes to Your throne)

I will trust You (I will trust You)

Trust You alone (You alone)

*I will give You all my worship*

*I will give You all my praise*

*You alone I long to worship*

*You alone are worthy of my praise*

## Saying Sorry

God our Father,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.  
For turning away from you,  
and ignoring your will for our lives;  
Father, forgive us:

**Save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish,  
without thinking of you;  
Father, forgive us:

**Save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do  
and think and say;  
Father, forgive us:

**Save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away  
from you by temptations in the world  
about us;

Father, forgive us:

**Save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed to  
belong to your Son;  
Father, forgive us:

**Save us and help us.**

## Knowing God's Forgiveness

May God the creator, the rock of our  
salvation, who has given us new birth  
by water and the Holy Spirit and  
forgiven all our sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, keep us faithful to our  
calling, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## Collect

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as  
your Son: may we recognize him as  
our Lord and know ourselves to be  
your beloved children; through Jesus  
Christ our Saviour.

**Amen.**

## First Reading

### Isaiah 42:1-9

<sup>1</sup>“Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him, and he will  
bring justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not shout or cry out,  
or raise his voice in the streets.

<sup>3</sup>A bruised reed he will not break,  
and a smouldering wick he will not  
snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring  
forth justice;

<sup>4</sup>he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.

In his teaching the islands will put  
their hope.”

<sup>5</sup>This is what God the Lord says—  
the Creator of the heavens, who  
stretches them out, who spreads out  
the earth with all that springs from it,  
who gives breath to its people,  
and life to those who walk on it:

<sup>6</sup>“I, the Lord, have called you in  
righteousness; I will take hold of your  
hand. I will keep you and will make  
you to be a covenant for the people  
and a light for the Gentiles,

<sup>7</sup>to open eyes that are blind,  
to free captives from prison  
and to release from the dungeon  
those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>“I am the Lord; that is my name!  
I will not yield my glory to another  
or my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup>See, the former things have taken  
place, and new things I declare;  
before they spring into being  
I announce them to you.”

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## Action Song

Some of us are big and tall  
Some of us are very small  
Some of us like pink and  
some like blue  
Some of us like reading books  
Some of us like feeding ducks  
That's because we're different me  
and you.

But God loves everyone He's made  
God loves each of us in a special way

*That's you and you and you and you  
And you and you and you and you  
God loves you God loves you  
That's you and you and you and you  
And you and you and you and you  
We're part of the big family of God*

Some of us have curly hair  
Some of us have specs to wear  
All of us have different families  
Some of us are very loud  
Some of us don't make a sound  
That's because we're different you  
and me

But God loves everyone He's made  
God loves each of us in a special way

*That's you and you and you and you  
And you and you and you and you  
God loves you God loves you  
That's you and you and you and you  
And you and you and you and you  
We're part of the big family of God*

We're part of the big family of God  
We're part of the big family of God  
(Repeat)

## The Gospel Reading

### Matthew 3: 13-17

Christ was revealed in the flesh,  
proclaimed among the nations and  
believed in throughout the world.

### Alleluia!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. <sup>14</sup> But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?"

<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

<sup>16</sup> As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.""

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

### Praise to you, O Christ.

## Short Talk

### Song

#### Here is love vast as the ocean

Loving kindness as the flood  
When the Prince of Life our Ransom  
Shed for us His precious blood  
Who His love will not remember  
Who can cease to sing His praise  
He can never be forgotten  
Throughout Heav'n's eternal days

On the mount of crucifixion  
Fountains opened deep and wide  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide  
Grace and love like mighty rivers  
Poured incessant from above  
And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love

Let me all Thy love accepting  
Love Thee ever all my days  
Let me seek Thy kingdom only  
And my life be to Thy praise  
Thou alone shalt be my glory  
Nothing in this world I see  
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me  
Thou Thyself hast set me free

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me  
By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;  
And Thy grace my need is meeting,  
As I trust in Thee, my Lord.  
All Thy fullness Thou art pouring  
In Thy love and power in me  
Without measure, full and boundless,  
As I yield myself to Thee.

## Responding in Faith

*To remember Jesus baptism we gather around the baptismal font*

This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.

