



First Sunday after the Epiphany

YEAR A

Baptism of the Lord



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



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The Church of Scotland

Auditoire de Calvin, January 11 2026

First Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude *In Thee is gladness*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Introit *Ascribe to God both strength and power.* Fred R Anderson (Psalm 29)

Welcome

GWA 42 *God welcomes all*

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong and it never ends.

Call to worship (Psalm 29 NRSV)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendour.**

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord, over mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

**The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl
and strips the forest bare,
and in his temple all say, “Glory!”

**The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.**

May the Lord give strength to his people!

May the Lord bless his people with peace!

CH4 120ii God we praise you

Prayers of adoration and confession

Collect (said by all)

God of freedom,

your beloved meets us where we are,

immersed in the flow of life:

by his humility and solidarity

raise us from fear and guilt;

*may the arc of the Spirit's flight make us a
people of peace;*

*through Jesus Christ, the Son of
Righteousness. Amen.*

Old Testament *Isaiah 42.1-9*

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry out or lift up his voice
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth,
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them
out,
who spread out the earth and what comes
from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord; I have called you in
righteousness;
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

All-age talk

CH4 530 *One more step along the world I go*

Gospel *Matthew 3.13-17*

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

CH4 336 *Christ is our light!*

Sermon

CH4 335 *Out of the flowing river*

Offering music

The old year is gone away. JS Bach

Doxology

*Praise God, the Source of life and birth;
praise God, the Word, who came to earth;
praise God the Spirit, holy flame
all glory, honour to God's name. Amen.*

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession

The Lord's Prayer

GWA 107 *A voice was heard in Ramah*

1. A voice was heard in Ramah
that could not be consoled,
as Rachel wept for children
she could no longer hold.
For Herod ruled the nation,
yet feared the infant King.
How great the devastation
that fear and anger bring!

2. O God, we hear the crying
for little ones of yours;
for many still are dying
In conflicts and in wars.
in every troubled nation,
on every violent street,
how great the lamentation
when fear and anger meet!

3. Whenever one child suffers,
the whole world suffers, too.
Our lives are wrapped together
in love that comes from you.
When we respond with caring
and do not turn away,
O Christ, we hear you saying,
'You've welcomed me today.'

4. .O Prince of Peace, you lead us
in ways of truth and grace.
May we be brave to practise
your peace in every place,
to love each fear-filled nation,
to serve each troubled street.
How great the celebration
when peace and justice meet!

Benediction and threefold Amen

Postlude *Good King Wenceslas*

William Lloyd Webber (1914–1982)

Worship leader Scott McCarthy

Welcoming elder Makoto Ikeda

Usher Robert Walker

Readers Makoto Ikeda, Nicola Hollyman

Organ Rebecca Dirks MacDonald

Choir Páraic Réamonn

Sunday School Cornis Van der Lugt, Arthur Askew

Coffee & tea Hazel Griffith, Chris Sutton

Monday January 12, 19h30 An epilogue to the International Presbytery Advent Bible studies

Zoom link ccolliar@churchofscotland.org.uk

Wednesday January 21, 19h30 Ecumenical service for the week of prayer for Christian unity, Holy Trinity church

Friday January 23, 19h, Scots Kirk, Lausanne

Service of linking of our Geneva and Lausanne congregations and introduction of the Rev Dr Enikő Ferenczy as our minister. If you need a lift, or can offer a lift, please let us know

churchofscotlandgeneva@gmail.com

Saturdays February 21, March 28, April 25, and May 23 *Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living*.

The Ignatian Spirituality Community-Geneva invites us to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, reflection, and lived experience. Visit the ISC Geneva website at <https://sites.google.com/view/geneva-isc>, or speak to Freda Craeye



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