



An Example Baptism Service

Note: This is only an example and individual services will vary.

This booklet contains material from Common Worship: Initiation Services (1998) which is © The Archbishops' Council

The 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.

Informal Welcome

All Stand

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.

All Amen. Pour upon us the power of your love.

Hymn/Song

Prayer for the Day

A short introduction to the sermon

Hymn/Song

Bible Reading

Sermon

Hymn/Song

¶ THE BAPTISM

Presentation of the Candidates

The president 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 *n and n*
and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

All With the help of God, we will.

*The president then says to the **parents and godparents***

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *n and n* 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 *n and n* begin *their* journey in faith.
You speak for *them* today.
Will you care for *them*,
and help *them* to take *them* place
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?
With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

*The president addresses the candidates through their **parents, godparents and sponsors***

Therefore I ask:
Do you turn to Christ?
I turn to Christ.
Do you repent of your sins?
I repent of my sins.
Do you renounce evil?
I renounce evil.

Signing with the Cross

The president or someone else 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.

All 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.

All **Amen.**

Prayer over the Water

The baptismal party move to the font and the minister fills the font with water

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Father, we give you thanks and praise,
for your gift of water in creation;
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,
bringing light and life,
For your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptized in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,
washing away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit
move upon these waters.
Restore through them the beauty of your creation,
and bring those who are baptized
to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,
anoint your children with power from on high,
and make them one with Christ
in the freedom of your kingdom.
For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,
now and for ever.

All **Alleluia. Amen.**

What Christians Believe

Let us affirm,
together with these who are being 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?

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.**

Baptism

The president or another 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.

All Amen.

A minister may say

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

The president 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.

All Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

A godparent presents their newly baptized godchild with a lighted candle. When all have received a candle, the president says

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.**

The Welcome and Commission

The president explains in their own words what help and support a baptised child will need in order to progress in faith.

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
n and n, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

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

*The congregation may greet the newly baptized.
The baptism party return to their seats.*

Hymn/Song

Prayers of Intercession

concluding with:

**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.**

¶ **THE SENDING OUT**

The Notices

Hymn/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,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.