

Sunday 10 September 2023 – 14<sup>th</sup> After Trinity – Baptism of Freddie

Special Prayer for Today

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Song: From heaven you came

From heaven You came helpless babe  
Entered our world Your glory veiled  
Not to be served but to serve  
And give Your life that we might live

This is our God the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King

There in the garden of tears  
My heavy load He chose to bear  
His heart with sorrow was torn  
Yet not My will but Yours He said

This is our God the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King

Come see His hands and His feet  
The scars that speak of sacrifice  
Hands that flung stars into space  
To cruel nails surrendered

This is our God the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King

So let us learn how to serve  
And in our lives enthrone Him  
Each other's needs to prefer  
For it is Christ we're serving

This is our God the Servant King  
He calls us now to follow Him  
To bring our lives as a daily offering

Of worship to the Servant King  
To bring our lives as a daily offering  
Of worship to the Servant King

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### Introductory Activity: The Journey of Life

#### (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.**

#### Psalm 119:33-40

<sup>33</sup> Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,  
that I may follow it to the end.

<sup>34</sup> Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law  
and obey it with all my heart.

<sup>35</sup> Direct me in the path of your commands,  
for there I find delight.

<sup>36</sup> Turn my heart towards your statutes  
and not towards selfish gain.

<sup>37</sup> Turn my eyes away from worthless things;  
preserve my life according to your word.

<sup>38</sup> Fulfil your promise to your servant,  
so that you may be feared.

<sup>39</sup> Take away the disgrace I dread,  
for your laws are good.  
<sup>40</sup> How I long for your precepts!  
In your righteousness preserve my life.

### Romans 13:8-10

<sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not covet,' and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

### The Path of Love

#### Baptism of Freddie Jacob

*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 Freddie 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 Freddie's forehead, saying:*

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.  
Freddie, 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: How Deep The Father's Love**

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.

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.

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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**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.**

et 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 Freddie, saying:*  
*Freddie Jacob,*

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.**

#### **Prayer for Children & Carers**

Faithful and loving God,  
bless those who care for Freddie  
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: Amazing Grace**

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

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

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

### **Responding in Prayer: Place a Petal**

#### **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: 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 healing power,  
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

O, 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.

O, 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:  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

**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**