



The Parish of Wellow

A Christening service

for the birth of

Maddison Anne Britten

Saturday 18th June 2011, 2pm

at St Julian's Parish Church, Wellow



The Welcome

Hymn

Morning has broken, like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for the springing fresh from the world

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dewfall, on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day

The Thanksgiving

In this service, we have come together to give thanks to God, the maker of all things and giver of all life, for Maddison's creation and birth. Let us hear afresh the Bible's affirmation of the miracle of life.

The Bible Reading - Psalm 139:13-16

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

The parents say this prayer

O Lord God, maker of all that is living, we praise you for the wonder and joy of creation. We thank you from our hearts for Maddison's life, for a safe delivery, and for the privilege of parenthood. In giving us Maddison you have shown us your love. Help us to be trustworthy parents. Make us patient and understanding. May Maddison always be sure of our love and grow up to be responsible and loving. Amen.

The Naming

The minister says to Maddison's parents

Will you name this child? *Maddison Anne Britten*

The Declaration

The minister says to the parents and Godparents

Matthew, Victoria, Jemma, Wayne and Jackie: Maddison depends chiefly on you for the help and encouragement she needs to grow. She needs help to understand and to know the God who made her, and to take her place as a responsible, caring and loving member of the community.

Are you willing to give it to her by your example and by your teaching?

I am willing, God being my helper.

Are you willing to support Maddison as she grows through your prayers?

I am willing, God being my helper

Are you willing to bear witness to Maddison of your own faith in God?

I am willing, God being my helper.

Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus Christ shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home; bless Maddison and help all the family to live together in your love. Teach them to serve you and each other. Guide with your Holy Spirit the godparents and all who will care for Maddison, that they may bring her up in the ways of truth and love. Through their care enable her to grow in grace and come to know you as her God through your Son, Christ. **Amen.**

The Giving of a Gospel

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path"
(Psalm 119.105)

This book contains the Good News of God's love. Read it, for it tells how you and your family can share in eternal life, through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, who says 'I have come,

that you may have life in all its fullness'.

The Blessing of the Child

The minister takes Maddison and says

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you his peace. The Lord deliver you from the powers of darkness, banish all evil from around you, preserve you from all harm, defend you on every side, and lead you into the light and obedience of Christ. Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.**

Hymn

He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,
He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,
He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the sun and the rain in His hands,
He's got the moon and the stars in His hands,
He's got the wind and the clouds in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the rivers and the mountains in His hands,
He's got the oceans and the seas in His hands,
He's got you and he's got me in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here in His hands,
He's got everybody there in His hands,
He's got everybody everywhere in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

The Final Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
rest upon you and remain you always.
Amen.

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