



HOLY BAPTISM

The candidate/candidates and sponsors (and family) gather with the pastor at the baptismal font.

When the candidates are unable to speak for themselves, the sponsors answer the questions on their behalf.

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **Amen.**

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches us that we all are conceived and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent his Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How are you named?

G Name

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P Receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your forehead ✝ and upon your heart ✝ to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-

hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Name(s) according to Your boundless mercy and bless him/her/them with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him/her/them, which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself/ she herself/ they themselves has/have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he/she/they be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he/she/they would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church, sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.

The pastor addresses the sponsors.

P Is it your intention to serve Name of candidate(s) as sponsors in the Christian faith?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

G Amen.

P Hear the holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not

receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

▶ This is the Word of the Lord.

▣ **Thanks be to God.**

▣ **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 and the power and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

▶ The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even forevermore.

▣ **Amen.**

Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

▶ Name, do you renounce the devil?

▣ *Yes, I renounce him.*

▶ Do you renounce his works?

▣ *Yes, I renounce them.*

▶ Do you renounce all his ways?

▣ *Yes, I renounce them.*

▶ Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

▣ *Yes, I believe.*

▶ Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead?

▣ *Yes, I believe.*

Ⓟ Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

Ⓞ *Yes, I believe.*

Ⓟ Name, do you desire to be baptized?

Ⓞ *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

Ⓟ name , I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Ⓞ **Amen.**

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

In holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member / members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir / heirs with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother(s)/sister(s) in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Ⓞ **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

Stand

Ⓟ Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge your family and have granted name(s) the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him/her a member/members of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir / heirs of your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore you that, as he/she/they has/have now become your child(ren), you would keep him/her/them in his/her/their baptismal grace that according to Your good pleasure he/she/they may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Ⓞ **Amen.**

Ⓟ Peace be with you.

Ⓞ **Amen.**

All return to their places.