I will take you from the nations,  
**and gather you from all the countries.**

I will sprinkle clean water upon you,  
**and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness.**

A new heart I will give you,  
**and put a new spirit within you.**

You shall be my people,  
**and I will be your God.**

*Water is placed into the baptismal font and these words of thanks are spoken:*

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

Father, for your gift of water in creation  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

For your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,  
bringing light and life  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

For your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
baptised in the river Jordan  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

For your new creation, brought to birth by water and the Spirit  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

For your grace bestowed upon us your children, washing away our sins  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

So, Father, accept our sacrifice of praise.  
By the power of your life-giving Spirit  
bless these waters of your new creation.  
**Lord, receive our prayer.**

May we your servants who have been washed in them be made one with your Son, who took the form of a servant.  
**Lord, receive our prayer.**

May your Holy Spirit, who has brought us to new birth in the family of your Church, raise us in Christ, our anointed Lord, to full and eternal life.  
**Lord, receive our prayer.**

For all might, majesty and dominion are yours, now and for ever.  
**Alleluia. Amen.**

*We return to our seats and then continue in prayer*

## The Prayers

As we have thought about the baptism of Jesus, let us also think of our own baptism and the promises that were made at that time, and let us live the life of the baptised, rejoicing in the love of the Father and remembering that with Christ each moment offers the potential of new beginning.

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

We pray for all who are baptised in all churches and denominations. May we be alert to signs of God's kingdom among us and live as those who know their home is in heaven as well as on earth.

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

We pray for all those unsure about the Christian faith and for those seeking you with sincerity. May your Holy Spirit lovingly convict us of sin and renew everyone's love for you and your creation.

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

Jesus' baptism was public, may God give us boldness to own our faith before others - especially in situations of difficulty or opposition.

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

Jesus Baptism was God-Centred, may God build prayer in us, your church, to deepen and broaden our relationship with him, to find him in unexpected places and to trust him closely.

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

Jesus baptism was humble, may God grant gentleness to us the church, that we may faithfully reflect the servanthood of Christ.

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

We pray for those in the depths of grief, fear or sickness, may your living hope bring comfort and healing to all those in need of comfort and compassion.

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

As baptism symbolises dying and rising to new life in Christ we pray for the families and friends who are recently bereaved, remembering before you today:

*Harry Pinder, Mark Mortimer,  
William Pye, Sydney Thorpe.*

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

And now believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## Final Song

### (Cornerstone)

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  
(REPEAT)

*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  
My anchor holds within the veil

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

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne

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

## The Closing Blessing

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring  
of water welling up to eternal life,  
perfect in you the image of his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you  
always.

**Amen**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among us and remain with us always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

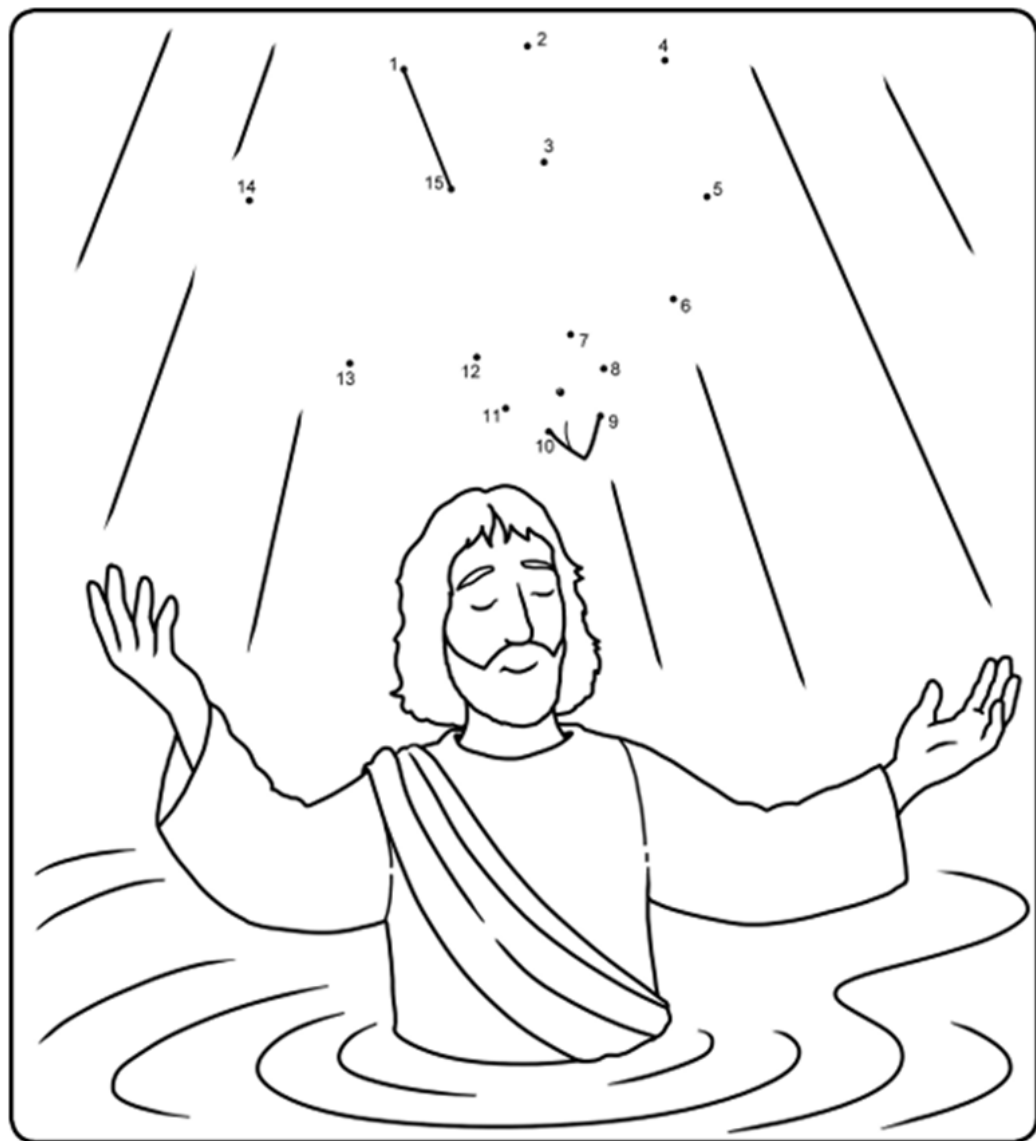
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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Please do join us after the service in the  
Centenary Room for refreshments and  
fellowship.

