

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:

God, help us to know when to speak,
(shout) **Yes, God!**

and when we need to be more gentle.
(whisper) **Yes, God.**

Help us remember that our words are very powerful things, and that we need to use them carefully.

Amen.

Song: Amazing Grace

1. Amazing grace!
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see.

*My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Saviour, has ransomed me;
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace.*

2.'Twas grace that taught
My heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

3. The Lord has promised good to me;
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Chorus

4. The earth shall soon
dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine,
But God who called me here below

Will be forever mine,
will be forever mine
You are forever mine

John Newton, Chris Tomlin © 2006 Sixsteps Music

Introductory Activity: Who is it?

(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 Violet Carol Rowland:

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 her in her 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 her growth in faith.

Will you pray for her,

draw her by your example into the community of faith and walk with her in the way of Christ?

Parents and Godparents:

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism Violet begins her journey in faith.

You speak for her today.

Will you care for her, and help her to take her 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 Violet, saying:

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

Violet, 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.**

Violet 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 Song of New Life: Slow Down

Here's to you / You were pink or blue / And everything I wanted / Here's to you /
Never sleeping through / From midnight till the morning / Had to crawl before
you walked / Before you ran / Before I knew it / You were trying to free your
fingers from my hand / 'Cause you could it on your own now / Somehow

Slow down / Won't you stay here a minute more / I know you want to walk
through the door / But it's all too fast / Let's make it last a little while / I
pointed to the sky and now you wanna fly / I am your biggest fan / I hope
you know I am / But do you think you can somehow / Slow down

Here's to you / Every missing tooth / Every bedtime story / Here's to Barbie cars,
light saber wars / Sleeping in on Sunday / Had to crawl / Before you walked /
Before you ran / Before I knew it / You were teaching me / The only thing
love can / Hold hands through it / When it's scary, you've got me

Please don't roll your eyes at me / I know I'm embarrassing / But someday you'll
understand / You'll hold a little hand / Ask them if they can ...

I am your biggest fan / I hope you know I am / But do you think you can /
Somehow / Slow down

Written by Nichole Nordeman

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Video by Nichole Nordeman performing Slow Down. (C) 2015 Sparrow Records.

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 Violet, saying:

*Violet Carol, 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 her and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have
prayed that in Jesus Christ she will know the forgiveness of her sins and the new
life of the Spirit.

As she grows up, she will need the help and encouragement of the Christian
community, so that she may learn to know God in public worship and private
prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve her 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 her 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 Violet 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: Our God is a great big God

Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
And He holds us in His hands

Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
And He holds us in His hands

He's higher than a skyscraper
And he's deeper than a submarine
He's wider than the universe
And beyond my wildest dreams
And He's known me and He's loved me
Since before the world began
How wonderful to be a part of God's amazing plan.

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Bible Reading: Mark 8:27-38

27 Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

29 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about **31** He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. **32** He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **35** For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. **36** What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? **37** Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? **38** If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Talk: "Package Deal"

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: Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest friend
But wholly trust in Jesus name
(Come on, every voice)

Christ alone
Cornerstone
Weak made strong
In the Saviour's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil (Oh)
Cornerstone
Weak made strong

In the Saviour's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of all

When He shall come with trumpet
sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone
Cornerstone
Weak made strong
In the Saviour's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of all

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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.