

**Welcome to our Baptism Service  
at St Mary's Shirehampton  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Greeting**

We gather here at this time as family, the family of God,

**All: We are here: members, friends and visitors  
guiding young people in God's way.**

Today we all gather as children of God to be open to God's message to us.

**All: Let our eyes and ears be open to God's word that lives from generation to generation.**

**Song**

1 Over all the earth, you reign on high,  
every mountain stream, every sunset sky.  
But my one request, Lord, my only aim  
is that you'd reign in me again.

*Lord reign in me, reign in your pow'r  
over all my dreams, in my darkest hour.  
You are the Lord of all I am,  
so won't you reign in me again?*

2 Over every thought, over every word,  
may my life reflect the beauty of my Lord;  
'cause you mean more to me than any earthly thing,  
so won't you reign in me again?

*Lord reign in me, reign in your pow'r  
over all my dreams, in my darkest hour.  
You are the Lord of all I am,  
so won't you reign in me again? [x2]*

## **Confession**

What would we prefer God not to see us doing?

*Silence for reflection*

What would we prefer God not to hear us saying?

*Silence for reflection*

What would we prefer God not to know us thinking?

*Silence for reflection*

**All: O God you see all things, hear all things, know all things,  
and we are ashamed of the unloving way we sometimes act,  
speak and think.**

**Have mercy on us, and forgive us,  
enable us to put things right.**

## **Absolution**

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **The Gloria (Clapping version)**

Gloria! Gloria

In excelsis Deo!

Gloria! Gloria

In excelsis Deo!

Lord God, heavenly King,  
peace you bring to us.  
We worship you, we give you thanks,  
we sing our song of praise!

Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!  
Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!

Jesus, saviour of all,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away our sins, O Lord,  
have mercy on us all!

Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!  
Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!

At the Father's right hand,  
Lord receive our prayer,  
for you alone are the Holy One,  
and you alone are Lord!

Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!  
Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!

Glory, Father and Son,  
glory Holy Spirit!  
to you we raise our hands up high,  
we glorify your name!

Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!  
Gloria! Gloria  
In excelsis Deo!  
In excelsis Deo!  
In excelsis Deo!

## *Faith Journey*

*Matthew*

*Our Bible Reading*

*Acts 2: 42 – 47*

*(New Living Translation)*

*Sermon*

## *The Collect*

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us  
that to enter the kingdom of heaven  
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,  
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.

Here we are clothed with Christ,  
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.

As children of God, we have a new dignity  
and God calls us to fullness of life.

**All: Amen**

## *Presentation*

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them".

So I ask you all:

Will you help these candidates to become part of God's family?

**All: We will.**

Parents and Godparents,

you have brought Aurora to baptism and speak for her today.

As we trust God for her growth in faith, will you promise to care for  
her, pray for her, and help Aurora to follow Christ?

**Parents and Godparents respond: We will.**

Sponsor, you have come to support Matthew on his journey.

As we trust God for his growth in faith, will you promise to care for  
him, pray for him, and help him to follow Christ?

**Sponsors respond: I will.**

*Matthew*

Do you wish to be baptised?

**I do**

## *The Decision*

In baptism God calls us to new life.  
We die with Christ to all that destroys,  
and rise to live with him for ever.

## *Signing with the Cross*

*The minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead, saying*

*Aurora, Matthew*

Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of the cross.

Do not be ashamed of Christ.  
You are his for ever.

**All: Stand bravely with him.**

**Oppose the power of evil,  
and remain his faithful disciple to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,  
restore in you the image of his glory,  
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**Amen.**

## *Prayer over the Water*

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus.  
On him you poured your Spirit at his baptism in the River Jordan.  
He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him.  
And so, Father, we ask you to bless this water,  
that those who are baptized in it  
may be cleansed in the water of life,  
filled with your Spirit  
and know themselves loved as your children,  
safe in Christ for ever.   **Amen.**

## *Profession of Faith*

Let us affirm, together with these who are being baptized,  
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

This the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## *Baptism*

### ***Matthew and Aurora***

Do you believe in the living God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

**I do.**

Do you identify with Jesus as your Lord, saviour and example?

**I do.**

Are you ready to have your old life washed away as you turn away from sin?

**I am.**

Will you join the church family and follow Jesus' call to serve in his world?

**I will.**

**On this basis we baptise you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

## *Baptism*

*The candidates enter the pool one at a time*

### ***Matthew, Aurora Louise***

I baptize you

in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism

into his Church,

pour upon you the riches of his grace,

that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be

renewed by his anointing Spirit,

and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

**Amen.**

## *Intercessions*

### *Great Things - Shire*

#### *The Lord's Prayer*

As your children born again in Christ, we say

**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**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

#### **Happy day - Tim Hughes**

The greatest day in history  
Death is beaten, you have rescued me  
Sing it out Jesus is alive  
The empty cross, the empty grave  
Life eternal You have won the day  
Shout it out, Jesus is alive  
He's alive

And oh happy day, happy day  
You washed my sin away  
Oh happy day, happy day  
I'll never be the same  
Forever I am changed

