## Welcome to Mulbarton Church

Call to Worship: Lord, we approach you as people climbing your holy mountain, hoping to meet with you there. May we be changed by our encounter. May we be strengthened to face the world with renewed courage and faith. Amen.

> Be still, for the presence of the Lord, The Holy One is here; Come bow before Him now With reverence and fear. In Him no sin is found, We stand on holy ground; Be still, for the presence of the Lord, The Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord Is shining all around; He burns with holy fire, With splendour He is crowned. How awesome is the sight, Our radiant King of light! Be still, for the glory of the Lord Is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord Is moving in this place; He comes to cleanse and heal, To minister His grace. No work too hard for Him, In faith receive from Him; Be still, for the power of the Lord Is moving in this place. David J. Evans, Copyright © 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

(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 Annabelle Pippa Hyde

# The Liturgy of Baptism:

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, Lydia, James, Kirsty, Natalie, Matthew, 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 Annabelle 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 Annabelle's forehead, saying:

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

Annabelle, 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.

Annabelle 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.** 

One more step along the world I go One more step along the world I go From the old things to the new Keep me traveling along with you

And it's from the old I travel to the new Keep me traveling along with you

Round the corners of the world I turn More and more about the world I learn And the new things that I see You'll be looking at along with me

And it's from the old I travel to the new Keep me traveling along with you

As I travel through the bad and good Keep me traveling the way I should Where I see no way to go You'll be telling me the way, I know

And it's from the old I travel to the new Keep me traveling along with you

Give me courage when the world is rough Keep me loving though the world is tough Leap and sing in all I do Keep me traveling along with you

And it's from the old I travel to the new Keep me traveling along with you

You are older than the world can be You are younger than the life in me Ever old and ever new Keep me traveling along with you

And it's from the old I travel to the new Keep me traveling along with 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 Annabelle, saying: Annabelle Pippa, 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.

Prayer for Children & Carers Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for Annabelle 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.

> 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.

Lord, the light of your love is shining In the midst of the darkness, shining Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us Set us free by the truth you now bring us Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine Fill this land with the Father's glory Blaze, Spirit, blaze Set our hearts on fire Flow, river, flow Flood the nations with grace and mercy Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light Lord, I come to your awesome presence From the shadows into your radiance By the blood I may enter your brightness Search me, try me, consume all my darkness Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine Fill this land with the Father's glory Blaze, Spirit, blaze Set our hearts on fire Flow, river, flow Flood the nations with grace and mercy Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light

As we gaze on your kingly brightness So our faces display your likeness Ever changing from glory to glory Mirrored here may our lives tell your story Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine Fill this land with the Father's glory Blaze, Spirit, blaze Set our hearts on fire Flow, river, flow Flood the nations with grace and mercy Send forth your word Lord, and let there be light Graham Kendrick, 1988 Copyright © Make Way Music

#### Luke 15:1-2

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

3 Then Jesus told them this parable:

#### Luke 15:11-32

<sup>11</sup> Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

<sup>13</sup> "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that

whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

<sup>21</sup> "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

<sup>22</sup> "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

<sup>28</sup> "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

<sup>31</sup> "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Talk: Outrageous Love

Father, I place into your hands The things I cannot do, Father, I place into your hands The things that I've been through. Father, I place into your hands The way that I should go, For I know I always can trust you.

Father, I place into your hands My friends and family. Father, I place into your hands The things that trouble me. Father, I place into your hands The person I would be, For I know I always can trust you. Father, we love to see your face, We love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise And in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you And in your presence rest,
For we know we always can trust you.

Father, I want to be with you And do the things you do. Father, I want to speak the words That you are speaking too. Father, I want to love the ones That you will draw to you, For I know that I am one with you.

Jenny Hewer, 1975 Copyright © Thank You Music

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.

Responding in Prayer:

Place a Petal

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; Tender to me the promise of His Word; In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name! Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done; His mercy sure, from age to age the same; His holy Name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by; Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight; The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His Word! Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord To children's children and forevermore!

# 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.