

# Holy Communion at St Paul's, Ashgrove, 9am



## Including the BAPTISM of Lola Franklin

**Advent 4, 2021**

**P: Welcome**

**P: Tell Out My Soul (TiS 161)**

**P: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever.  
The Lord be with you. And also with you.**

### ***Lighting of the Second Advent Candle—The Candle of Peace***

We have lit three candles—for hope, for peace, and for joy. Today we light the fourth candle—the candle of love. With this flame we signify the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, but that we recognize in a special way in the Christmas story. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love, because God loves us.

The Candle is lit, and a new decoration is placed on the tree.

Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning,  
We thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us.

**Show us the creative power of hope.**

**Teach us the peace that comes from justice.**

**Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,  
That we may walk in the light of Christ.**

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Thy people save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

#### P. Introduction of Lola and her supporters

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ.

When he had risen from the dead, he commanded his followers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

We have come together today to obey that command.

Baptism with water signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible, and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

In baptism, the promises of God are visibly signed and sealed for us. We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal.

Children are baptised in response to God's all-embracing love. Parents and godparents who have responded to that love come now to bring their children for baptism. Before this congregation they must express their own trust and commitment to the promises of God, and their intention to bring up their children in the faith and practice of the Church. In due

time these children should make their own response to God, and be prepared for confirmation.

So we welcome you, Lola, with your Godparents and family.

We give thanks for you, and pray that you may know God's love and faithfulness for ever.

LA: We acknowledge the custodians of the land where we gather today - the Jagera and Turrbal people. We celebrate their culture, thank them for their care of the land and pay respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging

LA: Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. *Luke 1.45*

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.

[Let us pray.]

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image. Forgive us when we turn away from you.

*A pause for reflection*

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death. Rescue us from slavery to sin.

*A pause for reflection*

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

*A pause for reflection*

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

P: Almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you your sins, and keep you in life eternal.

**Amen**

P: Gracious God,  
you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son:  
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,  
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.  
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,  
whose Day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Micah 5.2-5a**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labour has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord ,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.  
If the Assyrians come into our land  
and tread upon our soil,  
we will raise against them seven shepherds  
and eight installed as rulers.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

### **Song of Mary**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:  
**my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,**

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:  
**from this day all generations will call me blessed;**

The Almighty has done great things for me:  
**and holy is his name.**

God has mercy on those who fear him:  
**from generation to generation.**

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:  
**and scattered the proud in their conceit,**

Casting down the mighty from their thrones:  
**and lifting up the lowly.**

God has filled the hungry with good things:  
**and sent the rich away empty.**

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:  
**to remember the promise of mercy,**

The promise made to our forebears:  
**to Abraham and his children for ever.**

Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
**as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

### **Hebrews 10.5-10**

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,  
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings  
and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law),

<sup>9</sup> then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the  
second.

<sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus  
Christ once for all.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

**LA:** Not the Powerful (TIS 288)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke chapter 1 beginning at verse 39.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### **Luke 1.39-45**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where  
she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's  
greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed  
with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why  
has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the  
sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that  
there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

For the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### **Sermon**

**The priest invites the sponsors to present the candidate.**

We welcome Lola to be baptised. I invite his sponsors to present her now.

**We present Lola Ann Franklin to be baptised.**

**The priest says to the sponsors**

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Lola for baptism?

**I will.**

Are you willing to answer on behalf of Lola?

**I am.**

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage Lola in the life  
and faith of the Christian community?

**I will, with God's help.**

**The priest says to the the sponsors**

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil:  
Do you turn to Christ?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

**I repent of my sins.**

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

**I reject them all.**

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

**I renounce all that is evil.**

Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and lead you in the light of Christ to his everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

**The priest says to the candidates and sponsors**

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart, and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

**I will, with God's help.**

*The priest says to the congregation*

You have heard these our sisters and brothers respond to Christ. Will you support them in this calling?

**We will.**

Let us pray.

Grant, merciful God, that Lola may be so buried with Christ in baptism that the new nature may be raised up in her. May the fruit of your Spirit grow and flourish in her.

**Amen.**

Give to her sponsors [and their families] the desire to share with her what you have revealed in your holy gospel.

**Amen.**

May she know Christ's forgiving love and continue in the fellowship and service of his Church. May she proclaim, by word and example, the good news of God in Christ.

**Amen.**

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

**Amen.**

[The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**]

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

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise.

**Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph. **Thanks be to God.**

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your kingdom. **Thanks be to God.**

And now we give you thanks that you have called **Lola** to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Priest, Lola, parents, and Godparents move to the font.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that she who is baptised in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May she die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **The priest says to the sponsors**

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*The priest says to the congregation*

This is the faith of the Church.

*The congregation responds*

**This is our faith:  
We believe in one God:  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Lola Ann Franklin**, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**Lola**, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,  
proclaim his resurrection,  
look for his coming in glory.**

Presentation of baptismal candle

God has brought you out of darkness  
into his marvellous light.

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

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you  
as a member with us of the body of Christ,  
as a child of the one heavenly Father,  
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

*Lola's family and sponsors return to their seats and the priest returns to the sanctuary.*

P: In baptism, God has made us one in Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

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

*All may exchange a sign of peace, maintaining 1.5m separation and without touching.*

P: You Who Were Rich (MP 700)

*Note that we cannot pass collection bowls around at this time. There is a box at the back of the building to receive your offerings. Alternatively, please consider giving electronically through your bank. St Paul's bank details are BSB: 704901 Acc NO: 00004420*

P: [The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**]

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary  
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross

and rising to new life,

he offered the one true sacrifice for sin

and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

In baptism you have united us to him

and brought us out of darkness into light.

You pour your Spirit upon us, filling us with your gifts,

and calling us to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,



we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:  
**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you  
for these gifts of your creation,  
this bread and wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them  
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.  
On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;  
and when he had given you thanks  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'  
After supper, he took the cup,  
and again giving you thanks  
he gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Drink from this, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:  
proclaiming his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom, and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you, Father,  
in songs of never-ending praise:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,  
**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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

***Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.***

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come let us take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Song (Not announced): Silent Night (TiS 311)*

Gracious God,  
in baptism you make us one family in Christ your Son,  
one in the sharing of his body and his blood,  
one in the communion of his Spirit.  
Help us to grow in love for one another  
and come to the full maturity of the body of Christ.

**Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.**

## **Announcements**

*Please stand for the blessing:*

P: Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted;  
give honour to all; love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Depart in peace, and take with you the certain knowledge  
That God is always coming into the world.  
**We will seek God, not just in a long ago stable or ancient manger,  
But in the people we meet and the depths of our own hearts.**

May the blessing of Christmas make you a blessing to others;  
May the peace of the season pervade all that you do.  
**We will welcome the challenge of discipleship.  
We will offer ourselves as God's ministers.  
We will go forth in hope, peace, joy, and love.**

LA: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
**In the name of Christ. Amen**

P: God is Love (TiS 153)

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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