

# ***Sunday by Sunday on the web***

## **Musical resources for baptism and confirmation services**

### **Introduction: Music for baptisms**

**Peter Moger, who served for some years as the Church of England's National Worship Development Officer, looks at the context of baptism services today and offers some guidelines for those choosing music.**

The last generation has seen something of a revolution in baptism:

- Church statistics reveal a marked shift in the ages of those being baptized; children are often now baptized as toddlers rather than as babies, and there is growth in the number of adult converts receiving baptism (and confirmation) each year.
- Whereas at one time a 'private' service at 3 pm on Sunday was the norm, many Anglican churches have heeded Canon Law: baptism should normally take place 'on Sundays at public worship when the most people come together' [Canon B21].
- Baptism is being re-discovered as a rite that works two ways: vertically – as a first step in an individual's 'turning to Christ', and horizontally – as the adding to the universal Church of 'those whom God is calling'.

The result is that baptisms now happen across a wide variety of worship contexts: from 'stand-alone' services (in which, sadly, there might be no music), through baptism at all-age worship or Services of the Word, to baptism at celebrations of the Eucharist. The Church of England's *Common Worship: Initiation Services* offers a rich range of material, with the original volume (1998) revised for publication in 2006 (blue cover). At the February 2011 meeting of the General Synod, the House of Bishops was formally requested to ask the Liturgical Commission to prepare material to supplement the *Common Worship* Initiation provision, including additional forms of the Decision, the Prayer over the Water and the Commission, expressed in accessible language – this work is currently being undertaken.

Recent writing has also highlighted a change in the place of baptism within society. Increasingly, for unmarried couples, the baptism of a child is the first ceremony that celebrates publicly their identity as a couple. The experience of many ministers is that baptism offers invaluable contacts with those on the Church's fringe – and that its evangelistic opportunities deserve to be taken seriously.

All this has implications for the church musician, the challenge being to choose music which complements the baptismal liturgy but which also fits the context and the nature of the gathered congregation. Many of those who attend baptisms are not regular churchgoers, and are therefore unfamiliar with even 'well-known' hymns (and probably unused to singing at all). It is important that the music chosen is such that worshippers are included rather than alienated. This will mean careful thinking about the musical style most appropriate for a particular congregation: for some, Palestrina's 'Sicut cervus' might just hit the spot; for others, Kendrick might be more appropriate.

An approach which can work well is to have music at baptisms led by a small band of instrumentalists together with a lead singer. The right person cast in this role can give the congregation great confidence, especially if this is helped by choosing music with memorable refrains, or by the singer taking the first verse before inviting the congregation to join in at verse two.

Baptismal liturgy is highly dramatic. The promise to renounce evil and turn to Christ, the use of oil, light and water, and the symbolic 'dying and rising' with Christ in the waters of baptism (cf. Romans 6) paint a vivid picture of baptism as a cataclysmic and life-changing sacrament. This drama must be allowed to shine through. To baptize using a 'portable font' at the front of the nave might be good for visibility but denies the family the opportunity to be involved in a walk to the (often historic) font elsewhere in the church.

As in all worship, it is vital that music works *with* the liturgy and not against it. At all baptisms, the congregation needs to be gathered and the tone set at the start of the service with a familiar hymn or song. The liturgical demands of Eucharistic and non-Eucharistic settings vary, but in both, any movement to the font needs to be covered with sufficient music. This does not have to be congregational singing – an instrumental piece, or an item from a choir or worship band can work well here. There is plenty of scope for creativity, underscoring the principal words of the rite with music or even attempting settings of key texts. What about a worship song-style setting of the Prayer over the Water (found on page 355 of the main black *Common Worship* volume)? The final hymn or song must reinforce the dismissal liturgy, sending out the newly-baptized and the congregation to 'shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father'.

