

Parish of Central Windsor
SUNG EUCHARIST

Sunday 28th June 2026

**St John the Baptist
Patronal Festival**



**A warm welcome to St John the Baptist Church
for our service today especially to the family and friends
of Ronnie attending for his baptism**

On most Sundays we offer Sunday Club during the service.
Children are welcome to gather at the front of the church
after the Collect on page 4 before they go out to their activities
with our Sunday Club leaders.

If you have babies or small children with you, you are welcome to stay in
church. Please don't be embarrassed if they cry
or make a noise.

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE: Vater unser im Himmelreich, BWV682 (JS Bach)

Please stand for:

THE GREETING

The priest says

In the name of the Father†, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Please sit for:

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANY NOTICES

Please stand for :

OPENING HYMN

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings!**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent doth thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Charles Coffin (1676-1749)

tr John Chandler (1808-1876)

altered by compilers of Hymns Ancient & Modern

Please remain standing for:

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

John the Baptist proclaimed,
'Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' *Matthew 3.2*
Let us turn to the Lord in penitence and faith
and humbly confess our sin.

Lord Jesus, you stand among us,
and we do not recognise you.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, we are not worthy
to untie the thong of your sandals.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Kyrie Eleison is sung:

All **Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy.
Christ, have mercy, Christ have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

ABSOLUTION

The priest says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon† and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated
at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

THE COLLECT

The priest says:
Let us pray

Almighty God,
by whose providence your servant John the Baptist
was wonderfully born,
and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour
by the preaching of repentance:
lead us to repent according to his preaching
and, after his example,
constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice,
and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever

All **Amen**

The Sunday Club are invited to gather together at the front of the church before going to their activities.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for:

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40.1-11

40¹ Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!'
And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'

¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 85 vvv7-end

The congregation is invited to sing the response

Show us, O Lord, your mercy

I will listen to what the Lord / God will say,
for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,
that they turn not a / gain to folly.
Truly, his salvation is near to / those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell / in our land
Mercy and truth are / met together,
righteousness and peace have / kissed each other. **Response**

Truth shall spring up / from the earth
and righteousness look / down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed give all / that is good,
and our land will / yield its increase.
Righteousness shall / go before him
and direct his steps / in the way. **Response**

SECOND READING

Galatians 3.23-end

³ ²³ Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for:

Gradual Hymn

**The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation,
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy Bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**

**Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation,
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.**

**Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth hath union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.**

*S.J. Stone (1839-1900)
former curate of Windsor Parish Church*

Please remain standing for:

GOSPEL READING

When the Gospel is announced the reader says or sings:

Alleluia, Alleluia

All **Alleluia, Alleluia**

You, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways.

All **Alleluia, Alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 1.57–66, 80

¹ ⁵⁷ The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' ⁶¹ They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' ⁶² Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed.

⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

⁸⁰ The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

At the end the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit for:

SERMON

LITURGY OF BAPTISM

Ronnie, his parents and godparents come forward.

The priest addresses the whole congregation

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.
We thank God for this child,
who has come to be baptised today.
Christ loves him and welcomes him into his Church.
So I ask you all:

All Will you support him as he begins his journey of faith?
We will.

All Will you help him to live and grow within God's family?
We will.

The president then addresses the parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his.
Parents and godparents, you speak for this child today.
Will you pray for him, and help him to follow Christ?

All **We will.**

THE DECISION

The priest addresses the parents, godparents and sponsors

We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.
Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin? **I do.**

Do you reject evil? **I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do.**

Do you trust in him as Lord? **I do.**

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The priest makes the sign of the cross on Ronnie's forehead saying,

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross
Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his forever.

All **Stand bravely with him against all the powers of evil and
remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ

All **Amen**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

The priest stands before the water of baptism and says

All Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptised in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptised in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.

All **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The priest addresses the congregation

Let us affirm with those being baptised today our common faith in Jesus Christ

All **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

BAPTISM

The priest baptises saying

Ronnie Stephen, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

You have been clothed with Christ
As many as are baptised into Christ have put on Christ

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.

All **Amen**

WELCOME

The priest introduces the welcome saying,

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

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

Please sit or kneel for:

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

These responses may be used

All Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

All Lord hear us
Lord graciously hear us

And at the end

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

BANNS OF MARRIAGE MAY BE READ

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand for:

THE PEACE

The Lord God of Israel has come to his people to set them free
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

You are invited to exchange a sign of peace with your neighbour.

*The offertory collection will be brought to the altar to be blessed.
It will be used for the ministry, mission and outreach of the church.
Please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes if you are able to do so.*

If you give regularly via the collection when you attend Sunday worship in one of our churches, but are not with us every week, have you considered giving through the Parish Giving Scheme? It is very easy to do. Details are in the weekly Keeping Us in Touch leaflet or speak to any of our churchwardens

OFFERTORY HYMN

**1 Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
our fathers owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness;
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.**

**2 Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest as to least;
they bade men rise, and hasten
to share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.**

**3 When shadows thick were falling,
and all seemed sunk in night,
thou, Lord, didst send thy servants,
thy chosen sons of light.
On them and on thy people
thy plenteous grace was poured,
and this was still their message,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.**

**4 Through many a day of darkness,
through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely,
to guard the nation's life.
Their Gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, man restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.**

**5 And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict,
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better thing is stored;
we will maintain, unflinching,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.**

**6 Thy mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
thy victory shall be won;
and then, by men and angels,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.**

E. H. Plumptre (1821-1891)

Preparation of the Table

*The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The priest takes the bread and wine.*

God of our salvation,
as we praise you for your servant John the Baptist,
accept all we bring to you this day,
and free us to worship you without fear,
in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord

All **Amen**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is always right to give you thanks,
God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong.
You made us and the whole universe,
and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us,
Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.
He suffered on the cross;
he died to save us from our sins;
he rose in glory from the dead.

You sent your Spirit
to bring new life to the world,
and clothe us with power from on high.
And so we join the angels
to celebrate and sing:

All **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.**

Father, on the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.
He took the bread, and thanked you.
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.

After they had eaten, Jesus took the cup of wine.
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood,
the new promise of God's unfailing love.
Do this to remember me.

All Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,
and remember his death and resurrection,
send your Holy Spirit,
that we who share these gifts
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us
that we may love one another,
work for the healing of the earth,
and share the good news of Jesus,
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The priest says

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Please feel free to use either the traditional or the contemporary version as we pray together

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, *All***
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

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

All **Though we are many, we are one body,**
because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

All **Jesus, Lamb of God,**
Have mercy on us.
Jesus bearer of our sins,
Have mercy on us.
Jesus redeemer of the world,
Grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The priest says the invitation to communion

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All **Amen.**

If you are confirmed or a communicant member of the Church of England or any other Christian church, you are welcome to receive communion with us this morning. Otherwise, you are warmly invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please bring the service booklet with you or simply bow your head as you approach the altar so we know you wish to receive a blessing.

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

During the administration of communion the following will be sung:

**Give us the wings of faith to rise
within the veil, and see
the saints above, how great their joys,
how bright their glories be.**

**Once they were mourning here below,
their couch was wet with tears;
they wrestled hard, as we do now,
with sins and doubts and fears.**

**We ask them whence their victory came:
they, with united breath,
ascribe the conquest to the Lamb,
their triumph to his death.**

**They marked the footsteps that he trod,
his zeal inspired their breast,
and, following their incarnate God,
possess the promised rest.**

**Our glorious Leader claims our praise
for his own pattern given;
while the great cloud of witnesses
show the same path to heaven.**

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

ANTHEM: This is the record of John (Gibbons)

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,
whose prophet John the Baptist
proclaimed your Son as the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world:
grant that we who in this sacrament
have known your forgiveness and your life-giving love
may ever tell of your mercy and your peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory
Amen**

Members of Sunday Club are invited to show their work to the congregation

GIVING OF LIGHTED CANDLE

A lighted candle is given to Ronnie

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.
Ronnie you have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

All **Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand for :

THE BLESSING

Through the tender compassion of our God
may the dawn from on high break upon you
and guide your feet into the way of peace,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father†, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Final Hymn

**Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where e'er he reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all the sons of want are blest.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet incense shall arise
with every morning sacrifice.**

**Let every creature rise and bring
peculiar honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.**

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)
Psalm 72*

The priest says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BWV684 (JS Bach)

**Please stay for refreshments
which will be served after the service.**

If you are visiting today or attending for the first time, we hope that you have felt “at home” here, that you will be refreshed by today’s service of worship and that you will return in the future.

We shall be delighted if you decide to make our church community your spiritual home.

**You are welcome to take this service sheet away with you
for private reflection or to give to a friend.**

**If you would like to know more about the Christian faith, please ask!
You can also find out more by following the “Our Faith” link on the
Church of England website: www.churchofengland.org**

WEB SITE:

www.windsorchurches.org.uk

Copyright acknowledgements: Material included in this service from Common Worship: Service and Prayers of the Church of England and from New Patterns of Worship is copyright:

© The Archbishops' Council 2000,

© Windsor Mass Carolyn Gower