

# A SERVICE OF BAPTISM

## WELCOME.

*The minister says*

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

Let us pray

*After a moments silence we say together*

**Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to 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.**

**BIBLE READINGS** *(if the service is not part of a main  
service).*

*The minister addresses the whole congregation*

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.**

*The minister then says to the parents and godparents*

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.**

## 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.**

*Parents and Godparents move to a position around the font*

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water  
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning  
of creation.

Through water you led the children of Israel  
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised  
land.

In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of  
John

and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the  
Messiah, the Christ,

to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.

In it we are buried with Christ in his death.

By it we share in his resurrection.

Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,  
we baptize into his fellowship those who come to  
him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
That those baptised in it may be cleansed from sin and born again.  
Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The minister addresses the congregation*  
Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with *these parents and godparents* the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in 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 BAPTISM

*The minister dips each candidate in water, or pours water on them, saying*

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

### 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.**

### GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

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.**

*The minister says*

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.**

### PRAYERS

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.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that 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.

### 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 upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**