

Holy Baptism Service (Part 2)

From The Book of Alternative Services

(Toronto, Canada: General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, 1985), p150-161

In person in the church building, around the baptismal font.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. 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, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting 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 bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again, may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the celebrant who then pours water upon the candidate.

Celebrant: *Name*, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

The celebrant makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the candidate.

Celebrant: I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father,
we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *this your servant* the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

People: Amen.

The Giving of the Light

One of the parents or godparents will pick up the baptismal candle and light it from the Paschal candle.

Celebrant: Receive the light of Christ, to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

After the newly baptized has received a candle.

People: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

There is an opportunity to have a few photos taken around the font, then the candidate and family are to leave, preferably through the Bell Tower door, but if not possible, through the Narthex. Please make sure to take all your belongings with you.