

Maisie, 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.

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.**

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness Longing for truth, we turn to You.

Make us Your own, Your holy people Light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light! Shine in Your church gathered today.*

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us Your bread, broken for others Shared until all are fed.

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us Your building, sheltering others Walls made of living stone.

5. Many the gift, many the people Many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another Making Your kingdom come.

***Prayers of Intercession*** (Please sit or kneel.)

God of Love **Hear our prayer**

**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. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory, are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*We listen to the hymn* **One more step along the world I go.**

***Blessing*** (Please stand.)

***Final Prayer***

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

**Creationtide theme – Let there be light!**

*A hymn from Zimbabwe Come all ye people, come and praise your maker x 3  
Come now and worship the Lord.... Come, you people*

The LORD be with you **And also with you.**

The earth is the Lord's and everything that is in it,  
**the world and all who live in it.**

Let the heavens rejoice **and the earth be glad!** (excerpts Psalm 24 & 96)

*We keep a short silence to still our hearts.*

**Lord God, as we come into your presence, still our bodies, open our hearts and focus our minds, that we may know your Spirit drawing us closer to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Words of confession***

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

***Absolution***

May God the Father forgive us in Christ and heal us by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Almighty God, in the coming of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

***Gloria*** (Please clap or drum or hum as this is sung!)

1. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the highest

To God be glory forever. Alleluia Amen. Alleluia Amen. Alleluia Amen.

2. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to Christ Jesus.

3. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to the Spirit.

***The Word*** Genesis 1 v 1-5

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1 v 1-5)

**Praise to you O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**Reflection**

***We listen to a hymn during which we will light the Paschal Candle and the baptism family will come to the front.***

*Thou whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard  
and took their flight, hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray  
Let There Be Light!*

*Saviour who came to bring on thy redeeming wing  
healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind,  
now to all humankind Let There Be Light!*

*Spirit of truth and love, lifegiving, holy Dove,  
speed forth thy flight; move o'er the waters' face, bearing the lamp of  
grace, and in earth's darkest place  
Let There Be Light!*

*Blessed and holy Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might,  
boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,  
through the world, far and wide,  
Let There Be Light!*

*A poem called Why God made little girls is read.*

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Maisie and uphold her in her new life in Christ? **With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *Maisie* with joy.

Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith. Will you pray for *them*, draw *them* by your example into the community of faith and walk with *them* in the way of Christ? **With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism Maisie begins *her* journey in faith. You speak for *her* today. Will you care for *her*, and help *her* to take *her* place within the life and worship of Christ's Church? **With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *Maisie* begins *her* journey in faith. You speak for *her* today. Will you care for her and help *her* to take *her* place within the life and worship of Christ's Church? **With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

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*

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ 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.**

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? **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.**

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... the prayer continues Amen.**