

*Worship in Song*

In the darkness there's a light before me

*Welcome & Easter Greeting*

Hallelujah! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Hallelujah

*Worship in Song*

By faith, we see the hand of God

In the light of creation's grand design;

In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,

Who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith, our fathers roamed the earth  
With the power of his promise in their hearts  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand  
A place where peace and justice reign.

We will stand as children of the promise,  
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done,  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith, the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the power to break the chains of sin and death,  
And rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith, the church was called to go  
In the power of the Spirit to the lost  
To deliver captives and to preach good news,  
In every corner of the earth.

By faith, this mountain shall be moved  
And the power of the gospel shall prevail,  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon his name.

*Saying Sorry*

We come to God as one from whom no secrets  
are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace:

Loving God, we confess that we are not what  
we should be. So we come now before you,  
seeking your mercy. Forgive us everything

that spoils our life: the pride, greed,  
selfishness and envy that alienate us from  
others, and also from you. Forgive us our  
unkind words, foolish deeds and unworthy  
thoughts; our weakness of will and  
carelessness in discipleship. Work within us  
and, by your grace, make us whole, through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May God who loved the world so much that he  
sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins  
and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Special Prayer for Today*

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from  
the power of darkness and brought us into the  
kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death  
he has recalled us to life, so by his continual  
presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is  
alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*Bible Reading*

John 15.9-17 (*Church Bible page 902*)

This is the gospel of the Lord  
Praise to you, O Christ

*Worship in Song*

A new commandment I give unto you  
That you love one another as I have loved you,  
That you love one another as I have loved you.  
By this shall all men know that you are my disciples,  
If you have love one for another.

*Sermon*

*Worship in Song*

In the darkness there's a light before me  
And it drives away my fear  
In the silence there's a voice that calls me  
And it tells me you are near

In the chaos there's a hand that holds me  
And will never let me go  
Yes I know that you are always for me  
For your word has told me so

I will follow you, I will walk by faith  
You have brought me near by your unrelenting grace  
I will set my mind on the things above  
You have won my heart with your everlasting love

I was lost but then you came and found me  
And in love you brought me home  
I was dead in sin but then you raised me  
I am saved by grace alone

For no height no depth no life no death  
No power on earth can take us from your love  
No height no depth no life no death  
No power on earth can take us from your love

### *The Liturgy of Baptism*

*Presentation of Ronnie and Tommy*  
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 Ronnie and Tommy and uphold them in their new life in Christ?  
With the help of God, we will.

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Ronnie and Tommy 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?

*Parents and godparents:*  
With the help of God, we will.

In baptism Ronnie and Tommy begin their journey in faith. You speak for them today. Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

*Parents and godparents:*  
With the help of God, we will.

### *Baptismal Promises* *The Paschal candle is lit.*

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 them. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?  
*Parents and godparents:* I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?  
*Parents and godparents:* I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?  
*Parents and godparents:* I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?  
*Parents and godparents:* I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?  
*Parents and godparents:* I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?  
*Parents and godparents:* I come to Christ.

*Signing with the Cross*  
Ronnie and Tommy, Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the 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 the you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. Amen.

*Prayer over the Water*  
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. Amen.

### *We proclaim what we believe*

Let us affirm 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?  
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?  
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?  
We 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. Amen.

### *Baptism*

Ronnie and Tommy, 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. Amen.

### *Living as a baptised Christian*

We have brought Ronnie and Tommy to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again for them and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ they will know the forgiveness of their sins and the new life of the Spirit.

As Ronnie and Tommy grows up, they will need the help and encouragement of the Christian community so that they may learn to know God in public worship and private prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve their neighbour after the example of Christ, and in due course come to confirmation.

As part of the Church of Christ, we all have a duty to support them by prayer, example and teaching. As their parents and godparents, you have the prime responsibility for guiding and helping them in their early years. This is a demanding task for which you will need the help and grace of God. Therefore let us now pray for grace in guiding Ronnie and Tommy in the way of faith.

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for Ronnie and Tommy 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.

### *The Lord's 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. 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*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. Ronnie and Tommy, you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

## *Welcome*

Ronnie and Tommy, God has received you by baptism into his Church.

We welcome you into the Lord's Family. We are members together of the body of Christ; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we are inheritors together of the kingdom of God. We welcome you.

## *Worship in Song*

Blessed be your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be your name  
Blessed be your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be your name

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord still I will say  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be your name  
Blessed be your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be your name

You give and take away, you give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be your name

## *Prayers*

*At the end:* Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## *Offertory Prayer*

Gracious God, accept the gifts that we bring,  
and with them our lives, to be used in your  
service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *Worship in Song*

Hear the call of the kingdom  
Lift your eyes to the King  
Let his song rise within you  
As a fragrant offering  
Of how God rich in mercy came in Christ to redeem  
All who trust in his unfailing grace

Hear the call of the kingdom  
To be children of light  
With the mercy of heaven the humility of Christ  
Walking justly before him  
Loving all that is right  
That the life of Christ may shine through us

King of heaven we will answer the call  
We will follow bringing hope to the world  
Filled with passion filled with power to proclaim  
Salvation in Jesus' name

Hear the call of the kingdom  
To reach out to the lost  
With the Father's compassion  
In the wonder of the cross  
Bringing peace and forgiveness  
And a hope yet to come  
Let the nations put their trust in him

## *Blessing*

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in  
his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your  
hearts; and the blessing of God almighty, the  
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among  
you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.