# Welcome to Mulbarton Church

#### Notices

- Mardle available at back of church
- Photos AFTER the service by the font
- Donations in plate at back of church
  - Flordon Flower Festival TODAY!
- Evelyn Smith funeral 2pm, Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Sep
  - Annual Bike Ride Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Sep

# Call to Worship

There is a place for all of us in God's family. No one is excluded, left behind or barred from entry. Everyone is welcome in God's family. No one will be shunned, given the cold shoulder or snubbed. Look around you right now. Welcome one another – we and many others are all part of God's family.

# Special Prayer for Today

Welcoming God, thank you that we all have a place at your table; thank you that we sit alongside the lowly, the disadvantaged members of our society who are disregarded; thank you that you turn everything upside down and give priority to the poor not the powerful. May we learn more about genuine humility and how to make a place for everyone.

# Amen.

#### **Song: Everlasting God**

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord (x2)

> Our God You reign forever Our hope Our strong deliverer

You are the everlasting God

the everlasting God You do not faint You won't grow weary You're the defender of the weak You comfort those in need You lift us up on wings like eagles

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Brenton Brown & Ken Riley © 2005 Thankyou Music

#### Introductory Activity:

Who do we value in our society? Rank these in value if you can...!

- MP
- Dog walker
- Refuse collector
  - Nurse
  - Farmer
- Computer programmer
  - Delivery driver
    - Cashier

- Church minister
  - Teacher
  - Musician
    - Chef
  - Doctor
- Football manager

# (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 Freya Grace 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 Freya 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 Freya's forehead, saying:

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

Freya, 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.

The candidates receive 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.

#### Song: 10,000 Reasons

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning; It's time to sing Your song again. Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me, Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger, Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing, The end draws near and my time has come, Still my soul will sing Your praise unending; Ten thousand years and then forever more!

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your holy name.

#### Prayer over the water:

The minister, candidates, 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 minister pours water on Freya, saying: Freya Grace, 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 them and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ they will know the forgiveness of their sins and the new life of the Spirit.

> As they grow up, they will need the help and encouragement of the Christian community, so that they may learn to know God in public worship and private prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve their 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 them 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 Freya 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.** 

#### Song: Make me a channel

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love; Where there is injury your pardon, Lord; And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek So much to be consoled as to console; To be understood as to understand; To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life let me bring hope; Where there is darkness, only light; And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seekSo much to be consoled as to console;To be understood as to understand;To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; In giving to all men that we receive; And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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# Luke 14:1;7-14

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched...

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honour at the table, he told them this

parable: <sup>8</sup> "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. <sup>9</sup> If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place.

<sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honoured in the presence of all the other guests. <sup>11</sup> For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbours; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

#### Talk: Finding a Place for All

# Responding in Prayer:

Place a Petal

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, vour 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: My Lighthouse

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.