

Prayers

*This prayer may be said by the parents
or by the whole congregation*

**God our creator,
we thank you for the gift of this child,
entrusted to *our* care.
May we be patient and understanding,
ready to guide and to forgive,
so that through our love
he/she may come to know your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,
and so in faith and trust we say

**All 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.**



A Service of Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

We are here today
to give thanks for this child,
with *his/her* family and friends,
and to support *his/her* parents in their responsibilities
with prayer and love.



God became one of us in Jesus,
and understands all that surrounds
the arrival and upbringing of children.
It is God's purpose that children
should know love within the stability of their home,
grow in faith, and come at last
to the eternal city where his love reigns supreme.

Loving God,
you hold all things in life
and call us into your kingdom of peace;
help us to walk the path of your truth
and fill our lives with gratitude and faith,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.



Thanksgiving and Blessing

Do you receive this child as a gift from God?

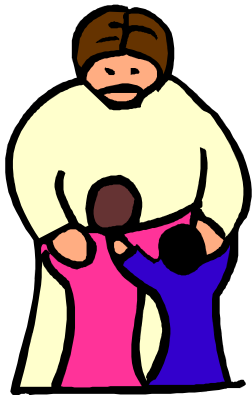
We do.

Do you wish to give thanks to God and seek his blessing?

We do.

God our creator,
we thank you for the wonder of new life
and for the mystery of human love.
We thank you for all whose support and skill
surround and sustain the beginning of life.
We thank you that we are known to you by name
and loved by you from all eternity.
We thank you for Jesus Christ,
who has opened to us the way of love.
We praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**



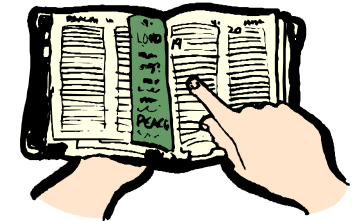
As Jesus took children in his arms
and blessed them,
so now we ask God's blessing on N.

Heavenly Father,
we praise you for his/her birth;
surround him/her with your blessing
that he/she may know your love,
be protected from evil,
and know your goodness all his/her days.

All **May *he/she* learn to love all that is true,
grow in wisdom and strength
and, in due time,
come through faith and baptism
to the fullness of your grace;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

May God the Father of all bless *these parents*
and give *them* grace to love and care for this child.
May God give *them* wisdom, patience and faith,
help *them* to provide for the needs of this child
and, by *their* example,
reveal the love and truth that are in Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**



Giving of the Gospel

Receive this book.
It is the good news of God's love.
Take it as your guide.

A question to the wider family and friends and say

Will you do all that you can
to help and support this family?
With the help of God, we will.

