



# **B**aptism **S**ervice

## **We Gather**

*Welcome and notices*



### **Opening Hymn/Song**

#### ***The Greeting***

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all  
**and also with you.**

#### ***Introduction***

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.

#### ***Collect (special prayer)***

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## We Hear God's Word

### *Bible Reading*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



### *Sermon*

**Hymn/Songs of Worship**



## We Baptise the Children

*The Baptism party(ies) move to the front of the church around the font*

### *Presentation of the Candidates*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.  
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number  
those whom he is calling.  
People of God, will you welcome *these children*  
and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *these children* with joy.  
Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith.

Will you pray for *them*,  
draw *them* by your example into the community of faith  
and walk with *them* in the way of Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *these children* begin their journey in faith.  
You speak for *them* today.

Will you care for *them*,  
and help them to take *their* place  
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**With the help of God, we will.**

## *The Decision*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

## *Signing with the Cross*

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

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



**Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.  
Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ  
against sin, the world and the devil,  
and remain faithful to Christ 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*

Heavenly Father, bless this water,  
that whoever is washed in it  
may be made one with Christ



in the fellowship of your Church,  
and be brought through every tribulation  
to share the risen life  
that is ours in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### *Profession of Faith*

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

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

**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?

**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?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

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

### *Baptism*

N, I baptize you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**



You have been clothed with Christ.  
As many as are baptized 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.

**Amen.**

### *The Welcome*



There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
N and N, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.  
We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.

*Applause etc*

### **Baptism Welcome Song**



Jesus, Jesus loves \_\_\_\_ yes he does, yes he does x3  
And he wants \_\_\_\_ to love him too.

God welcomes you, we welcome you, welcome to the family of God x2

*The baptism party(ies) returns from the font.*

### *Commission*

We have brought *these children* to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again for *them* and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ *they* will know the forgiveness of *their* sins and the new life of the Spirit. As *they* grow up, *they* will need the help and encouragement of the Christian community, so that *they* may learn to know God in public worship and private prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve *their* neighbour after the example of Christ, and in due course come to confirmation.

## Prayer



Lord, as we gather together in this church today, we ask your blessing on *these children* newly baptised into your family. Hold *them* in your arms and bless *them*. Shine your light on the path before *them* and let *them* always feel your loving presence as *they* travel along the paths of life.

Lord, we ask your blessing on the parents, grandparents, and godparents of *these children*. May they guide *them* with their own example of your love and always be ready to listen and to comfort, to laugh and to play, to encourage and to praise. May they always show *them* that *they are* special in their eyes and in also in yours.

Lord, bless all the families that are in your care. Make your loving presence felt amongst them all especially those for whom family life is difficult and testing. Be with those who have no family to care for them. Comfort those whose children cause them worry or heartache. Strengthen those whose children are in danger. Be with those who long for the presence of children and have yet to hold them in their arms. Pour your blessing on them all and bring them all the joys and comforts that family life can hold.

Lord as we welcome *these children* into the family of Christ, help us to be mindful of our own baptism vows. Let us reaffirm those vows here today and help us all to be faithful witnesses to your light and love. Help us to be shining examples to *these children* and support *them* as *they* begin *their* journey with you.

*Other prayers may be said.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.**

**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.**

## Song



## We Prepare to Leave

### *Giving of a Lighted Candle & a Bible*

*Each of the newly baptized are given a lighted candle and a Bible*

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.



*Before you go...*

### *The Blessing*

The God of all grace,  
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

### *The Dismissal*

Go in the light and peace of Christ  
**Thanks be to God**

## Closing Hymn/Song



*We hope that you have enjoyed this Baptism Service  
and we look forward to seeing you again in the  
future. Coffee and tea are served after the service.  
Please return this booklet at the end of the service  
so that it can be used again. Thank you.*

