



St John the Baptist
Scottish Episcopal Church, Perth

Welcome to our worship

4th January, 2026, Epiphany

8.30 a.m. **Holy Communion** (Scottish Prayer Book Page 326)
Celebrant, The Very Revd Graham Taylor, Rector 10.30 a.m. **Sung Eucharist** (Revised Scottish Liturgy 1982)
Celebrant, Revd Mariusz Wojciechowski

Order of Service

Processional hymn

Welcome

Gloria

Collect

First Readings

Gradual Hymn

Gospel

Sermon

Nicene Creed

Intercessions

Peace

Offertory Hymn

Eucharistic Prayer IIb

Lord's Prayer

Communion Song

Communion

Communion Hymn

Post Communion Prayer

Recessional Hymn

Dismissal

49 As with gladness men of old

Page 6 and 7

Overleaf

Isaiah 60. 1-6, Ephesians 3. 1-12

552 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Matthew 2. 1-12

Dean Graham Taylor

Page 7

Judy Norwell

Page 8

724 We three kings of Orient are

See pages overleaf (3 – 6)

Page 28

Page 29

All are welcome

87 Broken for me

Overleaf and pages 29-30

85 Brightest and best

Page 30

*You are welcome to join us for tea and coffee
in the Threshold after the 8.30 am and 10.30 am service*

The Collect

O God, who, by the guidance of a star, revealed your only begotten Son to the nations: Grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at the last be led to see your glory face to face; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen

A reading from Isaiah 60. 1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

A reading from Ephesians 3. 1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was

in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 2. 1-12

Glory to Christ our Saviour

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer II b

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.
Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.
Day and night celebrate your glory
till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son,
you have revealed yourself to the world.
By the guiding of a star,
you made him known to the nations
as the son of David and king of Israel;
that in following him,
we might be led from darkness
and into his marvellous light.

Filled with the Spirit,
who descended upon your Son at his Baptism in the Jordan,
we who are baptised in his name
strive for his heavenly kingdom
in whose radiance we are transfigured
and the earth is transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose,
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father.
In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us.

Our hope is built on him
in whom you are well pleased.
Having been shown to the world
as your beloved Son,
he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom.
The blind received their sight,
the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed,
and the captives set free.
At his word, water became wine,
the hungry were filled with bread,
and the dead were raised.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
desiring to complete the work
for which he came into the world,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat.
This is my Body: it is broken for you.”
After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
“Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that overshadowed by his life-giving power,

they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

God of all the nations of the earth, guide us with your light. Help us to recognise Christ as he comes to us in this eucharist and in our neighbours. May we welcome him with love, for he is Lord now and for ever.

Amen



Forthcoming Services and Events

Every Thursday, 11 a.m. ***Holy Communion*** followed by coffee and chat.

Sunday 11th January

8.30 a.m.

10.30 a.m.

The Baptism of the Lord

Holy Communion

Sung Eucharist

Sunday 18th January

8.30 a.m.

10.30 a.m.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Communion

Sung Eucharist and healing prayers

Tuesday 6th January at 10.30 a.m. ***The Prayer Group*** will meet at 35 St Mary's Drive, Perth. As always new members very welcome, if possible, please let Ruth know. Email: ruth42caroline@gmail.com

Monday 12th January. ***St John's Fellowship Lunch.*** Could all those hoping to attend please let Jean know over coffee after the service or ASAP. Many thanks.

Many thanks to those who contributed to the Christian Aid Mince Pie Sunday on 15th December 2024. The sum of £275 was raised for Christian Aid.

St John the Baptist Scottish Episcopal Church, Perth.

Rector – The Very Reverend Graham S. Taylor
Assistant Priests – Reverend Annie MacKay Hughes
Reverend Mariusz Wojciechowski

Clergy can be contacted through the Church office on 01738 634999
Email: office@episcopal-perth.org.uk

The Church Administrator is in the Office:

Mondays 2 – 5 pm
Tuesdays 9 am – 1 pm
Thursdays 1 – 4 pm

Rector's day off – FRIDAYS

If you make a donation and are a taxpayer, please complete and hand in the blue envelope, which is at the back of the Church next to the collection plate.
This enables the Church to recover 25p in the pound.

Registered charity no. SC 011398