PETER MOGER, CANON PRECENTOR OF YORK MINSTER

Those looking for help with the planning of baptisms and confirmations, particularly in an Anglican context, might also like to know of three books from Church House Publishing:

- *Connecting with Baptism: A practical guide to Christian initiation today* (Mark Earey, Trevor Lloyd & Ian Tarrant, 2007) including a section on music, pages 154–159
- *Crafting Common Worship: A practical, creative guide to what's possible* (Peter Moger, 2009) especially pages 130–135, 'Baptism at a service on Holy Communion'
- *Finding Your Way Around Common Worship: A Simple Guide* (Mark Earey, 2011) especially Chapter 5 on initiation services and the section on 'Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child', pages 95–98

Careful choices need to be made from the lists of music provided by the *Sunday by Sunday* team, not only by bearing in mind Peter Moger's introductory comments above, but also by *checking the texts* of sung items, since we have not distinguished between material suitable for infant baptism, adult baptism, confirmation, affirmation of baptismal faith, or the renewal of baptismal vows (as part of the Easter Vigil, perhaps, or when the Baptism of Christ is celebrated). Some of the music would fit any of these, while certain pieces are more specific in their references. The listed titles should also suggest other songs and hymns on similar themes – what is sung can help to highlight the different symbols and ideas within initiation services, including water, light, the

sign of the cross, death and rebirth, commitment and so on. Other music may be chosen to reflect the season during which the service is taking place, while a general hymn or song of praise (or a group of songs) may be most appropriate to begin the act of worship.

The texts of the *Common Worship* initiation services, as well as being published in *Common Worship: Christian Initiation* (CHP 2006), can be found by following the relevant links on the Church of England's website ([www.churchofengland.org.uk](http://www.churchofengland.org.uk)), selecting either 'Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals' or 'Prayer & Worship'. A basic version of the baptism service is also printed in the main *Common Worship* volume (2000).

The 'Entry into the Church' section of *The Methodist Worship Book* is on pages 60–113. At the 2011 Conference in Southport a resolution was passed asking the Faith and Order Group of the Methodist Church in Britain to create a liturgy for the Renewal of Baptism Vows, including the use of water.

### **Singing the Psalm (Canticles sung in procession to the font)**

**Psalm 42.1–7 (A Song of Trust in God)** PFSI, PFE2/3, PAME, CRP, SP, NEH, CWP, NPCW, H&P, L, LHON, ESRP, RE, MHWE

Hurd *As the deer longs* PS2, CFE, CH4, CG, L, MM2, SPR (OCP)#

Bell *Just as a lost and thirsty deer* LFB, PPP

Ogden *Just like the deer* (WLP)#

Haugen *Like a deer* RE, MHS#

Farrell *O God, for you I long* GBAN, C, BFS#

**Isaiah 12.2–6 (A Song of Deliverance)** PAME, CRP, SP, RE, NEH, NEP, NPCW, MHWE, ESRP, VE

Walker *God our fountain of salvation* CFE, L, OOD

Berthier *In the Lord I'll be ever thankful* LGG, SPR, TSFP#

Rusbridge *Sing a song to the Lord* PSI#

Inwood *We shall draw water joyfully* CFE, CRP, L, LGG, LHON, SFTL, SPR (OCP)#

Poidevin *You shall draw water* (WLP)#

## Hymns and songs

	AMNS	CFE	CH4	CP	H&P	HON	HTC	MP	NEH	R&S	SG	SOF	SPR	TS
All for Jesus, all for Jesus		16		277	251	13	469		272		661			
All I once held dear			506			18		799			562	646		11
All my hope on God is founded	336	21	192	368	63	19	451	16	333	586	525			620
All that I am, all that I do		23	505			23								
All that I am I lay before you								973			686	647		
Awake, awake, fling off the night!	342	64		334		57							119	
Baptized in water		67	636				381				492			
Be thou my vision/Lord, be my vision	343	74	465	386	378	70	545	51	339	489	669	42		50
Before the throne of God above			466	283			453	975			169	1187	261	643
Beyond these walls of worship (STF 547)														
Born of the water, born of the Spirit							382							
Breathe on me, breath of God	157	98	596	174	280	84	226	67	342	295	554	51		57
Christ is our light!			336										26	
Child of blessing, child of promise			633										120	
Christ is the one who calls								813					151	
Christians, lift up your hearts (The House of God)	445						383							
Come down, O Love divine	156	125	489	175	281	114	231	89	137	294	663	1202		71
Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us								818			19		96	1168
Covenant child (STF 533)														
Crown him with many crowns	147	139	459	166	255	137	174	109	352	262	321	77		77
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you		147	191			150		115		591		1213	121	1183
Eternal God, we praise your love (STF 534)														
Fight the good fight with all thy might	220	171	517	423	710	169	526	143	359	496	635	107		
Firmly I believe, and truly	118	173		426		174	429		360		287			
Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go	239	184	529	430	381	188	306	159	235	521	623	1237		
Freed in Christ from death and sin													122	
God, when I came into this life (STF 535)														
He who would valiant be/Who would true valour see	212	248	535	621	688	281	590	224	372	557	639	174		
He's got the whole (wide) world in his hands		249			25	819		225						
Here is the place, now is the time			678											
Holy Spirit, come, confirm us	471		640	183	288	288			140	298				
Holy Spirit, living breath of God								1183				1850		1866
I am a new creation		270				298		254				197		191



There's a spirit in the air	515		616	198	326	661	245			329	69			
To the river I am going								1228				2085		1568
Up from the waters (L 396)														
Water of life, cleanse and refresh us		401							655				124	
We are marching in the light of God		768	516			709		954		555	551	1076	235	539
We have a gospel to proclaim	431	778	363	612	465	716	519	728	486		331	1583		
We know that Christ is raised			635				389			426				
We praise you, Lord, for Jesus Christ	521			340						418				
We turn to Christ anew													125	
Word of God, renew your people													126	
Word of the Father, the life of creation			634							419				
Ye that know the Lord is gracious	175		642	628					477					
You have put on Christ		825												
	<b>AMNS</b>	<b>CFE</b>	<b>CH4</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>H&amp;P</b>	<b>HON</b>	<b>HTC</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>NEH</b>	<b>R&amp;S</b>	<b>SG</b>	<b>SOF</b>	<b>SPR</b>	<b>TS</b>

## Anthems and vocal music

Title	Composer	Voices	E/M/D	Book source	Single sheet publisher
<b>UNISON/TWO PART/ HIGH VOICES</b>					
As water to the thirsty	Coleman arr Barnard	U + descant	E	WOL, SBSE; SC (SATB)	
Breathe on me	Hubbard	U	E/M	SFJ	Banks
Centre of my life	Inwood	U/SATB#	E	CFE, CSF, PS2, SG, L, SPR	OCP
Christ be our light (Longing for light)	Farrell	U (+ descant)#	E	BFS, CBL, CFES, CG, CH4, L, LHON, TS, SPR, TAS	OCP
Come down, O Love divine	Hand	SSA	M	NABI	
Come down, O Love divine	Lloyd	U/2 part	M	MGK	
Come to the well	Farrell	U/2 part#	E	GBU, BFS	
Give us, Lord, a new heart	Farrell	U/SATB#	M	SLG, RITH, L, BFS	OCP
God is with you	Haugen	U#	E	MHS	GIA
Holy Spirit, come confirm us	Dean	U/SATB#	E	HG	OCP
May the mind of Jesus	Walker	U	E/M	IFIH	
O for a closer walk with God	Caesar	SSA	M/D	EAC2	Dean
O God, you search me and you know me	Farrell	U/SATB#	E	PS3, MCWI, CBL, BFS, CH4, CFES, L, SG, SPR, TS, LGG	OCP
O Holy Spirit	Hubbard	S	E	SFJ	Banks
On eagle's wings	Joncas	U/SATB#	E	CFE, L, LHON, PCMG, SYCC2	OCP

Spirit of God (The Song and the Silence)	Haugen	U/SATB#	E	C, MHS	GIA
Spirit of God within me	Ogden	U/SATB	E		WLP
Take my gifts	Farrell	U#	E	GBU, BFS	
The Grail Prayer	Rizza	SA/SATB#	E	SYCC3/FOLO, LUE	Mayhew
Up from the waters	Haugen	U/SATB + cantor#	E	MHS	GIA
Water of life	Dean	U/SATB#	E	CSF, CFE, NEP, L, SPR	OCP
We welcome you	Ogden	U + descant#	E		RSCM
Word of God	Farrell	U/SATB	E	C, BFS, SPR	
You are the centre	Rizza	U/SA/SATB#	E	SYCC4/FOL, CAS, CAHON	Mayhew
<b>THREE / FOUR PARTS</b>					
Be thou my vision	Chilcott	SATB + solo S	E/M	BCA, NOEAB	OUP
Breathe on me, breath of God	Wilby	SATB + S solo	E/M		RSCM
Come down, O Love divine	Harris	SATB	E/M	FSB9, NCAB, MTH2	Novello
Come, Holy Spirit	Dean	SATB + cantor#	E	HG	
Confirmation Prayer	Park	SATB	E		WLP
Do not be afraid – I am with you	Willcock	SATB	E	SBSE	
Father God, we worship you	Kendrick arr Tambling	SATB	E	WSCCI	
Father in heaven	Trad arr Weaver	SATB	E	LOL	
Grow in grace	Archer	SATB	E	SBSI	RSCM
Holy Spirit, ever dwelling	Howells	SATB	E/M	ETAS	
I want Jesus to walk with me	Trad arr Iliff	SATB	E	SBSE	
If ye love me	Tallis	SATB unacc	E	FABI, TA, NCAB, NOEAB, NSACI, ECM, OBTA; SL (AATB)	OUP, RSCM
Listen sweet dove	Aston	SATB	M		Encore
Listen sweet dove	Ives	SATB	M	EACI, SC	RSCM
Loved with everlasting love	Hughes arr Barnard	SATB/U	E	SBSE	
Now go in peace	Mair arr Jeffcoat	SATB	E	SC	RSCM
O Father, for this little life	Lole	SATB	E		RSCM
O for a closer walk with God	Edwards	SATB	E/M	SBSE	
O for a closer walk with God	Ives	SATB	M	LGG	RSCM
O for a closer walk with God	Stanford	SATB	M	ACI, FAB8, BC, ASA; OBFA, AOAN (SAMen)	RSCM
O let the Son of God enfold you	Wimber arr Tambling	SATB	E	WSCCI	
O Lord, increase our faith	Loosemore	SATB unacc	E	SBSI, NCAB, FAB4	RSCM

O Spirit all-embracing	Martinson	SATB	M	ETAS	
River, wash over me	Brown	SATB/SAMen	E	SPS	RSCM
Sicut cervus	Palestrina	SATB unacc	E/M	ESM; SL (ATTB)	Chester
Spirit of God	Lloyd	SATB	M		RSCM
Spirit of holiness	Trad arr Barnard	SATB	E	WIS	
Take this moment	Bell	SATB	E	WIS	GIA
Teach us, good Lord	Ogden	SATB	E/M	TWR	RSCM
The Father's hands	O'Connor	SAMen	E	SFL2	
The Lord bless you and keep you	Rutter	SATB	E	JRA, EAC1, WFC; OBFA (SAMen); EAC2 (2 part)	OUP
This child from God above	Iliff	SATB/U	E	SBSE	
Vox Christi	Wilby	SATB	M	TWR	RSCM
We turn to Christ anew	Kellam	SATB	E		RSCM
<b>FIVE OR MORE PARTS</b>					
Come down, O Love divine	Rutter	SSAATTBB unacc	D		OUP
Gracious Spirit	Forbes	SSATB unacc	D	NNAB	Novello
Every time I feel the Spirit	Trad arr Chilcott	SSATB	M	SFC	
If ye love me	Wilby	SSATB	E/M		Banks

