



St Ives Uniting Church

11 January 2026

Baptism of Jesus

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 215 You servants of God

Prayer of adoration and confession

Responsive reading: Psalm 40:1-5,11

¹ I waited patiently for the Lord;
he turned to me and heard my cry.

² He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
**he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.**

³ He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
**Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in him.**

⁴ Blessed is the one
who trusts in the Lord,
**who does not look to the proud,
to those who turn aside to false gods.**

⁵ Many, Lord my God,
are the wonders you have done,
the things you planned for us.

**None can compare with you;
were I to speak and tell of your deeds,
they would be too many to declare.**

¹¹ Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord;
may your love and faithfulness always protect me.

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace to us, "Your sins are forgiven"

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 595 O Jesus, I have promised (Tune: Thornbury)

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings

Isaiah 42:1-9

Annette Burne

"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.

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

³ A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out.

In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

⁴ he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice on earth.

In his teaching the islands will put their hope."

⁵ 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:

⁶ "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,

⁷ to open eyes that are blind,

to free captives from prison
and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

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

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

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Matthew 3:1-6, 13-17

Caroline Turner

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ² and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”

⁴ John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.

¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

¹⁵ Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, 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. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon: God’s servant

Hymn: 650 Brother, sister let me serve you

Offering

Offering response: 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s prayer Annette Burne

Hymn: 209 And can it be

Blessing

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham

