

Prayers for the needs of the World

We thank you that you have claimed for yourself those who have been washed in the waters of rebirth. Uphold them in this new life, that they may ever remain steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and rooted in your love. Father of life,

All make known your glory.

Pour your blessing on all your people. May our hearts ever praise you, and find their perfect rest in you. Grant us the freedom of your service and peace in doing your will. Father of life,

All make known your glory.

The whole creation is filled with the light of your grace. Dispel the darkness of our hearts, and forgive our sins and negligences, that we may come at last to the light of your glory. Father of life,

All make known your glory.

The Lord's Prayer

As your children, born again in Christ, we say

**All 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.**

Giving of a Lighted Candle

The minister or another person may give all the newly baptized a lighted candle. When all have received a candle, the minister 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.

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

Hymn *(during which an offering will be taken)*

The Sending Out

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 among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Holy Baptism

Stilton Group of Churches

Stilton, Folksworth, Morborne, Haddon and Elton

The Welcome

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

All and also with you.

Hymn

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 these children grow in strength and wisdom. As Mary knew the joys and pains of motherhood, give these parents your sustaining grace and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

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.

The Prayer for the Day

Let us pray

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 in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever.

All Amen.

Reading God's Word

First Reading

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn

The Address

The Baptism

Presentation of the Candidates

The minister addresses the whole congregation

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

Will you support these children as they begin their journey of faith?

All We will.

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

All We will.

The minister then addresses the parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his. Parents and Godparents, you speak for N and N today. Will you pray for them, and help them to follow Christ?

P & Gp We will.

The Decision

The minister addresses the parents, godparents and sponsors

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? **P and Gp I do**

Do you reject evil? **P and Gp I do**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **P and Gp I do**

Do you trust in him as Lord? **P and Gp I do**

Signing with the Cross

The minister 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.

When all the candidates have been signed, the minister says

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

All 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.

All Amen.

Prayer over the Water

The minister and families gather at the baptismal font.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. He was baptized in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him. Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever.

All Amen.

Statement of Faith

The minister addresses the congregation

Let us affirm, together with these who are 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?

All 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?

All 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?

All I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Baptism

The minister pours water on each candidate saying

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

All Amen.

The minister says

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.

All Amen.

Commission

The minister addresses the congregation, parents and godparents

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for these children and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love, and protect their homes from all evil. Fill them with the light of your presence and establish them in the joy of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Welcome and Peace

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:

N and N, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

All We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

The congregation may greet the newly baptized.

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Hymn