

WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH, EATON



SERVICE OF BAPTISM

Notices and announcements are given before the service

HYMN OR SONG

GREETING

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

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.

THE COLLECT

The leader introduces a short period of silent prayer

A READING FROM THE BIBLE

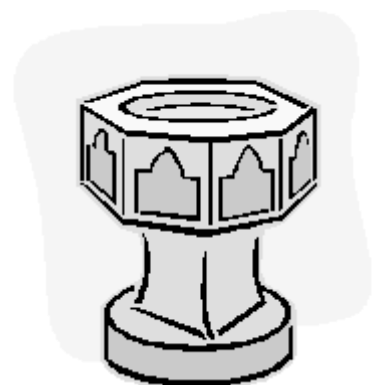
At the end

This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE TALK

HYMN OR SONG



THE PRESENTATION

The parents, godparents and supporters step forward to present those to be baptized.

The leader addresses the whole congregation:

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.

We thank God for *N and N* who have come to be baptized today.

Christ loves *them* and welcomes *them* into his Church.

So I ask you all:

Will you support *these children* as *they* begin *their* journey of faith?

All: **We will.**

Will you help *them* to live and grow within God's family?

All: **We will.**

The leader then addresses the parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his.

Parents and godparents, you speak for *N and N* today.

Will you pray for *them*, and help *them* to follow Christ?

We will.

THE DECISION

A large candle may be lit.

The leader addresses the candidates through their parents, godparents and supporters

We all wander far from God and lose our way:

Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.

In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Parents, godparents, supporters and candidates turn to face the candle

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

HYMN, SONG OR MUSIC

During this the candidates, parents, godparents and supporters will gather to the side of the baptismal font.

Children are invited to come close and the rest of the congregation to move in order to see well.

PRAYER OVER THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.

He was baptized in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.

He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him.

Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,

that those who are baptized in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,

and, filled with your Spirit,

may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.

All: **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our common faith in God.

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

All: **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?

All: **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?

All: **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church

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

THE BAPTISM

The leader pours water on each candidate, saying:

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

All: **Amen.**

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

*The leader makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each
candidate, invites parents and godparents to do likewise, and then
prays:*

Do not be ashamed of Christ.

You are his for ever.

All: **Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All: **Amen.**

N and N, we welcome you.

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!**

HYMN, SONG OR MUSIC

During which we return to our seats

THE 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.

All: **We pray 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:

All: **We pray *they* may learn to know God
 in public worship and private prayer,
 follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith,
 love and serve *their* neighbour
 and in due course come to confirmation.**

As part of the church of Christ, we all have a duty to support *them* by our prayer, example and teaching.

All: **We pray for you, as parents and godparents,
 for the help and grace of God,
 in guiding *these children* in the way of faith.**

Faithful and loving God,
bless those who care for *these children*
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,
and protect their home from all evil.
Fill them with the light of your presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

This response may used

Your name be hallowed.

All: **Your kingdom come.**

If there is communion, the Peace follows here on another sheet

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father in Heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as it is 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 forever.
Amen**

FINAL HYMN OR SONG

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,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All: **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.

N, 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.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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