

THE BAPTISM

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them".

So I ask you all:

Will you help these children to become part of God's family?

We will.

Parents and Godparents only...

Parents and godparents,
you have brought these children to baptism
and speak for them today.

As we trust God for their growth in faith,
will you promise to care for them,
pray for them,
and help them to follow Christ?

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 another person 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 of Christ. You are his for
ever.

The whole congregation say...

Stand bravely with him.

Oppose the power of evil,

**and remain his faithful disciple 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.

Prayer over the Water

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
On him you poured your Spirit
at his baptism in the River Jordan.
He sent his followers
to baptize all who turn to him.

And so, Father,
we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptized in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
filled with your Spirit
and know themselves loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.

Amen.

Baptism

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

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

Amen.

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

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.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

A godparent or family member lights the candle.

*There follows an explanation of how parents and
godparents can enable the child to grow in
faith.*

*When the candle has been presented, 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.

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

The Welcome and Commission

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: 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.**

The congregation greet the newly baptized.

The baptismal party take their seats.