

# Welcome to Mulbarton Church

## Call to Worship:

Today, in this service,  
may we bring to God  
not only the words on our lips,  
but the praise in our hearts.  
May we bring our honesty and bravery,  
our anxiety and fears,  
all that we carry in our hearts.  
May we meet with Jesus,  
who accepts us – flaws and all –  
with forgiveness and grace.

## Opening Prayer:

Open our eyes, Lord,  
our ears and our hearts.  
May we be quick to see  
where you are at work;  
quick to listen for your word;  
quick to offer love and hope,  
and slow to judge.

**Amen.**

## Song: How deep the Father's love

1. How deep the Father's love for us,  
How vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss –  
The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

2. Behold the man upon a cross,  
My sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there

Until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life –  
I know that it is finished.

3. I will not boast in anything,  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer;  
But this I know with all my heart –  
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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## Introductory Activity: Balloon Heart

### **(Sorry Prayers) Confession:**

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you  
our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.  
Lord, forgive us.

**All: Help us to walk in your ways.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.  
Lord, forgive us.

**All: Help us to walk in your ways.**

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.  
Lord, forgive us.

**All: Help us to walk in your ways.**

### **(Affirmation of our forgiveness) Absolution:**

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the  
power of the Spirit all our days.

**All: Amen.**

### **Baptism of George Henry Lewis Morrison:**

*The minister prays*

Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

*The minister addresses the whole congregation:*

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 this  
child and uphold him in his new life in Christ?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

*The minister addresses the parents and godparents:*  
Parents and godparents, the Church  
receives this child with joy.  
Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.  
Will you pray for him,  
draw him by your example into the community of faith  
and walk with him in the way of Christ?

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

In baptism George begins his journey in faith.  
You speak for him today.  
Will you care for him, and help him to take his place  
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

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

*A large candle is lit. The president addresses the parents and godparents:*

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 him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?  
**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?  
**I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?  
**I renounce evil.**

### **The Signing of the Cross:**

*The minister make the sign of the cross on the forehead of George, saying:*

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

George, do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: 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.**

*George receives a blessing, with these words:*

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

### **A Reading: Want you to be happy**

I want you to be happy. I want you to fill your heart with feelings of wonder and to be full of courage and hope. I want you to be full of friendship that is a treasure - and the kind of love that is beautiful forever. I wish you contentment: the sweet, quiet, inner kind that comes around and never goes away.

I want you to have hopes and have them all come true.  
I want you to make the most of this moment in time.  
I want you to have a real understanding of how unique and rare you truly are.  
I want to remind you that the sun may disappear for a while, but it never forgets to shine.

I want you to have faith. May you have feelings that are shared from heart to heart, simple pleasures amidst this complex world, and wonderful goals that are within your grasp.  
May the words you listen to say the things you need to hear. And may a cheerful face lovingly look back at you when you happen to glance in your mirror.

I wish you the insight to see your inner and outer beauty.  
I wish you sweet dreams. I want you to have times when you feel like singing and dancing and laughing out loud.

I want you to be able to make your good times better and your hard times easier to handle. I want you to have millions of moments when you find satisfaction in the things you do so wonderfully. And I wish I could find a way to tell you - in untold ways - how important you are to me.

Of all the things I'll be wishing for, wherever you are and whatever I may do, there will never be a day in my life when I won't be wishing the best...for you.

## Prayer over the water:

*The minister, candidate, parents and Godparents gather at the baptismal font.  
The minister stands before the water of baptism and says:*

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.**

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water  
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.

Through water you led the children of Israel  
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.

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 from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.

It symbolises our burial with Christ in his death;

Our sharing in his resurrection; And our rebirth by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,

we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
those who are baptised in it may know cleansing and new birth.

Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory,  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## The Profession of Faith:

*The minister addresses the congregation:*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

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 his Son,  
Jesus Christ, who redeemed the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

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

**Amen.**

### **The Baptism:**

*The ministers pour water on George, saying:*

George Henry Lewis, 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.

**All: Amen.**

*The minister addresses the congregation, parents and godparents, saying:*

We have brought this child to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again  
for him and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have  
prayed that in Jesus Christ he will know the forgiveness of his sins and the new life  
of the Spirit.

As he grows up, he will need the help and encouragement of the Christian  
community, so that he may learn to know God in public worship and private  
prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve his neighbours after the  
example of Christ, and in due course come to confirmation. Therefore let us  
bear this child in our prayers and let us welcome him now.

### **The Welcome:**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

By one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All: We welcome you into the fellowship  
of faith; we are children of the same  
heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

### **Presentations:**

*A certificate, holding cross and children's bible are presented to the newly baptised with the words:*

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

*A lit candle is presented to the newly baptised with the words:*

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.**

### **A prayer for Children & Carers**

Faithful and loving God,  
bless those who care for George and all children  
and grant them your gifts of love,  
wisdom and faith.  
Pour upon them your healing  
and reconciling love,  
and protect their homes 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.**

### **A prayer for the Baptised**

God of grace and life,  
in your love you have given us  
a place among your people;  
keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and prepare us for that glorious day  
when the whole creation  
will be made perfect  
in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### **Song: Shine from the inside out**

Shine from the inside out  
That the world will see you live in me  
Shine from the inside out  
That the world will see you live in me

You know me and you love me  
You fill me, so send me to...

Know me, love me, fill me, send me

Know me, love me, fill me, send me  
Know me, love me, fill me, send me  
Shine

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### **Bible Reading: Mark 7:1-8; 14-15; 21-23**

Some Pharisees and scribes gathered round Jesus. Angrily, they asked him, "Why do your disciples eat without following the ancient ritual of washing before eating? It's disrespectful to God!"

They thought this made the disciples bad people.

Jesus replied, 'The prophet Isaiah was talking about people like you, when he said: "God says this: some people just pretend to respect me. They are only worried about rules and what people will think of them. Their lips honour me, but their hearts are far away from me."'

Jesus continued: 'Listen carefully. Nothing that goes into a person's body from the outside can make them a bad person. But the words and actions that come out can be bad. Goodness comes from the inside. What's important is what's in your heart.'

### **Talk: "Outside, inside"**

### **Responding in Prayer**

*The people place petals in the font, and the minister concludes by saying:*

Loving God, every day  
give us the courage to look and listen,  
the ability to notice,  
the determination to help,  
and the compassion of Jesus.

**Amen.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

## **Song: Build Your Kingdom Here**

*Build Your kingdom here  
Let the darkness fear  
Show Your mighty hand  
Heal our streets and land  
Set Your church on fire  
Win this nation back  
Change the atmosphere  
Build Your kingdom here  
We pray*

Come set Your rule and reign  
In our hearts again  
Increase in us we pray  
Unveil why we're made  
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope  
Like wildfire in our very souls  
Holy Spirit, come invade us now  
We are Your church  
We need Your power in us

We seek Your kingdom first  
We hunger and we thirst  
Refuse to waste our lives  
For You're our joy and prize  
To see the captive hearts released  
The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace  
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause  
We are Your church  
We pray revive this Earth

Unleash Your kingdom's power  
Reaching the near and far  
No force of Hell can stop  
Your beauty changing hearts  
'Cause You made us for much more than this  
Awake the kingdom seed in us  
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ  
We are Your church  
We are the hope on earth

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## **The Blessing:**

Christ Jesus,  
the splendour of the Father and the image of his being,  
draw you to himself that you may live in his light and share his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you, now and always.

**All: Amen**

## **Sending Out:**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**