

HOLY BAPTISM TWO IN HOLY COMMUNION TWO

Pastoral Introduction

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. For all involved, particularly the candidates but also parents, godparents and sponsors, it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring the faith. The wider community of the local church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

The service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising, a picture that can be brought home vividly by the way the baptism is administered. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptized walks in that light for the rest of their lives.

As you pray for the candidates, picture them with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying into the fullness of God's love.

The Gathering of God's People

THE GREETING

The presiding minister greets the people in these or other suitable words:

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

Or

From Easter Day to Pentecost

Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! *Luke 24: 34*

The minister may use these or other words:

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 fulness of life.

PENITENCE

The minister says

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy,
and confess that we need forgiveness.

A pause for reflection after which these or other suitable words or the seasonal Penitential Kyries (pages 224-236) are used:

Lord God, you created the world, and made us in your own image.
Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death.

Rescue us from slavery to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit you restore us to fellowship with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

This hymn of praise or some other may be said or sung.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One:
you alone are the Lord:
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The presiding minister says

Let us pray.

The community may pray silently.

THE COLLECT

The Collect of the day or a Collect from pages 392-395 is said.

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

READINGS

from the Old Testament and/or the New Testament should normally be as appointed in the Table of Readings. Special baptismal readings can be found on page 396 of The Book of Common Prayer.

After each reading the reader may say

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A canticle, psalm, hymn or anthem may be sung between the readings.

All stand

THE GOSPEL

The reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to ... chapter ... beginning at verse ...

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel, the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

Silence may follow.

The Presentation

The presiding minister invites the candidates and their sponsors to stand in view of the congregation.

The presiding minister invites the sponsors of baptismal candidates to present the candidates.

We welcome those who come to be baptized. I invite their sponsors to present them now.

The sponsors answer

We present to be baptized.

The presiding minister says to the sponsors of those unable to answer for themselves
Parents and godparents, will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing for baptism and answer on their behalf. By your own prayers and example, by your teaching and love, will you encourage them in the life and faith of the Christian community?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism these children begin their journey in faith.

You speak for them today.

Will you care for them,

and help them to take their place

within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

At this point testimony may be given by one or more of the candidates.

The presiding minister says to the candidates able to answer for themselves, and to the sponsors of candidates

In baptism, God calls us from darkness into 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 presiding minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, either here or after the baptism with water, saying

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.**

A hymn may be sung.

The Baptism

The presiding minister and the candidates go to the place where the water for baptism is, and the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving prayer.

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.

The minister continues with either

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 *names/these your servants* to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in blessing and sanctify this water so that *those* who are baptized in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection.

May *they* 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.**

or

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and

cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through water you led the children of Israel

from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.

In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John

and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ,

to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.

In it we are buried with Christ in his death.

By it we share in his resurrection.

Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,

we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
they may be cleansed from sin and born again.

Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith

and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;

to whom with you and the Holy Spirit

be all honour and glory, 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 you are (... is) to be baptized?

I do.

The presiding minister addresses the congregation.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess, together with these candidates 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

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

The minister and those who have been baptized may return from the font.

[[If those who have been baptized were not signed with the cross immediately after the Decision, they are signed now

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.]]**

The minister continues.

God has called you into his Church.

The congregation joins the minister, saying

**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 PEACE

All stand. The Peace is introduced with these or other suitable words:

We are the body of Christ.
By one spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life together.

The presiding minister says

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

A hymn may be sung.

Celebrating at the Lord's Table

AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The bread and wine shall be placed on the table for the communion if this has not
already been done, and one of the following may be said:*

Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

or one of the other prayers on page 208

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Stand

The bishop or priest who presides takes the bread and wine and may say

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One of the following Eucharistic Prayers is said by the presiding minister:

Prayer 1

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

or

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and everliving God,

at all times and in all places

it is right to give you thanks and praise:

Because by water and the Holy Spirit

you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord,

raised to new life in him

and renewed in us the image of your glory.

And so with all your people,

with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, Father,

the creator and sustainer of all things;

you made us in your own image,

male and female you created us;

even when we turned away from you,

you never ceased to care for us,
but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving your only begotten Son to become man
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us:
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world:
he instituted,
and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat,
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we do as Christ your Son commanded:

**we remember his passion and death,
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit
that we may be made one in your holy Church
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer 2

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

or

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour, thanks and praise
be given to you at all times and in all places,
Lord, holy Father, true and living God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is your eternal Word
through whom you have created all things
from the beginning
and formed us in your own image.

In your great love you gave him
to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will
your Son our Saviour offered himself as a perfect sacrifice,
and died on the cross for our redemption.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin
and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest
whom you raised from death
and exalted to your right hand on high

where he ever lives to intercede for us.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit
and made us a royal priesthood
called to serve you for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful Father, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
and we pray that we who eat and drink them
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
in obedience to our Saviour Christ
in remembrance of his death and passion
may be partakers of his body and his blood,
who on the night he was betrayed took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you;
Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
Drink from this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
Father, with this bread and this cup,
we do as our Saviour has commanded:

we celebrate the redemption he has won for us;
we proclaim his perfect sacrifice,
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
and we look for his coming
to fulfil all things according to your will.

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer 3

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

or

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, Lord of all creation,
we praise you for your goodness and your love.
When we turned away you did not reject us.
You came to meet us in your Son,
welcomed us as your children

and prepared a table where we might feast with you.

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened wide his arms upon the cross
and, with love stronger than death,
he made the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

Lord Jesus Christ, our redeemer,
on the night before you died
you came to table with your friends.

Taking bread, you gave thanks, broke it
and gave it to them saying,
Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you:
you are the bread of life.**

At the end of supper
you took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said,
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Lord Jesus, we bless you:
you are the true vine.**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ:
**dying, you destroyed our death,
rising, you restored our life;
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life,
come upon us now;
may this bread and wine be to us
the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us, who know our need of grace,
one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Blessed Trinity:
with your whole Church throughout the world

we offer you this sacrifice of thanks and praise
and lift our voice to join the song of heaven,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Thanks be to you, our God, for your gift beyond words.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister says

As our Saviour Christ has 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.**

or

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

**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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The presiding minister (who may be assisted by the deacon) breaks the consecrated bread in preparation for the Communion.

The bread which we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

THE COMMUNION

The presiding minister says

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Remember that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

or

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

or

Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God,
who has taken away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The presiding minister and people receive communion.

The minister who gives the bread and wine says

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul to eternal life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul to eternal life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

or

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

or

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

and the communicant replies

Amen.

The following anthem may be sung after the Breaking of the Bread or during the Communion:

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

or

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Other hymns or anthems may be sung.

THE GREAT SILENCE

When all have received communion, the presiding minister, other ministers and

people keep silence for reflection.

Going Out as God's People

A hymn may be sung here or before the Dismissal.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The appropriate seasonal Post Communion prayer below or the following may be said:

Gracious God,
in baptism you make us one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and his blood,
one in the communion of his Spirit.
Help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the body of Christ. Amen.

All say

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

*The presiding minister may say the seasonal blessing or another suitable blessing
or*

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 DISMISSAL

The presiding minister or another person may give each of the newly baptized a lighted candle.

The newly baptized are 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 serve the Lord
in the name of Christ. Amen.

Seasonal Variations and Readings

The three sets of variants for these principal baptismal seasons each contain: Introduction, a Collect, a Post Communion Prayer and a Blessing.

EPIPHANY :: THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD :: TRINITY SUNDAY

After the Greeting instead of Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us ... the minister may say

At our Lord's baptism in the river Jordan,
God showed himself to all who have eyes to see and ears to hear.
The Father spoke from heaven, the Spirit descended as a dove
and Jesus was anointed with power from on high.
For us baptism is the door of faith,
through which we enter the Kingdom of Heaven.
As children of God, we are adopted as his sons and daughters,
and called to proclaim the wonders of him
who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

THE COLLECT

Lord of all time and eternity,

you opened heaven's gate and revealed yourself as Father
by the voice that called Jesus your beloved Son,
baptizing him, in the power of the spirit;
reveal yourself to us now, to claim us as your children,
and so complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
in the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION

God of glory,
you inspired us with the breath of life
which brought to birth a new world in Christ.
May we who are reborn in him
be transformed by the renewal of our lives,
that the light of your new creation
may flood the world with your abundant grace;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God, who in his Christ gives us a spring of water
welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing ...

EASTER DAY TO THE DAY OF PENTECOST

After the Greeting instead of Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us ... *the minister may say*

God raised Jesus Christ from the dead
and sent the Holy Spirit to recall the whole world to himself.
In baptism we die to sin and rise to newness of life in Christ.
Here we find rebirth in the spirit,
and set our minds on his heavenly gifts.
As children of God, we are continually created anew,
as we walk the path of faith,
and feed on the forgiveness of his healing grace.

THE COLLECT

Heavenly Father,

by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give to your faithful people
new life in the water of baptism.
Guide and strengthen us by the same spirit,
that we who are born again
may serve you in faith and love,
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION

Author of life divine,
in the resurrection of your Son,
you set before us the mystery of his triumph over sin and death;
may all who are washed in the waters of rebirth
rise to newness of life
and find the promised presence of your abundant grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you by his life-giving Spirit
to walk with him in the paths of righteousness and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

IN ALL SAINTS-TIDE

After the Greeting instead of Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us ... *the minister may say*

In baptism, God calls us to be his friends
and to make us holy in his Son Jesus Christ.
On this journey of faith we have no abiding city,
for we have promise of the heavenly Jerusalem,
where the whole creation is brought to a new birth in the Holy Spirit.
Here we are united in the company of all the faithful,

and we look for the coming of the eternal kingdom.
As children of God, we look through this passing age
for the signs of the dawn of everlasting glory.

THE COLLECT

Almighty Father,
you have made us heirs through hope of your everlasting kingdom
and in the waters of baptism you have promised
a measure of grace overflowing to all eternity.
Take our sins and guilt away,
and so inflame us with the life of your Spirit
that we may know your favour and goodness towards us
and walk in newness of life,
both now and for ever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION

Lord, in the vision of your heavenly kingdom
you reveal among us the promise of your glory.
May that glory be ours
as we claim our citizenship in the kingdom
where you are alive and reign, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,
give you joy in their fellowship,
and strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