## Taizé, Iona and world music

<p><i>Christe lux mundi</i> CLM  <i>In the Lord I'll be ever thankful</i> TSFP  <i>Oculi nostri</i> T2, TSFP  <i>Tu sei sorgente viva (Lord, you are living water)</i> CLM  <i>Veni Creator Spiritus (canon or litany)</i> T1, SPT, TSFP  <i>Veni lumen</i> TSFP  <i>Veni Sancte Spiritus</i> T1, SPT, TSFP  <i>With you, O Lord</i> TSFP  <i>Amen, amen, it shall be so (Blest are the poor in spirit)</i> LAA  <i>Baptised in water</i> WWHW  <i>Behold, I make all things new</i> CAYP  <i>Come, Holy Spirit (various)</i> CAYP, EOA, C, A  <i>Come, take my hand and be my friend</i> EOA  <i>Come with me, come wander</i> HSNW  <i>Conceiver of both heaven and earth</i> LFB</p>	<p><i>Sisters and brothers, with one voice</i> OITB  <i>Take, O take me as I am</i> CAYP, C  <i>Take this moment, sign and space</i> LFB, OITB, IAMB, CG  <i>Wash me in the water</i> WWHW  <i>We rejoice to be God's chosen</i> OITB, IAMB  <i>When God Almighty came to earth</i> HSNW  <i>Will you come and follow me</i> HSNW, IAMB, CG  <i>You are the God of new beginnings</i> OITB  <i>Crashing waters at creation</i> A  <i>Ewe thina (We walk his way)</i> WWHW  <i>Humbly in your sight</i> IAMB, IECS  <i>Lord, you have come to the seashore/lakeside</i> CG, IECS  <i>Mwamba ni Yesu (Who is the Rock?)</i> IECS, WP  <i>Chu you sa su mi (My soul longs for you)</i> IECS, WP  <i>Saranam (Jesus, Saviour, Lord)</i> WP, C, IECS</p>
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<p>God the Creator LFB  I am the Vine LFB, CAYP  In love you summon TIOAU  O God, you are my God alone PPP, CG  O Jesus Christ, in human flesh TCSN</p>	<p>Sent by the Lord am I IECS, WP, SBTL, BC, CG, SFL2  Sizohamba naye (We are on the Lord's road) OITB, IECS, VFSLI  Stand, O stand firm MAG, TIOAU  The deer longs for pure flowing streams A  Thuma mina (two versions) WP, IECS, SBTL, A, C, CG</p>
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## Organ music

Composer	Title	Source	E/M/D
<b>BEFORE or DURING</b>			
<b>J.S.Bach</b>	Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier BWV 633 or 634	From the <i>Orgelbüchlein</i> (many editions)	E/M
<b>J.S.Bach</b>	Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier BWV 730 or 731	In Novello Vol.18, Bärenreiter Vol.3, Peters Vol.5	E
<b>Bach/Stockmeir</b>	Jesu meine Freude BWV 753	In <i>The Organ Funeral Album</i> (Bärenreiter)	E*
<b>Callahan</b>	Hereford	In <i>Six Preludes on English Hymn Tunes</i> (MorningStar)	E/M
<b>Callahan</b>	Prelude on 'Michael'	In <i>Two English Voluntaries</i> (Concordia)	E/M
<b>Darke</b>	Chorale Prelude on 'St Peter'	No.1 of <i>Three Chorale Preludes</i> Op.20 (Novello)	E/M

<b>Groves</b>	The Rosy Sequence	No.2 of <i>Six Plainsong Preludes</i> (Elkin)	E/M(*)
<b>Ley</b>	Prelude on 'Down Ampney'	(OUP)	E
<b>Near</b>	Jesu, dulcis memoria	In <i>Saint Augustine's Organbook</i> (Aureole)	E/M
<b>Peeters</b>	St Patrick's Breastplate	In <i>Hymn Preludes for the Liturgical Year</i> Op.100 Bk.3 (Peters)	E
<b>Peeters</b>	Blessed Jesus, here are we	In <i>Hymn Preludes for the Liturgical Year</i> Op.100 Bk.9 (Peters)	E*
<b>Spedding</b>	Elegy ('St Peter')	In <i>Recuerdos</i> (IAO)	E
<b>Stanford</b>	On a theme of Orlando Gibbons ('Song 34')	No.1 of <i>Six Short Preludes and Postludes</i> Set 1 Op.101 (Stainer); also in <i>Preludes and Postludes</i> (Mayhew)	E/M
<b>Sumsion</b>	Chorale Prelude on 'Down Ampney'	(Paraclete)	E/M
<b>Walford Davies</b>	Jesu dulcis memoria	In <i>Little Organ Book for Hubert Parry</i> (Banks)	M
<b>Walther</b>	Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier	Three settings in <i>Orgelchoräle</i> (Bärenreiter)	E(*)
<b>Willan</b>	Prelude on 'Carlisle'	In <i>36 Short Preludes and Postludes</i> Set 2 (Peters)	E

<b>Willan</b>	Prelude on 'Slane'	(Peters)	E/M
<b>Wright</b>	O Lamb of God, I come	In <i>The Sunday Organist</i> (Mayhew)	E
<b>AFTER</b>			
<b>J.S.Bach</b>	Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam BWV 684	From <i>Clavierübungen III</i> (many editions)	M/D
<b>Böhm</b>	Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist	In <i>Complete Works</i> (Breitkopf)	E/M
<b>Bunk</b>	Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam	In <i>Chordimprovisationen</i> (Butz)	E
<b>Burkhardt</b>	Voluntary on 'All my hope on God is founded'	(MorningStar)	E/M
<b>Buxtehude</b>	Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam BuxWV 180	In <i>Complete Works Vol.4</i> (Bärenreiter)	E/M
<b>Dyson</b>	Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go	In <i>Variations on Old Psalm Tunes Bk. I</i> (Novello)	E/M
<b>Moore</b>	St Fulbert	In <i>Preludes on the Great Hymns of Lent, Holy Week and Easter</i> (Mayhew)	E/M
<b>Pachelbel</b>	Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam	Three in <i>Selected Works Vol.3</i> (Kalmus); also in <i>Organ Works</i> (Dover, p.81)	E/M
<b>Peeters</b>	Deus tuorum militum	No.8 of <i>Thirty Chorale Preludes on Gregorian Hymns Op.76</i> (Peters)	M

<b>Rawsthorne</b>	Sortie: Forth in thy name ('Song 34')	In <i>50 Hymn Preludes</i> and <i>Hymn Preludes for the Church Year Bk.2</i> (both Mayhew)	M
<b>Sowerby</b>	Deus tuorum militum	(Gray)	M/D
<b>Stanford</b>	Final: St Patrick's Breastplate	Finale of <i>Sonata Celtica</i> (No.4; Cathedral Music)	D
<b>Stanford</b>	On an old Irish church melody ('Christ be with me')	No.5 of <i>Six Short Preludes and Postludes Set I</i> Op.101 (Stainer); also in <i>Preludes and Postludes</i> (Mayhew)	E/M
<b>Thalben-Ball</b>	Oriel	No.70 of <i>113 Variations on Hymn Tunes</i> (Novello)	E/M
<b>Walther</b>	Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist	In <i>Eighty Chorale Preludes</i> (Peters)	E/M
<b>Willan</b>	Prelude on 'Rouen'	In <i>Ten Hymn Preludes Set 3</i> (Peters)	E/M
Movements from <b>Callahan</b> Partita on 'Slane' ( <i>Concordia</i> ) would be suitable before, during and after. E/M-M			

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