

# Example of what a baptism service for a boy might be like

..... Methodist Church

## *Baptism*



*of*

.....

.....

Hymn: .....

Prayer

### **Declaration of God's love**

Sisters and brothers,  
today we declare the love of God  
for every person,  
girl and boy, woman and man.

We have seen this love in the life of Jesus  
who welcomed all who came to him,  
taught us to love even our enemy  
and died for all people on the cross.

All who turn in faith to God,  
the God we meet in Jesus,  
have known his forgiveness  
and the new life he offers us.  
God welcomes everyone to live as his friends  
within the family of humankind.

Today we give thanks to God  
for the one to be baptised,  
a boy who he cherishes as his son,

and to whom he longs to give the gift  
of life in all its fullness.

Peter challenges those who hear the good news about God's love in Jesus to be baptized. Their baptism was a sign they wanted to live as Jesus' friends. *Reading:*  
Acts 2.37-39

Baptism is a special way to say "thank you"  
for the love of God in Jesus.  
It is the way we welcome a person  
into the life of the Christian family, the church.

In the Bible, God shows his life-changing power  
through water and his Spirit.  
His Spirit moves over the waters at creation.  
God leads the Israelite slaves to freedom  
through the waters of the Red Sea;  
Jesus is baptised in the River Jordan by John  
as a sign that he wants to live for God and do what he wants;  
Jesus promises "living water",  
God's life-giving presence,  
to all who put their trust in him;  
Jesus is crucified and dies,  
passing through the deep waters of death,  
before being raised to life by the power of God.

*To .....*

Remembering all that God has done for us,  
do you turn away from evil and all that denies God?

*Answer:* By the grace of God I do.

Do you trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Friend  
and in his Spirit as your Help and Guide.

*Answer:* By the grace of God I do.

Let us all declare the faith of the church:

**We believe in God the Father,  
creative from the beginning until now.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ  
who dies to renew our friendship with God.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit  
who makes us God's lively, loving people.**

*Minister:* (To ..... ) What names have you given your child?

....., for you Jesus came into the world;  
for you he lived and showed God's love;  
for you he suffered death on the cross;  
for you he triumphed over death,  
rising to newness of life;  
for you he prays at God's right hand:  
all this for you before you knew anything of it.  
In your Baptism, the word of Scripture is fulfilled:  
"We love, because God first loved us."

....., I baptise you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **ALL: Amen**

I sign you with the cross, the sign you belong to Christ.

***A candle is given***

Receive this light for you now belong to Christ, the light of the world.

**ALL:** May you grow and live in the faith of Christ.

**All:**

**The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine on you  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord look on you with kindness  
and give you peace. Amen.**

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

Will you love .....,  
committing yourselves to care for him  
in body, mind and spirit?

**Answer:** With God's help we will

Will you, therefore,  
ensure that ..... is brought up  
in the faith and life of the Christian community?

**Answer:** With God's help we will.

Will you set before him a Christian example,  
that through your words, prayers and deeds,  
..... may learn to follow Christ?

**Answer:** With God's help we will.

***To the Godparents:***

Will you help these parents  
to nurture ..... in the Christian faith?

***Answer:*** With God's help we will.

Members of the world-wide family of the church, we are happy that ..... has been baptised. Will you encourage and help the church to keep worshipping and serving you so that ..... may come to know our living God and his great love, which we have seen in his Son, Jesus our Lord.

***ALL answer:*** With God's help we will

Lord, touch our lives with your love  
and help us keep the promises we have made,  
for Jesus' sake. ***ALL: Amen***

**Prayers** for ..... his family, and the church