

# CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD WITH ST. PETER, LEE

## **Service of Holy Baptism**

*The family gather around the font*

God our creator,  
we thank you for the wonder of new life  
and for the mystery of human love.  
We thank you for all whose support and skill  
surround and sustain the beginning of life.  
We thank you today for N,  
and we receive them as a gift from you.  
As we gather together,  
we ask for your blessing on this new family,  
and pray that we might be reminded of your love,  
shown to us in the person of Jesus.  
We praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.

We thank God for N who has come to be baptized today. Christ loves them and welcomes them into his Church. So I ask you all:

Will you support this child 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.**

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

Parents and godparents, you speak for N today. Will you pray for them, and help them to follow Christ?

**P & G 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?

**P &G I do**

Do you reject evil?

**P &G I do**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**P &G I do**

Do you trust in him as Lord?

**P &G I do**

*The child is signed with the cross*

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

*The parents and godparents may also be invited to sign the child with the cross.  
The child is addressed:*

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.**

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.**

*The water is poured into the font, and a prayer is said.*

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.**

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 We 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 We 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 We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church. This is our faith.

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

**Amen.**

*Water is poured over the child's head whilst the following words are said:*

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

**All 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.

**Amen.**

*The godparents are invited to place a hand on the shoulder of the parent(s) as a sign of their support*

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for this child, and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love, and protect their home 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. **Amen.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
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 child is informally welcomed with a round of applause!*

*A lighted candle is presented to the family. The child is addressed:*

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.**

*The candle is extinguished, the family return to their seats and the service continues.*