

**Christ Church Café Church and Holy Baptism 9.30am on 18th
June 2023**

Call to Worship

Leader: Back then there were twelve. Here and now there is us.

All: we are your disciples today and we gather to worship you.

Leader: Back then they followed you in the flesh. Today we follow in your spirit.

All: we are your disciples and we gather to worship you.

Leader: Back then there were but a few. Today we, numbering billions, are part of a worldwide Church

All: We are your disciples today and we gather to serve you.

Lighting the Easter Candle

Katherine, with the help of a volunteer, lights the Easter Candle

God our creator, we thank you for the wonder of new life and the mystery of human love. We give you 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 Pearla and Romola grow in strength and wisdom. As Mary knew the joys and pains of motherhood, give Rebecca and Joshua your sustaining grace and love; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Song: 'Let your light shine' – special request from Pearla and Romola

We say sorry to God and one another

Dear God, you are a great and awesome God; Today we come to you in a prayer of confession

We are sorry for the things we have done that are wrong in your eyes.

We are also sorry for the things we should have done but we didn't do.

We are sorry for the times we did not let your light shine in us.

We are asking now for forgiveness for these things. Please forgive us and help us to walk more closely with you.

In your name we pray, Amen

Prayer of forgiveness

In Jesus' name, may you know his forgiveness and peace.

Thanks be to God; Alleluia!

Sharing the peace

As the family of God we can help one another to be the people God wants us to be. Let's share the peace together as a sign of being part of God's family

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Hymn Give thanks, with a grateful heart (*children to bring up pictures during this hymn*)

The minister says to the congregation and to the Godparents

Do you receive Paula and Romola as gifts from God? **We do**

Do you wish to give thanks to God and seek his blessing for them? **We do**

Will you do all that you can to help and support Rebecca and Joshua in the bringing up of Romola and Pearla? **With the help of God we will.**

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 president addresses the parent and godparents

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

Parents and God-parents you speak for Romola and Pearla today. Will you pray for them and help them to follow Christ?

We will

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 turn to Christ as Lord? **I do**

The signing with the Cross

The president makes the sign of the cross on the foreheads of Romola and Pearla.

Pearla, Romola; 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 lives

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

Prayer over the water

The president stands before the water of baptism.

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.**

Loving Father, we thank you for your servant Moses, who led your people through the waters of the Red Sea to freedom in the Promised Land. We thank you for your Son Jesus, who has passed through the deep waters of death and opened for all the way of salvation. Now send your Spirit, that those who are washed in this water may die with Christ and rise with him, to find true freedom as your children, alive in Christ for ever.

Amen

Our belief

Let us affirm together 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.

The Baptism

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

The giving of Bibles and Candles

Pearla and Romola, today God has touched you with his love and given you a place among his people. God promises to be with you in joy and in sorrow, to be your guide in life, and to bring you safely to heaven. In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey. Together with all God's people you must explore the way of Jesus and grow in friendship with God, in love for his people, and in serving others. With us you will listen to the word of God and receive the gifts of God.

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.

Hymn: Be bold, be strong, for the Lord your God is with you

Bible Reading: Matthew 10:1-5a (ending with 'These twelve Jesus sent out...')

Table talk – Discipleship – Katherine

Song

**Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, rejoice!
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, rejoice!
Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say rejoice!
Rejoice! Rejoice! And again I say rejoice! (Sung as a round)**

Prayers of Intercession

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 this day 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 yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Amen

Notices

Hymn: One shall tell another

The Blessing

The Sending out

God, help up shake the dust off our feet, and go into the world with a spirit of healing love.

Faith, belief and discipleship are to be lived out.

May we your followers go to meet our world:

with your blessing in our hearts,

with the example of Jesus ever before us,

and the energy of the Spirit driving us. Amen