

The 1892 Book of Common Prayer: The Standard Book,  
Formatted as the original

This document was created in Adobe InDesign and then converted into Adobe Acrobat (PDF) files, which is what you are reading right now. It is intended to appear exactly as the original in every way. The original text was "The Standard" as distributed to members of the 1892 General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church. As such it was the against which all other printings of the 1892 Book of Common Prayer were compared. It was printed by the DeVinne Press of New York.

The font used is Bitstream's DeVinne Text, which seems to be a very good match to the original. The original was printed on pages about 10 3/8" by 6 7/8", or a little smaller than a standard 8.5 X 11" sheet of paper. The text here uses 8.5 x 11" paper, resulting in somewhat larger margins than the original.

You may redistribute this document electronically provided no fee is charged and this header remains part of the document. While every attempt was made to ensure accuracy, certain errors may exist in the text. Please contact us if any errors are found.

This document was created as a service to the community by Satucket Software: Web Design & computer consulting for small business, churches, & non-profits.

Contact:

Charles Wohlers

P. O. Box 227

East Bridgewater, Mass. 02333 USA

[chadwohl@satucket.com](mailto:chadwohl@satucket.com)

<http://satucket.com>

THE MINISTRATION OF  
PUBLIC BAPTISM OF INFANTS,  
TO BE USED IN THE CHURCH.



¶ *The people are to be admonished, that it is most convenient that Baptism should not be administered but upon Sundays and other Holy-days or Prayer-days. Nevertheless (of necessity so require) Baptism may be administered upon any other day.*

¶ *There shall be for every Male child to be baptized when they can be had, two Godfathers and one Godmother; and for every Female, one Godfather and two Godmothers, and Parents shall be admitted as Sponsors, if it be desired.*

¶ *When there are children to be baptized, the Parents or Sponsors shall give knowledge thereof, before the beginning of Morning Prayer, to the Minister. And then the Godfathers and Godmothers, and the People with the Children, must be ready at the Font, either immediately after the last Lesson at Morning Prayer, or else immediately after the last Lesson at Evening Prayer, as the Minister by his discretion shall appoint. And the Minister coming to the Font (which is then to be filled with pure Water,) and standing there, shall say,*

HATH this Child been already baptized, or no?

¶ *If they answer, No: then shall the Minister proceed as followeth, the People all standing, until the Lord's Prayer.*

DEARLY beloved, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin; and our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he be regenerate and born anew of Water and of the Holy Ghost; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy he will graft to *this Child* that which by nature *he* cannot have; that *he* may be baptized with Water and the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made a living *member* of the same.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who of thy great Mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark from perishing by water; and also didst safely lead the children of Israel thy people through the Red Sea, figuring thereby thy holy Baptism; and by the Baptism of thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ in the river Jordan, didst sanctify Water to the mystical washing away of sin; We beseech thee, for thine infinite mercies, that thou wilt mercifully look upon *this Child*; wash *him* and sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost; that *he*, being delivered from thy wrath, may be received into the ark of Christ's Church; and being stedfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally *he* may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee, world without end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Or this.*

ALMIGHTY and immortal God, the aid of all who need, the helper of all who flee to thee for succour, the life of those who believe, and the resurrection of the dead; We call upon thee for *this Infant*, that *he*, coming to thy holy Baptism, may receive remission of sin, by spiritual regeneration. Receive *him* O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall have; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. So give now unto us who ask; let us who seek, find; open the gate unto us who knock; that *this Infant* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Minister shall say as followeth: or else shall pass immediately to the Questions addressed to the Sponsors. But Note, That in every church the intermediate parts of the Service shall be used, once at least in every month, (if there be a baptism) for the better instructing of the People in the grounds of Infant Baptism.*

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by Saint *Mark*, in the tenth Chapter, at the thirteenth Verse.

THEY brought young children to Christ, that he should touch them; and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

¶ *After the Gospel is read, the Minister shall make this brief Exhortation upon the words, of the Gospel.*

BELOVED, ye hear in this Gospel the words of our Saviour Christ, that he commanded the children to be brought unto him; how he blamed those who would have kept them from him; how he exhorteth all men to follow their innocency. Ye perceive how, by his outward gesture and deed, he declared his good will toward them; for he embraced them in his arms, he laid his hands upon them, and blessed them. Doubt ye not therefore, but earnestly believe, that he will likewise favourably receive *this* present *Infant*; that he will embrace *him* with the arms of his mercy; that he will give unto *him* the blessing of sternal life and make *him partaker* of his everlasting kingdom.

