



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
Vancouver, BC · *Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds*



The Baptism of the Lord (Proper 1)

January 8, 2023 | 10:30am

In-Person & Livestream

The Very Rev. Christopher A. Pappas | Presider

The Rev. Dr. Paul Fromberg | Preacher

Gathering of the Community

All Children ages 5-13 are welcome to join Godly Play downstairs in the Parish Hall. They will return to the Nave for Eucharist.

Introit

Christ is our Light!

Text: Leith Fisher (1941-2009); Music: SURSUM CODA, Alfred M. Smith (1879-1971)

Christ is our light! The bright and morning star,
covering with radiance all from near and far.
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray,
covering with radiance all from near and far.

Christ is our love! Baptised that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face,
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.

Presider

In this time and place,
we gather on the unceded ancestral lands
of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations.

All

From many places and peoples we come to this house of prayer.

Presider

In this time and place,
we give thanks for the light of God that shines in the darkness.

All

A light no darkness can quench.

Presider

In this time and place,
we give thanks for the light and peace of Jesus Christ the Word made flesh.

All

The light of all people.

Presider

In this time and place,
we pray that the Spirit of God will be renewed in our hearts and minds.

All

That we might be the light of God in the world.

Presider

In this time and place,
together, one people of God.

All

**In the name of God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Presider There is one body and one Spirit,
All **there is one hope in God's call to us;**

Presider One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
All **one God and Father of all.**

Presider Let us pray
(Silence is kept)

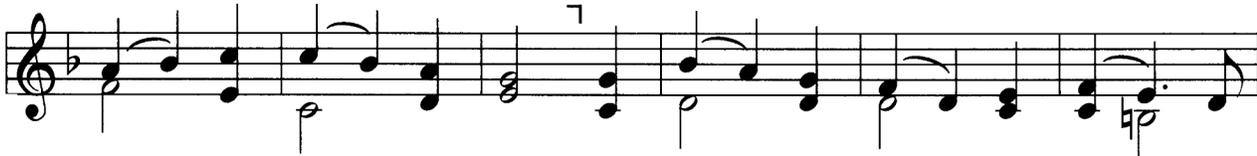
Collect

All O God the creator of all,
**at his baptism you proclaimed Jesus your beloved
and anointed him with the Holy Spirit.
Make us faithful to our calling to be your children,
and empower us with your Spirit,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen**

Opening Hymn When Christ's Appearing Was Made Known (CP 163)



1 When Christ's ap - pear - ing was made known, King Her - od
2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far and fol - lowed
3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood the heaven - ly
4 And O what mir - a - cle di - vine, when wa - ter
5 All glo - ry, Je - sus, be to thee for this, thy



trem - bled for his throne; but he who of - fers heaven - ly
on his gui - ding star; by light their way to Light they
Lamb in meek - ness stood, that he, to whom no sin was
red - dened in - to wine! He spake the word, and forth it
glad E - pi - pha - ny: whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth sought not the king - doms of this earth.
trod, and by their gifts con - fessed their God.
known, might cleanse his peo - ple from their own.
flowed in streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.
dore and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

ST. VENANTIUS

Text: Caelius Sedulius (5th cent.?); st.1, tr. *The Hymn Book*, 1971;
st. 2-5, tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866).

Music: Melody *Antiphoner*, Rouen, 1728; harm. Michael Fleming (1928-).

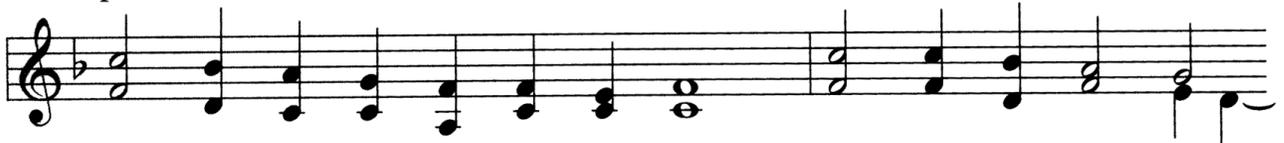
Sequence Hymn Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering (CP 165)



1 Mark how the Lamb of God's self - of - fering our hu - man sin - ful -
 2 From this as - sur - ance of God's fa - vour Je - sus goes to the
 3 Grant us, O God, the strength and cour - age to live the faith our



ness takes on in the birth - wa - ters of the Jor - dan
 wil - der - ness, there to en - dure a time of test - ing
 lips de - clare; bless us in our bap - tis - mal call - ing;



as Je - sus is bap - tized by John. Hear how the voice from
 that rea - died him to teach and bless. So we, by wa - ter
 Christ's roy - al priest - hood help us share. Turn us from ev - ery



heav - en thun - ders, "Lo, this is my be - lov - ed Son." See how
 and the Spir - it bap - tized in - to Christ's min - is - try, are of -
 false al - le - giance, that we may trust in Christ a - lone; raise up



in dove - like form the Spir - it de - scends on God's A - noin - ted One.
 ten led to paths of ser - vice through maz - es of ad - ver - si - ty.
 in us a cho - sen peo - ple trans - formed by love to be your own.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944-). © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: Melody Strasbourg, 1545; Geneva, 1551; harm. Erik Routley (1917-1982).

Harm. © 1977 Hope Publishing Co.

RENDEZ À DIEU

Deacon The Lord be with you.
All **And also with you.**
Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Matthew 3:13-17

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.
All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Paul Fromberg

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism ***Presentation & Examination of the Candidates***

Presider The candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.
Presenters **We present Sophia Margaret Rose Ackerman to receive the sacrament of baptism.**
Presenters **We present Darling Astoria Gregg to receive the sacrament of baptism.**

The Presider asks the following questions of the parents & sponsors:

Presider Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

Answer **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Answer **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Presider Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Presider Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Presider Do you turn to Jesus Christ, and accept him as your Saviour?

Answer **I do.**

Presider Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Presider Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

After the candidate has been presented, the Presider addresses the congregation:

Presider Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

All **We will.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Please stand as you are able.

Presider Let us now pray for Sophia Margaret Rose and Darling Astoria who are to receive the sacrament of new birth.

Deacon Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
Lord in your mercy.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Open their hearts to your grace and truth.
Lord in your mercy.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
Lord in your mercy.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
Lord in your mercy.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Send them into the world in witness to your love.
Lord in your mercy.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
Lord in your mercy.

All **Hear our prayer.**

Deacon Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptised into the death of Jesus Christ
your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to
come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever.

All **Amen.**

The Celebration of Baptism

Thanksgiving over the Water

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider We give you thanks, almighty God and Father,
for by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things.

All **Blessed be God forever.**

Presider We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your
people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

All **Blessed be God forever.**

Presider We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus.
For us he was baptised by John in the river Jordan.
For us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit.
For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and resurrection,
setting us free from the bondage of sin and death,
and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

All **Blessed be God forever.**

Presider We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth,
filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve
you as a royal priesthood.

All **Blessed be God forever.**

Presider We give you thanks for you have called Sophia Margaret Rose and Darling Astoria to new life through the waters of baptism.

your Now sanctify this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Anoint them with your Holy Spirit and bring them to new birth in the family of Church, that they may become inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

We give you praise and honour and worship through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

***All* Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.**

Presider Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?

***All* I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

***All* I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

***All* I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

***All* I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

***All* I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?
All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people,
and respect the dignity of every human being?
All **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation,
and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?
All **I will, with God's help.**

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented to the priest.

Presider Sophia Margaret Rose, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and
of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Presider Darling Astoria, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

*Using sacred chrism, the Presider makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the newly baptised,
saying:*

Presider I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own forever.

All **Amen.**

The Presider prays over the newly baptised, saying:

Presider Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed
upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life
of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and
discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to
love you,
and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

All **Amen.**

The Giving of the Light

The Deacon then gives to the newly baptised a lighted candle, saying:

Deacon Receive the light of Christ, to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

When the newly baptised has received a candle, the people say:

All **Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**

Presider Let us welcome the newly baptised.

All **We receive you into the household of God.
Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection,
and share with us in his eternal priesthood. Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Celebration of the Eucharist

The Offertory

You are invited to make a financial offering to further Christ's mission through the work of the Cathedral by texting "Give" to 639.739.0843 and following the instructions; or going to thecathedral.ca/give. Tax receipts are issued annually for gifts totalling \$20 or more. Your financial gifts matter and together with the bread and wine they are presented in spirit at the Altar as a sign of thanksgiving to God from whom all blessings flow. If you are participating in this worship from another church please give generously to your local parish.

Offertory Hymn

The Voice Of God Goes Out

Text: Luke Connaughton (1919-1979), alt. ©1970 *McCrimmon Publishing Co., Ltd.*

Music: Walter Greator (1877-1949); desc. David Iliff (1939-); altern. harm. Derek Holman (1931-2019) © *Melody and harm.* © *Oxford University Press. Desc.* © 1982 *Hope Publishing Co.*

1 The voice of God goes out to all the world,
and glory speaks across the universe.
The great King's herald cries from star to star:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.

High Voices 2 The Lord has said: "Receive my messenger,
my promise to the world, my pledge made flesh,
a lamp to every nation, light from Light"
All with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.

Low Voices 3 The broken reed he will not trample down,
nor set his heel upon the dying flame.
He binds the wounds, and health is in his hand:
All with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.