*We no longer pass a collection plate , but  
if you would like to make a donation to  
support the work, ministry and  
maintenance of the Parish it can be made  
with a bank card or mobile phone using  
the reader at the back of the church or by  
scanning the below QR Code. Thank you.*





## Connect & Color

Connect the dots. John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. Who came down from heaven and rested on Jesus? Who spoke from heaven? I wonder . . . what does God tell you in Baptism?



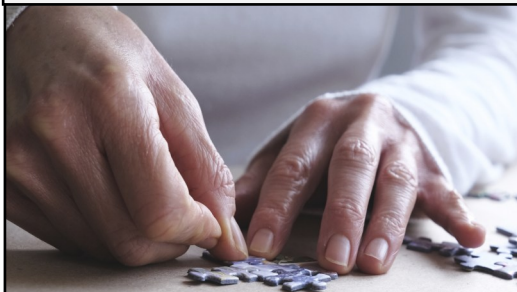
This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

**Matthew 3:17**

## A JIGSAW CELEBRATION -

Please support the Jigsaw Celebration weekend and view the constantly changing display of made up Jigsaws - all available to purchase. or why not help to complete a jigsaw while enjoying refreshments in the Centenary Room.

Haven't been to a jigsaw event before? - Admission is free so do call into St. Paul's Church during the weekend..



## THE 6TH ANNUAL **Jigsaw** CELEBRATION

Constantly  
changing display of  
made up Jigsaws to  
view and buy.

ON SATURDAY 17TH AND  
SUNDAY 18TH JANUARY, 2026

SATURDAY FROM 10AM TO 4PM  
SUNDAY 11AM TO 4PM

at St. Paul's Church,  
Longridge PR3 3WA

Refreshments include: soup,  
sandwiches, cakes and scones.



St Lawrence  
with St Paul  
Longridge



FOR MORE DETAILS,  
PLEASE CONTACT:

**Dot Little on 01772 783998**



St Lawrence  
with St Paul  
Longridge

## *Those Departed - Rest In Peace*

Harry Pinder  
Mark Mortimer  
Sydney Thorpe  
William (Bill) Pye



## The Bible Course

If you want to know how all the bible stories, themes and characters all fit together and how to make the most of the bible this course is brilliant and just for you.

**Starts Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm-9pm in St Paul's Centenary Room.**

**8 sessions in total**

It's free to attend, dessert and drinks are provided

One off £10 cost for the course book.  
Speak to Revs Mike or Jesse for more details.

## Tuesday Club

Next meeting is this week

Tuesday 13th January

**with AGM** followed by

**Liz Harrison—Organist & Entertainer**

(Regularly plays the Blackpool Tower Ballroom Wurlitzer)

in the Centenary Rooms

at St. Paul's Church—7:30pm.

*Non members welcome*

## Welcome Cafe

Meet weekly on Wednesdays during the school term in St. Paul's Church Centenary Room 3:00– 5:00pm

## Next Sunday's Services - January 18th 2025 - Epiphany 2

10:00am 'Service of Holy Communion' including children's Church  
**at St Lawrence Church!**

6.30pm 'Service of Evensong' at St. Lawrence's Church