

THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFT OF A CHILD

WELCOME

Loving God, you hold all things in life and call us into your kingdom of peace; help us to walk the path of your truth and fill our lives with gratitude and faith, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Do you receive *these children* as a gift from God? **We do.**
Do you wish to give thanks to God and seek his blessing? **We do.**

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 that we are known to you by name and loved by you from all eternity. We thank you for Jesus Christ, who has opened to us the way of love. We praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

What name have you given this child? ***His/her name is N.***

As Jesus took children in his arms and blessed them, so now we ask God's blessing on *N*.

Heavenly Father, we praise you for *his/her* birth; surround *him/her* with your blessing that *he/she* may know your love, be protected from evil, and know your goodness all *his/her* days.

All **May they learn to love all that is true, grow in wisdom and strength and, in due time, come through faith and baptism to the fullness of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May God the Father of all bless *these parents* and give *them* grace to love and care for *their children*. May God give *them* wisdom, patience and faith, help *them* to provide for the *children's* needs and, by *their* example, reveal the love and truth that are in Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Receive this book it is the good news of God's love. Take it as your guide.

All ***God our creator, we thank you for the gift of these children, entrusted to our care. May we be patient and understanding, ready to guide and to forgive, so that through our love they may come to know your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

If there are any newly baptised we welcome them

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.

The president introduces the Peace

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.**

A minister may say

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.