Choir 4 Anointed with the Spirit and with power,
he comes to crown with comfort all the weak,
to show the face of justice to the poor:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.

All 5 His touch will bless the eyes that darkness held;
the lame shall run, the halting tongue shall sing,
and prisoners laugh in light and liberty:
with power, with justice, Christ will walk his way.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider

All

God of life and freedom,
**we celebrate the revelation of Jesus
as the Christ who makes all creation new.
Accept all we offer you this day
and make us new in him,
who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

(Eucharistic Prayer 6)

Presider May God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks;
for you alone are God, living and true,
dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.
Fountain of life and source of all goodness,
you made all things and fill them with your blessing;
you created them to rejoice in the splendour of your radiance.
Countless throngs of angels stand before you
to serve you night and day,
and, beholding your presence,
they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them,
and giving voice to every creature under heaven,
we acclaim you, and glorify your name, as we sing,

Sanctus (Choir)

Bell Mass

Rupert Lang

Presider We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power;
your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love.
You formed us in your own image,
giving the whole world into our care,
so that, in obedience to you, our creator,
we might rule and serve all your creatures.
When our disobedience took us far from you,
you did not abandon us to the power of death.
In your mercy you came to our help,
so that in seeking you we might find you.
Again and again, you called us into covenant with you,
and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much
that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Saviour.
Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
he lived as one of us, yet without sin.
To the poor, he proclaimed the good news of salvation;
to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy.
To fulfil your purpose he gave himself up to death
and, rising from the grave, destroyed death
and made the whole creation new.

And that we might live no longer for ourselves,
but for him who died and rose for us,
he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe,
to complete his work in the world,
and to bring to fulfilment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified
by you, his heavenly Father,
having loved his own who were in the world,
he loved them to the end:
at supper with them he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,
“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them, and said,
“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Father, we now celebrate the memorial of our redemption.
Recalling Christ’s death and descent among the dead,
proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand,
awaiting his coming in glory;
and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us,
this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Presider

Father, we pray that in your goodness and mercy
your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts,
sanctifying them and showing them
to be holy gifts for your holy people,
the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and this cup
may become one body and one spirit,
a living sacrifice in Christ to the praise of your name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
redeemed by the blood of your Christ.
Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Linda, our Primate;
Lynne, our Metropolitan; John, our Bishop; the clergy; the religious;
and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember Sophia Margaret Rose and Darling Astoria,
baptised today by water and the Holy Spirit.

Remember Daniel, Norah, Alayna, Chisom, and KC,
who were baptised during the past year.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ,
and those whose faith is known to you alone;
bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the blessed Virgin Mary,
with Saints Domnica, Theosebia and Kentigerna,
with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints
who have found favour with you in ages past.

We praise you in union with them
and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
all honour and glory are yours, almighty God and Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

All

**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.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Presider

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Presider

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All

Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei

Bell Mass

Rupert Lang

Share the Gifts

If you know the brokenness of life, its fractures within and its division without, then you have participated in the broken body of Christ and you are invited to share in Communion.

While the communion is being administered, we respectfully ask that you keep the silence —this is a time for quiet prayer and meditation.

Healing Prayer is offered at the 10:30am Sunday Eucharist. Because of the close proximity of the prayer team members and the person requesting prayer, you are asked to wear a mask. Prayer teams will be located in the west alcove. Please make your way up the ramp to the alcove after you have received communion, and present your prayer request to the team members. If you are not receiving Healing Prayer, you are asked to refrain from entering the Alcove at this time, in order to safeguard privacy.

During Communion A Pure River of Water of Life

Text: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Music: Alan Ridout (1934-1996)

We know not a voice of that River,
If vocal or silent be,
Where for ever and ever and ever
It flows to no sea.
More deep than the seas is that River,
More full than their manifold tides,
Where for ever and ever and ever
It flows and abides.

Pure gold is the bed of that River,
The gold of that land is the best,
Where for ever and ever and ever
It flows on at rest.

Oh goodly the banks of that River,
Oh goodly the fruits that they bear,
Where for ever and ever and ever
It flows and is fair.

For lo! On each bank of that River
The Tree of Life life-giving grows,
Where for ever and ever and ever
The pure River flows.

Sending Out of the Disciples

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.

All Gracious God, lover of all,
by this sacrament
you make us one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and blood,
one in the communion of his Spirit.
Help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ.
We ask this in his name. Amen.

Doxology

Presider

All Glory to God,
whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Presider

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and God's Son
Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God almighty...
All **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (CP 565)

Text: William Williams (1717–1791); tr. Peter Williams (1723–1796), alt.;

Music: CWM RHONDDA John Hughes (1873–1932);

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim though this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

The Dismissal

Deacon

Go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All

Thanks be to God!

