

Family Service with Holy Baptism

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

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn: 646 Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken

**1 Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word can ne'er be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**2 See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage:
grace which, like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age?**

**3 Blessed inhabitants of Zion,
washed in the Redeemer's blood;
Jesus, whom their souls rely on,
makes them kings and priests to God.
'Tis his love his people raises
over self to reign as kings;
and, as priests, his solemn praises
each for a thank-offering brings.**

**4 Saviour, since of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.**

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.

Confession and Absolution

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1: 8,9

Let us kneel or sit and confess our sins to God our Father.

**O God, our loving Father in heaven,
we confess that we have sinned against you;
we have broken your commandments;
we have often been selfish,
and we have not loved you as we should.
For these, and all our sins, forgive us, we pray:
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

The Collect

Merciful Lord, Grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-9

A Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah:

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 606 As The Deer Pants For The Water

**1 As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

***You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.***

**2 I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.**

**3 You're my friend and you are my brother,
even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.**

Holy Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke:

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." '

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Children's Talk

Hymn 644 Faithful Shepherd Feed Me

**1 Faithful Shepherd, feed me
in the pastures green;
faithful Shepherd, lead me
where your steps are seen.**

**2 Hold me fast, and guide me
in the narrow way;
so, with you beside me,
I need never stray.**

**3 Daily bring me nearer
to the heavenly shore;
make my faith grow clearer,
help me love you more.**

**4 Hallow every pleasure,
every gift and pain,
be my only treasure,
all I hope to gain.**

**5 Day by day prepare me,
as you see is best,
then let angels bear me
to your promised rest.**

The Presentation

We welcome Megan who has come to be baptized.
I invite her sponsors to present her now.

The sponsors answer

We present Megan to be baptized.

Parents and godparents, will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing Megan for baptism and answer on her behalf? By your own prayers and example, by your teaching and love, will you encourage her in the life and faith of the Christian Community?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism this child begins his journey in faith. You speak for her today. Will you care for her, and help her to take her place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism, God calls us from darkness to 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 proud 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.

The presiding minister says to the congregation

You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ.

Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers

We will support them.

The Baptism

Water is poured into 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 our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life.

With water you cleanse and replenish the earth; you nourish and sustain all living things.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery into freedom, and brought them through the river Jordan to new life in the land of promise.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ: for his baptism by John, for his anointing with the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph.

Thanks be to God.

We give you thanks for the grace of the Holy Spirit who forms us in the likeness of Christ and leads us to proclaim your Kingdom.

Thanks be to God.

And now we give you thanks that you have called this your servant, Megan, to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism. Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that she who is baptized in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May she die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue for ever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour in the unity of the Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The presiding minister shall ask the following question of each candidate for baptism, or, in the case of those unable to answer for themselves, the sponsors of each candidate:

Do you believe and accept the Christian faith into which Megan is to be baptized?

I do.

The presiding minister addresses the congregation.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess, together with the candidate's sponsors, 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 God the Son?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in God 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 presiding minister baptizes by dipping the candidates in the water, or by pouring water over them, saying

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

Those who have been baptized are signed with the cross

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

Live as a disciple of Christ, fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith.

Confess Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, look for his coming in glory.

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.**

The minister continues

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

The Prayers

Father, we thank you that Megan has now been born again of water and the Holy Spirit, and has become your own child by adoption, and a member of your Church. Grant that she may grow in the faith in which she has been baptized; Grant that she herself may profess it when she comes to be confirmed; Grant that she may bear witness to it by a life of service to others; and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in her; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, bless Megan's home and family, and give such grace and wisdom to all who have the care of her, that by their word and good example they may teach her to know and love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Other prayers and thanksgivings are offered

Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

Hymn: 647 Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

**1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;**

**I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

**2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee
I will ever give to thee.**

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

The newly baptized may be given a lighted candle and sent out with these words:

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.

Go in peace to love and to serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen