

A Joint Anglican/Methodist Service of
Baptism and Confirmation

*(from St Matthew's Church, Overseal
-based on Common Worship and the new Methodist Worship Book)*

If there is no Baptism, the sections in red are to be omitted

Opening sentence & welcome

Hymn *(during which the choir and ministers process from the back of the church).*

Presiding Minister Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one body and one spirit.
There is one hope to which we were called;
One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
One God and Father of all.

Peace be with you.
And also with you.

The Presiding Minister reads 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 in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Gloria is sung:

Readings:

At the end of each reading the reader says:

All This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn or songs:

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

All Hear the Gospel of Christ
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the gospel is read

All This is the gospel of Christ
Praise to Christ our Lord.

The Sermon

The Presentation of the Candidates

The candidates are presented to the congregation and stand before the confirming ministers

One of the confirming ministers asks those who are candidates for baptism.

Do you wish to be baptized?
I do.

One of the confirming ministers then asks those who have been baptized and who are candidates for confirmation:

Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?
I have.

All the candidates are then asked:

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?
I am.

One of the confirming ministers addresses the whole congregation

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 these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?
All **With the help of God, we will.**

One of the confirming ministers addresses all the candidates

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 reject the devil and all 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 BAPTISM

One of the ministers makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, saying

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of the cross.

All 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.

The minister says

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.

The ministers and candidates gather at the font; one of the ministers says

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 him thanks and praise.

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.

One of the ministers 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?

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe **and** trust in his Son Jesus **Christ**?

All I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All 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 minister who is to baptize the candidate addresses them by name, saying

N, is this your faith?

The candidates answer

This is my faith.

The minister baptizes them, saying

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

After the baptism 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. Amen.

Hymn or song

CONFIRMATION

The confirming ministers stand before those who are to be confirmed. One of the ministers says

All Our help is in the name of the Lord
Who has made heaven and earth.
Blessed be the name of the Lord
All **now and for ever. Amen.**

The confirming ministers extend their hands towards those to be confirmed. One of them says

Almighty and ever-living God,
You have given these your servants new birth
In baptism by water and the Spirit,
And have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
The Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
The Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
And let their delight be in the fear of the Lord. Amen.

Each candidate is addressed by name

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

The confirming ministers then lay their hands on the head of each, saying

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The congregation is invited to pray for the candidates

All **Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your Heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.**

One of the confirming ministers then addresses those newly-confirmed

I ask you now to respond to God's love and grace by making these promises.

Will you commit yourself to the Christian life of worship and service, and be open to the renewing power of God?

With God's help I will

Will you seek the strength of God's Spirit as you accept
the cost of following Jesus Christ in your daily life?

With God's help I will

Will you witness, by word and deed, to the good news of God in Christ, and so
bring glory to God?

With God's help I will

THE WELCOME & PEACE

One of the confirming ministers leads the welcome to the newly-confirmed

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.
By one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.
**All We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;
We are children of the same heavenly Father;
We welcome you.**

The Presiding Minister then introduces the Peace

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us
And as a pledge of what is to come,
Has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn / songs

THE COMMUNION

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 him thanks and praise.

God our Father and our Mother,
We give you thanks and praise
For all that you have made,
For the stars in their splendour
And the world in its wonder
And for the glorious gift of human life.
With the saints and angels in heaven
We praise your holy name.

**All Holy, holy, holy is the Lord: Holy is the Lord God almighty!
Who was, and is, and is to come!**

Holy God, you go on loving us
Even when we turn away from you.
You sent your Son Jesus
Who healed those who were sick,
Wept with those who were sad,
And forgave sinners.
To show the world your love

he died for all upon the cross and you raised him up in glory. On the night before
Jesus died, He had supper with his disciples. He took bread, Thanked you, as we
are thanking you, Broke the bread, And gave it to them saying, 'Take, eat. This is
my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.

**All Jesus the Lord says, I am the bread,
The bread of life for the world am I.**

After supper, he took a cup of wine, thanked you, And gave it to his disciples,
saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood. It
will be shed for you and for all people For the forgiveness of sins. Do this to
remember me.'

**All Jesus the Lord says, I am the vine,
The true and fruitful vine am I.**

And so, God of love, We remember that Jesus died and rose again to make all
things new. Through his offering for us all, we offer our whole life to you in
thanks and praise.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's saving body and blood. May this same Spirit unite us
with all your people on earth and in heaven.
Bring us at last
To live in your glory with all your saints,
That we may praise you for ever,
Through Jesus your Son,
In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

All **All glory to the Father be,
The Spirit and the Son:
All glory to the One in Three
While endless ages run.
Alleluia! Amen.**

We say together the prayer that Jesus gave us:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
Now and for ever. Amen.**

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

The cup of blessing for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
Christ is the true Vine.

Appropriate words of invitation may be used

During the distribution hymns or songs may be sung

After the Communion the Presiding Minister says the following prayer

God of mercy,
By whose grace alone we are accepted
And equipped for your service:
Stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit
And make us worthy of our calling;
That we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
In love and joy and peace;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

During the hymn the candidates may be given a lighted candle. When all have received a candle one of the ministers says

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.**

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.**

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

Acknowledgements:

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