



St John the Baptist
Scottish Episcopal Church, Perth

Welcome to our worship

7th December, 2025, 2nd Sunday of Advent

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, The Very Revd Graham Taylor, Rector

Order of Service

Processional hymn	527 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Lighting the Advent Candle (See separate sheet)
Welcome	
Kyrie	Page 6
Collect	Overleaf
First Readings	Isaiah 11. 1-10; Romans 15. 4-13
Gradual Hymn	Here is love vast as the ocean (See separate sheet)
Gospel	Matthew 3. 1-12
Sermon	Rev. Mariusz Wojciechowski
Nicene Creed	Page 7
Intercessions	Jackie Thomson
Peace	Page 8
Offertory Hymn	88 Brother, sister, let me serve you
Eucharistic Prayer II	Pages 12 - 14
Lord's Prayer	Page 28
Communion Song	Page 29
Communion	<i>All are welcome</i>
Communion Hymn	574 Purify my heart
Post Communion Prayer	Overleaf and pages 29-30
Recessional Hymn	406 Long ago, prophets knew
Dismissal	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

Stir up our hearts, Lord, to prepare the way of your only-begotten Son: that, in his coming, we might serve you with our hearts made pure; 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 11. 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

A reading from Romans 15. 4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is

written, ‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name’; and again he says, ‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’; and again, ‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him’; and again Isaiah says, ‘The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.’ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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 3. 1-12

Glory to Christ our Saviour

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet’s call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Forthcoming Services and Events

Every Thursday, 11 a.m. *Holy Communion (1982)* followed by coffee and chat.

Sunday 14th December

8.30 a.m.

10.30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Sung Eucharist

Sunday 21st December

8.30 a.m.

10.30 a.m.

Nine Lessons and Carols.

Holy Communion

Sung Eucharist

St John's AGM will take place after the 10.30 am service today.
All welcome to attend.

Choir Rehearsals for the Carol service on 21st December will take place in the Church on Thursdays 11th and 18th December at 7.45 pm

Monday 8th December at 2.30 pm. ***St John's Fellowship*** in the Threshold. This will take the usual pattern of Christmas music and food. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Wednesdays 10th and 17th December at 7 pm. Advent Reflections at St John's. Drinks and nibbles will be served at 6.30 pm. ***Longing for the Light.***

Sunday 14th December. Mince pies will be served in the Threshold after the 10.30 am service in aid of 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

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