

"Cost & Reward" – 13th After Trinity – 3 Sep 2023

Memory Verse

"Whoever wants to save their life will lose it,
but whoever loses their life for me will find it."

- Matthew chapter 16 verse 25

“ _____ ”
_____”
- _____

Special Prayer for Today

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Song: From heaven you came

Introductory Activity: Choices, choices!

(Sorry Prayers) Confession:

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;

Father, forgive us:

All: save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;

Father, forgive us:

All: save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do,
and say and think;

Father, forgive us:

All: save us and help us.

(Affirmation of our forgiveness) Absolution:

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,

and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

A Minute To Win It: Treasure Hunt!

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practise hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.' ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Short Talk: The Costs and Rewards of Following Jesus

Baptism of Noah Paul

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 these
children and uphold them in their 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 these children with joy.
Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith.

Will you pray for them,
draw them by your example into the
community of faith
and walk with them in the way of Christ?

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

In baptism Noah 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 Noah's forehead, saying:*

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

Noah, 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: Going on a Journey

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 minister pours water

on Noah, saying:

Noah Paul,

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 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.

Prayer for Children & Carers

Faithful and loving God,
bless those who care for Noah
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: Lost Is Found!

Memory Verse

“Whoever wants to save their life will lose it,
but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”

- Matthew chapter 16 verse 25

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_____ .”
- _____

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but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”

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Responding in Prayer: Place a Petal

The Lord's Prayer

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: Faithful One

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