Wherefore we being thus persuaded of the good will of our heavenly Father towards *this Infant*, declared by his Son Jesus Christ; and nothing doubting but that he favourably alloweth all charitable

work of ours in bringing *this Infant* to his holy Baptism ; let us faithfully and devoutly give thanks unto him, and say,

**A**Lmighty and everlasting God, heavenly Father, we give thee humble thanks, That thou hast vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of thy grace, and faith in thee: Increase this knowledge, And confirm this faith in us evermore. Give thy Holy Spirit to *this Infant*, That *he* may be born again, And be made *an heir* of everlasting salvation ; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever. Amen.

¶ *Then shall the Minister speak unto the Godfathers and Godmothers on this wise.*

**D**EARLY beloved, ye have brought *this Child* here to be baptized ; ye have prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive *him*, to release *him* from sin, to sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost, to give *him* the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. Ye have heard also that our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his Gospel to grant all those things that ye have prayed for : which promise he, for his part, will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore after this promise made by Christ, *this Infant* must also faithfully, for *his* part, promise by you that are *his* sureties (until *he* come of age to take it upon *himself*) that *he* will renounce the devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's holy Word, and obediently keep his commandments.

¶ *The Minister shall then demand of the Sponsors as followeth: the Questions being considered as addressed to them severally, and the Answers to be made accordingly.*

I demand therefore,

**D**OST thou, in the name of this Child, renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and

glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow, nor be led by them?

*Answer.* I renounce them all; and, by God's help, will endeavour not to follow, nor be led by them.

*Minister.* Dost thou believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as contained in the Apostles' Creed?

*Answer.* I do.

*Minister.* Wilt thou be baptized in this Faith?

*Answer.* That is my desire.

*Minister.* Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

*Answer.* I will; by God's help.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

**O**MERCIFUL God, grant that the old Adam in *this Child* may be so buried, that the new man may be raised up in *him*. *Amen.*

Grant that all sinful affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. *Amen.*

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Grant that whosoever is here dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

**A**LMIGHTY, everliving God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood; and gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them In the Name of the Father, and of

the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of thy congregation; sanctify this Water to the mystical washing away of sin; and grant that *this Child*, now to be baptized therein, may receive the fulness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Minister shall take the Child into his hands, and shall say to the Godfathers and Godmothers,*

Name this Child.

¶ *And then, naming it after them, he shall dip it in the Water discreetly, or shall pour Water upon it, saying,*

**N**. I baptize thee In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Minister shall say,*

**W**E receive this Child into the congregation of Christ's flock; and do \*sign *him* with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter *he* shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and to continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto *his* life's end. *Amen.*

\* *Here the Minister shall make a Cross upon the Child's forehead.*

¶ *If those who present the Infant shall desire the sign of the Cross to be omitted, although the Church knows no worthy cause of scruple concerning the same, yet, in that case the Minister may omit that part of the above which follows the Immersion, or the pouring of Water on the Infant.*

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

**S**EEING now dearly beloved brethren that *this Child* is regenerate and grafted into the body of Christ's Church, let us give thanks unto Almighty God for these benefits; and with one accord make our prayers unto him, that *this Child* may lead the rest of *his* life according to this beginning.

¶ *Then shall be said all kneeling,*

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven, Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

WE yield thee hearty thanks most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate *this Infant* with thy Holy Spirit, to receive *him* for thine own *Child* by adoption, and to incorporate *him* into thy holy Church. And humbly we beseech thee to grant, that *he*, being dead unto sin, and living unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man, and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that, as *he is* made *partaker* of the death of thy Son, *he* may also be *partaker* of his resurrection; so that finally, with the residue of thy holy Church, *he* may be *an inheritor* of thine everlasting kingdom; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then, all standing up, the Minister shall say to the Godfathers and Godmothers this Exhortation following.*

FORASMUCH as this Child hath promised by you *his* sureties to renounce the devil and all his works, to believe in God, and to serve him; ye must remember, that it is your parts and duties to see that *this Infant* be taught, so soon as *he* shall be able to learn, what a solemn vow, promise, and profession, *he hath* here made by you. And that *he* may know these things the better, ye shall call upon *him* to hear Sermons; and chiefly ye shall provide, that *he* may learn the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and all other things which a Chris-

tian ought to know and believe to his soul's health; and that *this Child* may be virtuously brought up to lead a godly and a Christian life; remembering always, that Baptism doth represent unto us our profession; which is, to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto him; that, as he died, and rose again for us, so should we, who are baptized, die from sin, and rise again unto righteousness; continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

¶ *Then shall he add, and say,*

**Y**E are to take care that *this Child* be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed by him, so soon as *he* can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and *is* sufficiently instructed in the other parts of the Church-Catechism set forth for that purpose.