When I stand, in that place  
Free at last, meeting face to face  
I am Yours, Jesus You are mine  
Endless joy, perfect peace  
Earthly pain finally will cease  
Celebrate, Jesus is alive  
He's alive

And oh happy day, happy day  
You washed my sin away  
Oh happy day, happy day  
I'll never be the same  
Forever I am changed

And oh what a glorious day  
What a glorious way  
That You have saved me  
And oh what a glorious day  
What a glorious name - Yeah

And oh happy day, happy day  
You washed my sin away  
Oh happy day, happy day  
I'll never be the same  
Forever I am changed

*Cantelon/Hughes*  
*CCL Licence No 5935*

I'll never be the same

## **What a Beautiful Name – Brooke Ligertwood (Hillsong Worship)**

You were the word at the beginning  
One with God the Lord most high  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful name it is  
What a beautiful name it is  
The name of Jesus Christ, my king  
What a beautiful name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful name it is  
The name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us  
So Jesus You brought heaven down  
My sin was great, Your love was greater  
What could separate us now?

What a wonderful name it is  
What a wonderful name it is  
The name of Jesus Christ, my king  
What a wonderful name it is  
Nothing compare to this  
What a wonderful name it is  
The name of Jesus  
What a wonderful name it is  
The name of Jesus

Death could not hold you  
The veil tore before you  
You silenced the boast of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring  
The praise of your glory For you are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal  
Now and forever, God You reign  
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory  
Yours is the name, above all names

What a powerful name it is  
What a powerful name it is  
The name of Jesus Christ, my king  
What a powerful name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful name it is  
The name of Jesus

You have no rival, You have no equal  
Now and forever, God You reign  
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory  
Yours is the name, above all names

What a powerful name it is  
What a powerful name it is  
The name of Jesus Christ, my king  
What a powerful name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful name it is  
The name of Jesus  
What a powerful name it is  
The name of Jesus  
What a powerful name it is  
The name of Jesus

Songwriters: Benjamin David Fielding, Brooke Ligertwood, Lauren Horii, Sayaka Eguchi.

CCL Licence No: 5935.

### *The Welcome and Peace*

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.**

### *The Peace*

We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
We belong to him through faith,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

## *Song*

Come On And Celebrate,  
His Gift Of Love, We Will Celebrate  
The Son Of God Who Loved Us  
And Gave Us Life

We'll Shout Your Praise O King,  
You Give Us Joy Nothing Else Can Bring  
We'll give To You Our Offering  
In Celebration Praise

*Come On And Celebrate, Celebrate,  
Celebrate And Sing  
Celebrate And Sing To The King [x2]*

Come On And Celebrate,  
His Gift Of Love, We Will Celebrate  
The Son Of God Who Loved Us  
And Gave Us Life

We'll Shout Your Praise O King,  
You Give Us Joy Nothing Else Can Bring  
We'll give To You Our Offering  
In Celebration Praise

*Patricia Morgan  
CCL Licence Number 5935*

## *Blessings*

## *Notices*

## *Birthdays*

## *Giving of a Lighted Candle*

*The minister gives the newly baptized a lighted candle and says:*

God has delivered us from the dominion of Darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

**You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.  
Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

## *Song*

We worship the God who was  
We worship the God who is  
We worship the God who evermore will be  
He opened the prison doors  
He parted the raging sea  
My God, He holds the victory

*There's joy in the house of the Lord  
There's joy in the house of the Lord today  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise  
There's joy in the house of the Lord  
Our God is surely in this place  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise, we shout out Your praise*

We sing to the God who heals  
We sing to the God who saves  
We sing to the God who always makes a way  
'Cause He hung up on that cross  
Then He rose up from that grave  
My God's still rolling stones away

*There's joy in the house of the Lord  
There's joy in the house of the Lord today  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise  
There's joy in the house of the Lord  
Our God is surely in this place  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise*

We were the beggars  
Now we're royalty  
We were the prisoners  
Now we're running free  
We are forgiven, accepted  
Redeemed by His grace  
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

'Cause we were the beggars  
Now we're royalty  
We were the prisoners  
Now we're running free  
We are forgiven, accepted  
Redeemed by His grace  
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

*There's joy in the house of the Lord  
There's joy in the house of the Lord today  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise  
There's joy in the house of the Lord  
Our God is surely in this place  
And we won't be quiet  
We shout out Your praise (repeat)*

We shout out Your praise  
There is joy in the house, there is joy in the house today  
We shout out Your praise  
We shout out Your praise

Songwriters: Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham  
CCL Licence Number 5935

### *Sending Out*

Now, take the word of God into the world.  
**we will place hope in the arms of others.**

Now, take the word of Jesus into the world.  
**We will follow to serve beside him in all the broken places.**

Now, take the word of the Spirit into the world.  
**We will bring others near to the kingdom where all are welcome.**

### *Blessing*

May Christ's holy, healing, enabling Spirit be with you and guide you  
on your way at every change and turn.  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**