



## The Parish of Wellow

### MORNING PRAISE INCLUDING THE BAPTISM OF BENJAMIN ROBERT WALLACE

10.45am - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011 - 4<sup>th</sup> After Easter

#### Welcome/Notices

#### Confession

**Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### Hymn Tune St Denio 11 11 11 11

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish, but naught changest thee.
- 4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight  
all laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

#### First Reading – Ephesians 5:22-33

[22] Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. [23] For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. [24] Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. [25] Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her [26] to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, [27] and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. [28] In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. [29] After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church— [30] for we are members of his body. [31] “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the

two will become one flesh.” [32] This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. [33] However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.” This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Baptism**

### THE INTRODUCTION

*The minister explains the purpose of Christian baptism*

God is the creator of all things, and by the birth of children he gives to parents a share in the work and joy of creation. But we who are born of earthly parents need to be born again. In the Gospel Jesus tells us that unless we have been born again, we cannot see the Kingdom of God.

On the day when the apostles first preached the Gospel of Christ’s resurrection, Peter urged his hearers, Repent and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is to you and your children and to all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord calls to him.

Today *Benjamin* is with us so that we can ask God that this promise and all the promises He has made will be true in *Benjamin*’s life. So we are going to ask God to do something that *Benjamin* cannot do, nor can we do for *him* - that in due time *he* will be born again, receive God’s Holy Spirit, and confess Jesus Christ as *his* Saviour and Lord.

### THE PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

*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 *Benjamin* and uphold *him* in *his* new life in Christ? **With the help of God, we will.**

*The minister then says to the parents and godparents*

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *Benjamin* 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? **With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *Benjamin* 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? **With the help of God, we will.**

### THE DECISION

*The minister addresses the parents & godparents*

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?  
**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**serve him, for his name's sake. Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Hymn**

How deep the Father's love for us	It was my sin that held Him there
How vast beyond all measure	Until it was accomplished
That He should give His only Son	His dying breath has brought me life
To make a wretch His treasure	I know that it is finished
How great the pain of searing loss	I will not boast in anything
The Father turns His face away	No gifts, no power, no wisdom
As wounds which mar the chosen One	But I will boast in Jesus Christ
Bring many sons to glory	His death and resurrection
Behold the man upon a cross	Why should I gain from His reward?
My sin upon his shoulders	I cannot give an answer
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice	But this I know with all my heart
Call out among the scoffers	His wounds have paid my ransom

**You are most welcome to stay for coffee after the end of service**

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**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

### THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The minister addresses the congregation*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known to the world? **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church. **This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

### THE BAPTISM

*The minister baptises Benjamin in water*

### THE SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

*The minister makes the sign of the cross on Benjamin's forehead saying*

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified. **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 COMMISSION

*The minister addresses the congregation and invites them to pray for Benjamin*

**Heavenly Father, in your love you have called us to know you, lead us to trust you, and bound our life with yours. Surround Benjamin with your love; protect him from evil; fill him with your Holy Spirit; and bring him to saving faith; that he may walk with us in the way of Jesus Christ and grow in the knowledge of your love. Amen.**

### THE WELCOME

God has received you by baptism into the covenant family of his Church. **We welcome you into the Lord's Family. We will pray for you, we will**

**hold you in our love, we will guide you in the truth of God's word, that you may come to faith in Jesus Christ, and walk with us in the way of His light and truth. We welcome you.**

### Hymn

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us your humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, you are all compassion  
Boundless love that makes us whole;  
Visit us with your salvation,  
Enter every trembling soul.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all your grace receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more your temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve you as your hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
Glory in your perfect love.

3 Finish then your new creation,  
Pure and sinless let us be;  
Let us see your great salvation,  
Perfect in eternity;

Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before you,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

### Reading – Malachi 2:13-16

[13] Another thing you do: You flood the LORD's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. [14] You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.[15] Has not [the LORD] made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? Because he was seeking godly offspring. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth.[16] "I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel, "and I hate a man's covering himself with violence as well as with his garment," says the LORD Almighty. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Talk – Christian Marriage - Peter Morgan

#### Hymn

*Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together  
With cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together,  
Bind us together with love.*

1There is only one God,  
There is only one King;  
There is only one Body,  
That is why we sing:

*Refrain*

2Fit for the glory of God,  
Purchased by His precious Son;  
Born with the right to be free,  
Jesus the victory has won.

*Refrain*

3We are the family of God,  
We are the promise divine;  
We are God's chosen desire,  
We are the glorious new wine.

*Refrain*

### Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray using the words our Saviour taught us.

**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. For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory, for  
ever and ever. Amen.**

King of Kings, Prince of Peace, we exalt You and praise Your name. We daily delight in your endless love and bask in Your saving grace. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

We come to You on bended knee, in earnest prayer and petition: Help us to live in harmony; this is our goal and our mission. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there is brokenness, we ask You to mend it. Where there is weakness, we ask for Your strength. Where there is sin, we beg Your forgiveness. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there is doubt, we invite more faith. Where there is pride, help us be humble. Where there's resentment, help us find peace. Where there is threat, we ask for protection. Please shelter our love beneath Your wings. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there's a need, let us help one another. Where there's temptation, help us resist. Where we stumble, help us recover. Where praise is needed, let it come from our lips. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Where there is pain, we ask for healing. Where there is hate, replace it with love. Where all seems hopeless, we beseech Your blessing. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

From the depth of our heart we ask all the above. This is our prayer and our deep desire, this is the passion that consumes our hearts. Help us to be an example for others. Forgive what we have been, **and direct what we shall be.**

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

### Blessing and Dismissal - We stand for the Blessing and Dismissal

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Let us return now to the world, for Christ is there, waiting to meet us and greet us. Let us go back with eyes open to see him, ears open to hear him, and a mind open to receive him, and a heart open to**