

Baptism and Holy Communion

It's great to welcome you here this morning.

As we prepare for our service, why not use this time to give thanks for God's love and pray for our time together today.

*“A new command I give you: love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another.” John 13: 34-35*

The Gathering

The Greeting

Leader Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All and also with you.

Leader This is the day that the Lord has made.

All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Prayer of Preparation

Leader We come before God as we pray together.

All **Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



Hymn

Prayers of Penitence

When we confess our sins and seek God's forgiveness, we are living in obedience to his commandments to us.

Leader Let us come to the Lord our God and say to him:

All **Father, we have sinned against you.
We are not worthy to be called your children.**

**We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us,
bring us back to yourself
as those who once were dead
but now have life through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Leader May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days.

All **Amen.**

¶ The Sacrament of Baptism

Presentation of the Candidates

Minister 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?

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

Minister 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?

Parents and Godparents **With the help of God, we will.**

Minister 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?

Parents and Godparents **With the help of God, we will.**

The Decision

Minister 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?

Parents and Godparents **I reject them.**

Minister Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Parents and Godparents **I renounce them.**

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

Parents and Godparents **I repent of them.**

Minister Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Parents and Godparents **I turn to Christ.**

Minister Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Parents and Godparents **I submit to Christ.**

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

Parents and Godparents **I come to Christ.**

The Creed

The creed reminds us of the central beliefs of the Christian faith. We all declare our faith together.

Leader We believe in God the Father,
All who made us and cares for us.

Leader We believe in God the Son,
All who died and now lives for us

Leader We believe in the Holy Spirit,
All who teaches us God's truth.

Leader We believe in one God:
All Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Baptism

The minister baptises each candidate saying:

Minister _____, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

After each baptism the candidate is signed with the cross

Minister Christ claims you for His own; receive the sign of His cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All 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.

The Welcome

Leader There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All **We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

The Gifts

Giving of a lighted candle by the Mothers Union.

Minister 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.

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

Giving of a New Testament by the Gideons.



Song



Liturgy of the Word

Bible Reading(s)

The scripture for the day is read, ending with

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Or if the reading is from a gospel, the reader says

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Hymn

Prayers of Intercession

This or another similar response may be used.

Leader Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Leader Merciful Father

All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Minister We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Minister Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.



Song

The Eucharistic Prayer

*In this age-old practice we come together as Jesus
commanded, to remember and celebrate all that Christ
achieved for us for us in his life, death and resurrection.*

Minister The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Minister Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Minister Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love, you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death.

Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Minister Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Minister The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

Minister This is his story.

All **This is our song:**
Hosanna in the highest.

Minister Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

All **This is our song:**
Hosanna in the highest.

Minister Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free. Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

All **This is our song:**
Hosanna in the highest.

Minister Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

Minister May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread

Minister Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

All **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Giving of Communion

All who trust in God's grace are welcome to come forward to receive bread and wine (the wine is alcohol-free and the bread is gluten-free).

If you'd prefer instead to come forward for a prayer of blessing, please bring this order of service with you.

If you are unable to come to the front to receive bread and wine, please let a steward know and we will bring them to you where you sit.

The bread and wine are given with the words,

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

Prayer After Communion

Minister As we have gathered at his table, let us thank God for all we have shared.

All **Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**



Hymn



The Dismissal

Leader God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen us to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.

All **Amen.**

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen**