



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

**CELEBRATING COMMITMENT TO CHRIST
WELCOME!**

Gathering worship and welcome:

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

And also with you

We rejoice today with the family of Sophie and James as they thank God for the gift of life, and bring Alice for her baptism.

God our creator, we thank you for the wonder of new life and for the mystery of human love. We give thanks for all whose support and skill surround and sustain the beginning of life. As Jesus knew love and discipline within a human family, may Alice grow in strength and wisdom. As Mary knew the joys and pains of motherhood, give Sophie and James your sustaining grace and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord Jesus, we have come into your holiness because you have invited us. We come joyfully into your presence because of the warmth of your welcome. We come in your name for you are the way, the truth and the life, we are all welcome here.

Lighting of the Easter candle:

Alleluia, Christ is risen; **He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

Our children are invited to go with Kate for FLAMES Sunday School session if they would like.

Hymn: Bless the Lord

Collect

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus, for as you were sent by the Father, so you send us.

Equip Charles our King and all your people with the gifts to fulfil our calling, that we may love as you loved, serve as you served, and willingly follow wherever you lead.

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God for ever.

We say sorry to God

Father God – we understand how you want us to live our lives, showing love and compassion, going out of our way to help others, as you did, but we know we don't always live up to what you expect of us. Please give us your strength to be the people you want us to be. This we ask in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Absolution

Jesus says – 'Your sins are forgiven, go and sin no more.'

Hymn: To the river

Bible reading: Matthew 28:16-20 *at the end:*

This is the Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God

Sermon

Hymn: King of Kings (Majesty)

Intercessions

Response: *Faithful God; **Fill them with your hope and joy***

Our children return from FLAMES for the Baptism

The Liturgy of Baptism

Do you receive Alice as a gift from God? **We do.**

Do you wish to give thanks to God and seek his blessing?

We do.

Will you do all that you can to help and support Sophie and James with the bringing up of Alice and Olivia and Florence, her sisters? **With the help of God, we will.**

The presentation

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'. We thank God for Alice who has come to be baptized today. Christ loves her and welcomes her into his Church. So I ask you all:

Will you support Alice as she begins her journey of faith?

We will.

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

We will.

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

Parents and godparents, you speak for Alice today.

Will you pray for her and help her to follow Christ? **We will.**

Christ loves Alice and welcomes her into his Church. Will you support her on her journey of faith? **We will.**

The Decision

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.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do.**

Do you trust in him as Lord? **I do.**

Signing with the Cross

Alice, Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. Do not be ashamed of Christ.

You are his for ever.

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.

Amen.

Prayer over the Water

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 thanks and praise.**

Prayer continues...

Profession of Faith

Let us affirm, together with Alice who is 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?

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?

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?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

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

Baptism

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

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.**

A prayer for Sophie and James to say

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.

Hymn: Light of the world

The Welcome

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

Alice, we welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

Alice receive this light. 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.

Prayer of re-dedication

Gracious God, in company with our King, we rededicate ourselves to your service.

Take our minds and think through them, take our lips and speak through them,
take our hearts and set them on fire with love for you and your kingdom;
that here we may have your peace, and in the world to come may see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices and Banns

Hymn: Lord, the light of your love is shining

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**