---

THE MINISTRATION OF  
PRIVATE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN,  
IN HOUSES.



¶ *The Minister of every Parish shall often admonish the People, that they defer not the Baptism of their Children longer than the first or second Sunday next after their birth, or other Holy-day falling between, unless upon great and reasonable cause.*

¶ *And also they shall warn them, that without like great cause and necessity they procure not their Children to be baptized at home in their houses. But when need shall compel them so to do, then Baptism shall be administered as followeth.*

¶ *First, let the Minister of the Parish (or, in his absence, any other lawful Minister that can be procured) with those who are present, call upon God, and say the Lord's Prayer, and so many of the Collects appointed to be said before in the Form of Public Baptism, as the time*

*and present exigence will suffer. And then, the Child being named by some one who is present, the Minister shall pour Water upon it, saying these words:*

**N** I baptize thee In the Name of the Father, and  
of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

*¶ Then the Minister shall give thanks unto God, and say,*

**W**E yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate *this Infant* with thy Holy Spirit, to receive *him* for thine own *Child* by adoption, and to incorporate *him* into thy holy Church. And humbly we beseech thee to grant, that *he*, being dead unto sin and living unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man, and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that, as *he is* made *partaker* of the death of thy Son, *he* may also be *partaker* of his resurrection, so that finally, with the residue of thy holy Church *he* may be *an inheritor* of thine ever-lasting kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*¶ And let them not doubt but that the Child so baptized is lawfully and sufficiently baptized, and ought not to be baptized again. Yet nevertheless, if the Child, which is after this sort baptized, do afterward live, it is expedient that it be brought into the Church, to the intent that if the Minister of the same parish did himself baptize that Child, the Congregation may be certified of the true Form of Baptism, by him privately before used: In which case he shall say thus:*

**I**CERTIFY you, that according to the due and prescribed Order of the Church, *at such a time*, and *at such a place*, before divers witnesses, I baptized *this Child*; who is now by Baptism incorporated into the Christian Church: for our Lord Jesus Christ doth not deny his grace and mercy unto such Infants, but most lovingly doth call them unto him, as the holy Gospel doth witness to our comfort.

*¶ But if the child were baptized by any other lawful Minister, then the Minister of the Parish where the Child was born or christened, shall examine whether the same hath been lawfully done. And if the Minis-*

*ter shall find, by the answers of such as bring the Child, that all things were done as they ought to be; then shall he not christen the Child again, but shall receive him as one of the flock of true Christian People, saying thus:*

**I**CERTIFY you, that in this case all is well done, and according unto due order, concerning the baptizing of *this Child*; who is now by Baptism incorporated into the Christian Church: for our Lord Jesus Christ doth not deny his grace and mercy unto such Infants, but most lovingly doth call them unto him, as the holy Gospel doth witness to our comfort.

*¶ Then the Minister shall say as followeth.*

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. *Mark*, in the tenth Chapter, at the thirteenth Verse.

**T**HEY brought young children to Christ, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

*¶ After the Gospel is read, the Minister shall make this brief Exhortation upon the words of the Gospel.*

**B**ELOVED, ye hear in this Gospel the words of our Saviour Christ, that he commanded the children to be brought unto him; how he blamed those who would have kept them from him; how he exhorteth all men to follow their innocency. Ye perceive how, by his outward gesture and deed, he declared his good will toward them; for he embraced them in his arms, he laid his hands upon them, and

blessed them. Doubt ye not therefore, but earnestly believe, that he hath likewise favourably received *this* present *Infant*; that he hath embraced *him* with the arms of his mercy; and, as he hath promised in his holy Word, will give unto *him* the blessing of eternal life, and make him partaker of his everlasting kingdom.

