

# BAPTISM

## The start of an Amazing Adventure

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives and is the first step in response to God's love. It is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring our faith.



This service paints vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian journey. There is the sign of the cross, reminding us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism is where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, uniting us to Christ's dying and rising. And water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit.

## **Welcome**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Junior Church** – We pray for our children and their leaders

## **Hymn**

All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colours,  
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning  
That brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
He made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

## **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: **save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you;  
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do, and think and say;  
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you by temptations in the  
world about us;  
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;  
Father, forgive us: **save us and help us.**

### **We are forgiven**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore  
us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Psalm 23**

**The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.**

**He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
he refreshes my soul.**

**He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.**

**Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.**

**You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.**

**Surely your goodness and love will follow me**

**all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.**

**Gospel reading** – Mark 6:30-34, 53-end *read by Pat French*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Talk**

**Hymn**

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want.  
He makes me lie in pastures green.

He leads me by the still, still waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone.  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,  
And He anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know.

### **A celebration of God's family**

God invites us to be members of his family. Today we are going to welcome Athena into his family so let's first take a few moments to think about this family and celebrate God's love for everyone.

God's family stretches across the world; through time, over continents and oceans.

**In his family all are welcome.**

His family brings people together; sad people, happy people, young people, old people.

**In his family we learn to care.**

In his family we discover that he forgives us for all the wrong things we've said and done.

**In his family we learn to forgive others so that, together, we can start over again.**

*Listen for his voice in your heart.*

God's family should be a place of healing in body, mind and spirit.  
**He binds up the broken hearted and makes the wounded spirit whole.**

In his family we learn to trust him through good times and bad.  
**He helps us when we are weak or afraid.**

God's family should be a force for change.  
**He is making the whole world new.**  
**God loves the world he has made; in Jesus he is putting right the things that have gone wrong; through his Spirit he fills us with new life.**

*Listen for his voice in your heart.*

### **Presentation**

Because Athena and those who help bring her up cannot live out the promises they make without the help and encouragement of others, I ask everyone here:

People of God, will you welcome Athena and support her in her new life in Jesus?

**With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents, the Church receives Athena with joy. In baptism she begins the journey of trusting God. You speak for her today.

Will you pray for her, will you care for her, will you draw her by your example into God's family and travel with her in the way of Jesus?

**With the help of God, we will.**

### **Decision**

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, parents and godparents I ask,  
Will you take steps to empty out of your life attitudes and actions  
that are wrong?

**With the help of God, I will.**

Will you turn to Jesus to cleanse, heal and rescue you from all that  
destroys life?

**With the help of God, I will.**

Will you follow Jesus' teaching and example, fighting against evil and  
standing up for good?

**With the help of God, I will.**

### **Sign of the cross**

Athena, Jesus claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of our crucified Saviour.

**Fight bravely as a follower of Jesus against sin, the world  
and the devil, and remain faithful to Jesus to the end of your  
life.**

May God, who receives you by baptism into his Church, pour upon  
you the riches of his grace that as you travel with all God's family  
you may daily be renewed by his Spirit, and come to inherit heavenly  
glory. **Amen.**

### **Prayer over the water**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan, we  
thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought  
your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Bless this water that your servants who are washed in it may be  
made one with Jesus in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed,  
healed and rescued from all wrong doing.

Send your Holy Spirit upon her, bring her to new birth in the family of God and raise her through the power of Jesus to fullness of life now and in the world to come.

## **Beliefs**

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to declare together the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father creator of heaven and earth, the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in God who made us.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who became like one of us, died for us, and rose again?

**I believe and trust in God who rescues us.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and makes Jesus known in the world?

**I believe and trust in God who helps us.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **Baptism**

Athena Kim Julie, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Giving of a candle**

God has delivered us from the strongholds of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ. Walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light to the world  
to the Glory of God the Father**



## **Welcome**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

*Athena is presented.*

**We welcome you into the family of God; we are children of the same Heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

## **Hymn**

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 that 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.

Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
A life of joy and peace.

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

**Prayer** led by David Poppleton

*We pray for Athena, the world and the church, finishing with the Lord's Prayer.*

**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.**

## **Hymn**

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 travelling along with You.

*And it's from the old I travel to the new,  
Keep me travelling along with You.*

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

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

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
Keep me loving when the world is tough.  
Leap and sing in all I do,  
Keep me travelling 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 travelling along with You.

### **Blessing**

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.

**Amen.**

### **Closing voluntary - Occasional Oratorio by Handel**

*Please stay for refreshments in the hall (at the end of the corridor)*

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Giving is an important part of our worship.  
Did you know, one of the easiest way to give is by using the Parish Giving Scheme?  
<https://www.paritygiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/>

## **NOTICES**

### **MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY**

Join us on Wednesday mornings as we journey through the book of Matthew together. Even if you haven't been before, why not give it a try? We begin with refreshments at 10:30am and all are welcome - no prior experience necessary!

### **MIDDAY PRAYER SPACE**

Need some 'time out' in the middle of the week? Or know someone who does? Our doors are open from 12-1pm on Wednesdays for anyone to come inside for a quiet, reflective space to pray and be still.

### **ST BOT'S KIDS CHURCH**

Have you been holding off inviting your family or friends with children to St Botolph's, as you're not sure if there is something for them in our morning service? Look no further – **St Bot's Kids Church** has begun for primary-age children. We'd love to welcome new members so do be praying and asking God if there is someone you know that would like to join the fun! For more details, please speak to Emma. **\*\*UPCOMING DATES – 11<sup>th</sup> August, 8<sup>th</sup> September\*\***

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

28<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion led by Ven Michael Fox  
4<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30 a.m. Morning Worship led by Michael Foster  
11<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion and St Bot's Kids Church led by Revd. Chris Smith

Churchwardens: David Poppleton 01206 570725 and Colin Nicholson 01206 577905  
Vicar: Revd Chris Smith 07458 197461

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