Music Notes:

The text of the Introit today was taken from a relatively new 2008 publication called *Hymns of Glory, Songs of Praise*. In choosing hymns Sunday to Sunday, most of you might know that, other than our own Common Praise hymnal, I like to refer to different hymn books for inspiration. One of those hymnals is *Hymns of Glory, Songs of Praise*. Its origins come from *The Church Hymnary* of 1898 for use in the Presbyterian churches within the British Isles and beyond. The chief editor John Bell, has written an interesting Preface to this (now relatively new) 2008 publication:

“The Revision Committee for the New Church Hymnary met in a very different world from their forebears. Apart from anything else, the family loyalties which distinguished Methodist, Anglican and Roman Catholic collections of worship material in the past, have largely vanished. Presbyterians rely on Roman Catholic writers to get them through Christmas, Anglicans draw on the repertoire of previous seceders (Methodists) to sing of eternal truths, Gaelic speaking Free-Kirkers use material from English charismatic writers to celebrate their common albeit differently expressed faith.

*We are in a new era where the challenge of being the Holy Catholic or Universal church is urgently upon us, as an interconnected world brings us into better informed solidarity with Christians around the globe, and where burning issues for the historical and emerging churches find commonality on every continent. We are therefore delighted that Canterbury Press should now publish the book with a less domestic title (i.e., *The Church Hymnary*) in order that many more people can enjoy its rich variety of text and music in the worship and service of God.”* - John L. Bell

I would like to add that as an Anglican Church of Canada musician, I am grateful for this "interconnected world," in particular (but not exclusively) for the cross the border influence of the Episcopal Church of the US, with both its Hymnal 1982 and their Psalters. These have been very useful and rich resources over the years, and also the wonderful Psalm settings and anthems of Peter Hallock.

Rupert Lang, Organist & Director of Music

Liturgy Notes:

Though it contains individual dimensions, the Christian life is fundamentally a corporate exercise, not a solitary quest. This communal context makes our life as Christians easier because we live out Christian discipleship not solely on our own, but within a community to which we are accountable, and which is accountable to us. The faith community is the Body of Christ, of which we become members at baptism. As part of this body, we participate in the sacraments, and we are built up by the teaching, preaching, guidance, and companionship that we receive. We meet Jesus in the community of his disciples, the church. We continually experience Jesus as an abiding presence.

In the baptism of infants, as we celebrate today, we may wonder how any of this can apply to them, since they cannot yet understand the significance of what is taking place. Though they cannot make a personal response of faith, God's gracious gifts for these infants are evident. Faith is an essential element in infant baptism, as it is the faith of the church, gathered today, that we pass along to these newest and youngest members. Each of us participates in a covenant relationship of faith with them by agreeing to "do all in our power to support these persons in their life in Christ." This relationship is especially embodied in the covenant promises of their parents and godparents.

In the natural order of things, children inherit all sorts of conditions which they will only understand later. God graciously gives all the baptised the fullness of life in Christ: sharing Jesus's death and resurrection and becoming members of his body, the church; the indwelling of the Holy Spirit; even the forgiveness of sins. Of course, babies do not need forgiveness now for personal sins, but they will later. Each of us is born into a world, society, and family warped by sin. Yet baptism pushes our boundaries beyond the limitations of sin into the freedom of forgiveness and the joy of resurrection.

After baptising these infants with water, a priest will mark their foreheads with chrism—olive oil that the bishop blesses for this purpose every year during Holy Week. "Chrism" and "Christ" are related words. Christ means "Messiah" or "Anointed One." Just as Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Christ at his baptism, so we are anointed with the Holy Spirit at ours. We belong to Christ through the sanctifying and creative energy of the Holy Spirit. Chrism is applied to our foreheads in "the sign of the cross." With this sign, Jesus's death is stamped on our flesh and into our souls.

The newly baptised will then receive a small candle lit from the large paschal candle that is lit anew at Easter. Signifying the light of the Risen Lord, the paschal candle stands near the font at every baptism, and it stands prominently at every funeral. The light of the Risen Christ frames our baptismal life from font to grave. Death is not the end of the story; we are baptised into the joy of the paschal mystery as we receive the promise of resurrection.

Jesus's death and resurrection are not simply marvellous events that happened some 2,000 years ago. Baptism links us to Jesus's death and resurrection today. Through our baptism, Jesus's death and resurrection get inside us. From the moment of our baptism, our very identities are shaped by these realities. The baptismal liturgy that we celebrate today dramatises and enacts the process of becoming one with Christ by sharing in his death and resurrection. It is a process that reverberates through every season of our lives, from infancy to old age. We never get to the bottom of it, yet it becomes the lens through which we interpret the world and the events of our lives.

The Rev. Adam L. Dawkins

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**Names subject to change without notice.*

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of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations in the heart of Vancouver.

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