Wherefore, we being thus persuaded of the good will of our heavenly Father, declared by his Son Jesus Christ, towards *this Infant*, let us faithfully and devoutly give thanks unto him, and say the Prayer which the Lord himself taught us.

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

*¶ Then shall the Minister demand the name of the Child; which being by the Godfathers and Godmothers pronounced, the Minister shall say as follows.*

**D**OST thou in the name of this Child renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

*Answer.* I renounce them all, and, by Gods help, will endeavour not to follow nor be led by them.

*Minister.* Dost thou believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as contained in the Apostle's Creed?

*Answer.* I do.

*Minister.* Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

*Answer.* I will, by God's help.

¶ *Then the Minister shall say,*

WE receive this Child into the congregation of Christ's flock; and do \*sign *him* with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter *he* shall not be ashamed to confess the faith Of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and to continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto his life's end. Amen.

\* *Here the Minister shall make a Cross upon the Child's forehead.*

¶ *The same rule is to be observed here, as to the omission of the sign of the Cross, as in the Public Baptism of Infants.*

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

SEEING now, dearly beloved brethren, that *this Child* *Sis* regenerate, and grafted into the body of Christ's Church, let us give thanks unto Almighty God for these benefits; and with one accord make our prayers unto him that *this Child* may lead the rest of *his* life according to this beginning.

¶ *Then shall be said, all kneeling,*

WE yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate this Infant with thy Holy Spirit to receive *him* for thine own *Child* by adoption, and to incorporate *him* into thy holy Church. And humbly we beseech thee to grant, that *he* being dead unto sin, and living unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man, and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that, as *he is* made *partaker* of the death of thy Son, *he* may also be *partaker* of his resurrection; so that finally, with the residue of thy holy Church, *he* may be *an inheritor* of thine everlasting kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Then, all standing up, the Minister shall say to the Godfathers and Godmothers this Exhortation following.*

**F**ORASMUCH as *this Child hath* promised by you *his* sureties to renounce the devil and all his works, to believe in God, and to serve him; ye must remember, that it is your parts and duties to see that *this Infant* be taught, so soon as *he* shall be able to learn, what a solemn vow, promise, and profession, *he hath* here made by you. And that *he* may know these things the better, ye shall call upon *him* to hear Sermons; and chiefly ye shall provide, that *he* may learn the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul's health; and that *this Child* may be virtuously brought up to lead a godly and a Christian life; remembering always, that Baptism doth represent unto us our profession; which is, to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto him; that, as he died, and rose again for us, so should we, who are baptized, die from sin, and rise again unto righteousness; continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt actions, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

¶ *Then shall he add, and say,*

**Y**E are to take care that *this Child* be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed by him, so soon as *he* can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and *is* sufficiently instructed in the other parts of the Church-Catechism set forth for that purpose.

¶ *But if they who bring the Infant to the Church do make such uncertain Answers to the Minister's questions, that it cannot appear that the Child was baptized with Water, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, (which are essential parts of Baptism,) then let the Minister baptize it in the Form before appointed for Public Baptism of Infants; saving that at the dipping of the Child in the Font, he shall use this Form of words:*

**I**F thou art not already baptized, *N.*, I baptize thee  
**I**n the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of  
the Holy Ghost. Amen.

*¶ If Infant Baptism, and the receiving of Infants baptized in private, are to be at the same time, the Minister may make the Questions to the Sponsors, and the succeeding Prayers, serve for both. And again, after the Immersion, or the pouring of Water, and the receiving into the Church, the Minister may use the remainder of the Service for both.*

THE MINISTRATION OF  
BAPTISM TO SUCH AS ARE  
OF RIPER YEARS,  
AND ABLE TO ANSWER FOR THEMSELVES.



*¶ When any such Persons as are of riper years are to be baptized, timely notice shall be given to the Minister; that so due care may be taken for their examination, whether they be sufficiently instructed in the Principles of the Christian Religion; and that they may be exhorted to prepare themselves, with Prayers and Fasting, for the receiving of this holy Sacrament.*

*¶ And if they shall be found fit, then the Godfathers and Godmothers (the People being assembled upon the Sunday, Holy-day, or Prayer-day appointed) shall be ready to present them at the Font, immediately after the second Lesson, either at Morning or Evening Prayer as the Minister, in his discretion, shall think fit. And standing there, the Minister shall say,*

**H**ATH this Person been already baptized, or no?

*¶ If they answer, No: then shall the Minister (the People all Standing until the Lord's Prayer) proceed as followeth.*

**D**EARLY beloved, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin, (and that which is born of the flesh is flesh,) so they who are in the flesh cannot please God but live in sin, committing many actual transgressions; and our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he

be regenerate and born anew of Water and of the Holy Ghost; I beseech: you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these Persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that they may be baptized with Water and the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made lively *members* of the same.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who of thy great Mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark from perishing by water; and also didst safely lead the children of Israel thy people through the Red Sea, figuring thereby thy holy Baptism; and by the Baptism of thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ in the river Jordan, didst sanctify the element of Water to the mystical washing away of sin; We beseech thee, for thine infinite mercies, that thou wilt mercifully look upon *these* thy *Servants*; wash *them* and sanctify *them* with the Holy Ghost; that *they*, being delivered from thy wrath, may be received into the ark of Christ's Church; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world that finally *they* may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee, world without end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Or this.*

ALMIGHTY and immortal God, the aid of all who need, the helper of all who flee to thee for succour, the life of those who believe, and the resurrection of the dead; We call upon thee for *these* thy *Servants*, that *they*, coming to thy holy Baptism, may receive remission of *their* sins, by spiritual regenera-

tion. Receive *them*, O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. So give now unto us who ask; let us who seek, find; open the gate unto us who knock; that *these* thy *Servants* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Minister shall say,*

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by Saint *John*, in the third Chapter, beginning at the first Verse.

**T**HERE was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof; but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

¶ *After which he shall say the exhortation following.*

**B**ELOVED, ye hear in this Gospel the express words of our Saviour Christ, that except a man

be born of Water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. Whereby ye may perceive the great necessity of this Sacrament, where it may be had. Likewise, immediately before his ascension into heaven, (as we read in the last Chapter of Saint Mark's Gospel,) he gave command to his disciples, saying, Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Which also showeth unto us the great benefit we reap thereby. For which cause Saint Peter the Apostle, when upon his first preaching of the Gospel many were pricked at the heart, and said to him and the rest of the Apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? replied and said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is to you and your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words exhorted he them, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. For (as the same Apostle testifieth in another place) even Baptism doth also now save us, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Doubt ye not therefore, but earnestly believe, that he will favourably receive *these* present *Persons*, truly repenting, and coming unto him by faith; that he will grant *them* remission of their sins, and bestow upon *them* the Holy Ghost; that he will give *them* the blessing of eternal life, and make *them partakers* of his everlasting kingdom.

Wherefore we being thus persuaded of the good will of our heavenly Father toward *these Persons*, declared by his Son Jesus Christ; let us faithfully and devoutly give thanks to him, and say,

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, heavenly Father, We give thee humble thanks, for that thou hast vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of thy grace, and faith in thee: Increase this knowledge, And confirm this faith in us evermore. Give thy Holy Spirit to *these* thy *Servants*, that *they* may be born again, and be made *heirs* of everlasting salvation; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever. *Amen.*

¶ *Then the Minister shall speak to the Persons to be baptized in this wise:*

WELL-BELOVED, who are come hither desiring to receive holy Baptism, *ye* have heard how the congregation hath prayed, that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you and bless you, to release you of your sins, to give you the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. *Ye* have heard also, that our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his holy Word to grant all those things that we have prayed for; which promise he, for his part, will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore, after this promise made by Christ, *ye* must also faithfully, for your part, in the presence of these your Witnesses, and this whole congregation, promise and answer to the following questions.

¶ *The Minister shall then demand of the Persons to be baptized as follows; the Questions being considered as addressed to them severally, and the answers to be made accordingly.*

*Question.*

DOST thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow, nor be led by them?

*Answer.* I renounce them all; and, by God's help, will endeavour not to follow, nor be led by them.

*Question.* Dost thou believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as contained in the Apostles' Creed?

*Answer.* I do.

*Question.* Wilt thou be baptized in this Faith?

*Answer.* That is my desire.

*Question.* Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

*Answer.* I will by God's help.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

**O**MERCIFUL God grant that the old Adam in *these thy Servants* may be so buried that the new man may be raised up in *them*. *Amen*.

Grant that all sinful affections may die in *them*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them*. *Amen*.

Grant that *they* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen*.

Grant that *they*, being here dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen*.

**A**LMIGHTY, everliving God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood; and gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Regard, we beseech thee, the supplications of thy congregation; sanctify this Water to the mystical washing away of sin and grant that *these thy Servants*, now to be baptized

therein may receive the fulness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*¶ Then shall the Minister take each Person to be baptized by the right hand; and placing him conveniently by the Font according to his discretion, shall ask the Godfathers and Godmothers the Name; and then shall dip him in the water, or pour water upon him, saying,*

**N**. I baptize thee In the Name of the Father and  
of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

*¶ Then shall the Minister say,*

**W**E receive this Person into the congregation of Christ's flock; and do \*sign him with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter *he* shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and to continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto *his* life's end. *Amen.*

*\* Here the Minister shall make a Cross upon the Person's forehead.*

*¶ The same rule, as to the omission of the sign of the Cross, is to be observed here as in the Baptism of Infants.*

*¶ Then shall the Minister say,*

**S**EEING now, dearly beloved brethren, that *these Persons are* regenerate, and grafted into the body of Christ's Church, let us give thanks unto Almighty God for these benefits; and with one accord make our prayers unto him, that *they* may lead the rest of *their* life according to this beginning.

*¶ Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer, all kneeling.*

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. *Amen.*

WE yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate *these* thy *Servants* with thy Holy Spirit, to receive *them* for thine own *children* by adoption, and to incorporate *them* into thy holy Church. And humbly we beseech thee to grant, that *they*, being dead unto sin, and living unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man, and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that, as *they* are made *partakers* of the death of thy Son, *they* may also be *partakers* of his resurrection; so that finally, with the residue of thy holy Church, *they* may be *inheritors* of thine everlasting kingdom; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then, all standing up, the Minister shall use this Exhortation following; speaking to the Godfathers and Godmothers first.*

FORASMUCH as *these Persons* have promised, in your presence, to renounce the devil and all his works, to believe in God, and to serve him; ye must remember, that it is your part and duty to put *them* in mind, what a solemn vow, promise, and profession, *they have* now made before this congregation, and especially before you *their* chosen witnesses. And ye are also to call upon *them* to use all diligence to be rightly instructed in God's holy Word; that so *they* may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, and live godly, righteously, and soberly, in this present world.

¶ *And then, speaking to the baptized Persons, he shall proceed and say,*

AND as for you, who have now by Baptism put on Christ, it is your part and duty also, being made the *children* of God and of the light, by faith in Jesus Christ, to walk answerably in your Christian calling, and as becometh the children of light; remembering always, that Baptism doth represent unto us our

profession, which is, to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto him, that as he died, and rose again for us, so should we, who are baptized, die from sin, and rise again unto righteousness, continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

¶ *It is expedient that every Person, thus baptized, should be confirmed by the Bishop, as soon after the Baptism as conveniently may be; that so he may be admitted in the Holy Communion.*

¶ *Whereas necessity may require the baptizing of Adults in private houses, in consideration of extreme sickness; the same is hereby allowed in that case. And a convenient number of persons shall be assembled in the house where the Sacrament is to be administered. And in the exhortation, Well-beloved, etc., instead of these words, come hither desiring, shall be inserted this word, desirous. And in case of great necessity, the Minister may begin with the questions addressed to the candidate, and end with the thanksgiving following the baptism.*

¶ *If there is occasion for the Office of Infant Baptism and that of Adults at the same time, the Minister shall use the exhortation and one of the prayers next following in the Office for Adults, only, in the exhortation and prayer, after the words, these Persons, and these thy Servants, adding, and these Infants. Then the Minister shall proceed to the questions to be demanded in the cases respectively. After the immersion, or the pouring of water, the prayer shall be as in this service; only, after the words, these thy Servants, shall be added, and these Infants. After which the remaining part of each service shall be used; first that for Adults, and lastly that for Infants.*

¶ *If any persons not baptized in their infancy shall be brought to be baptized before they come to years of discretion to answer for themselves, it may suffice to use the Office for Public Baptism of Infants; or, in case of extreme danger, the Office for Private Baptism only changing the word Infant, for Child, or Person, as occasion requireth.*

¶ *If there be reasonable doubt concerning the baptism of any person, such person may be baptized in the manner herein appointed; saving that, at the immersion or the pouring of water the Minister shall use this form of words:*

**I**F thou art not already baptized, N., I baptize thee  
**I**n the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and  
of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

