

Water of Life

(Family, Friends, Sponsors present themselves at the Baptismal Font)

PASTOR: THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL. AMEN.

HOLY BAPTISM IS THE MEANS BY WHICH THE FATHER CREATES NEW SONS AND DAUGHTERS. IN THE WATERS OF BAPTISM WE ARE JOINED TO THE DEATH AND THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD. BORN AGAIN BY WATER AND THE SPIRIT, WE ARE MADE MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST. LIVING IN FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM AND HIS PEOPLE, WE GROW IN FAITH, HOPE, LOVE AND OBEDIENCE TO THE WILL OF GOD.

The Apostle's Creed:

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.
On the third day he rose again.
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

(The Congregation may be seated)

**LAY-LIT: HOW SHALL THIS CHILD BE NAMED?
WE PRESENT _____ TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF
HOLY BAPTISM THIS DAY.**

**TO THE PARENTS:
DO YOU RENOUNCE ALL THE FORCES OF EVIL, THE DEVIL, AND ALL HIS EMPTY
PROMISES? IF SO, SAY "WE DO".**

Parents: We do.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE HOLY CHRISTIAN FAITH AS WE HAVE CONFESSED IT IN THE WORDS OF THE CREED? IF SO, SAY "WE DO".

Parents: We do.

LAY-LIT: LET US PRAY: GRANT TO US LORD, THAT ALL WHO ARE BAPTIZED INTO THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, MAY ALSO LIVE WITH HIM IN POWER... OF HIS RESURRECTION, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, ONE GOD, NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.

LAY-LIT: FROM OUR LORD WE RECEIVED THIS COMMANDMENT: "GO BAPTIZE MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT... AND TO REMEMBER, LO I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE CLOSE OF THE AGE."

PASTOR: AND AGAIN, HOW SHALL THIS CHILD BE NAMED?

_____, I BAPTIZE YOU IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

(Pastor addresses the congregation:)

WILL YOU RECEIVE THIS CHILD INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD, AS A FELLOW MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH WITH YOU? IF SO, THE CONGREGATION WILL RESPOND IN ONE LOUD VOICE, "YES".

Congregation: Yes.

(The Pastor lays his hands upon the child's head:)

PASTOR: "RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SEAL UPON THE PROMISES OF GOD, AND GUARANTEE OF YOUR INHERITANCE WHEN OUR LORD COMES AGAIN.

RECEIVE THE SIGN OF THE "HOLY CROSS". THAT FROM NOW ON YOU WILL KNOW THE LORD AND THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION."

GOD THE FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST HAS FREED YOU FROM SINS, GIVEN YOU A NEW BIRTH BY WATER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND WELCOMED YOU INTO HIS HOLY CHURCH.

(Oil is applied)

RECEIVE NOW HIS ANOINTING WITH THE OILS OF GLADNESS AND SALVATION. AS CHRIST WAS APPOINTED PROPHET, PRIEST AND KING FOR US, SO MAY YOU LIVE ALWAYS AS HIS FAITHFUL PRIEST AND SERVANT.

THE LORD JESUS MADE THE DEAF TO HEAR AND THE DUMB TO SPEAK. MAY HE SOON TOUCH YOUR EARS THAT YOU MAY RECEIVE HIS WORD, AND YOUR MOUTH, THAT YOU MAY PROCLAIM HIS PRAISE.

TO THE PARENTS:

CHRIST WILL FIRST BE MADE KNOWN TO YOUR CHILD, BY THE CHRIST (HE/SHE) SEES IN YOU. WILL YOU TEACH (HIM/HER) BY WORD AND DEED THE WAY OF CHRIST AND THE WORD OF GOD? WILL YOU SHARE WITH (HIM/HER) THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH AND BRING (HIM/HER) TO THE LORD'S TABLE? IF SO, ANSWER "WE WILL".

Parents: We will.

LAY-LIT: THIS CHILD IS NOW ONE WITH US IN CHRIST. AS THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, WILL YOU ACCEPT (HIM/HER) AS GOD'S CHILD, PROVIDE FOR (HIS/HER) NURTURE IN THE FAITH, AND SUPPORT (HIM/HER) WITH YOUR LOVE AND YOUR PRAYERS? IF SO, ANSWER "WE WILL".

Congregation: We will!

LAY-LIT: GOOD, THEN WE WELCOME YOU INTO THE LORD'S FAMILY. WE RECEIVE YOU AS A FELLOW MEMBER OF THE BODY OF CHRIST, A CHILD OF THE SAME HEAVENLY FATHER, AND HEIR WITH US TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

PASTOR: LET US PRAY:

GOD OUR FATHER, BLESS THIS CHILD, _____, AND ALL YOUR CHILDREN THAT THEY MAY COME TO KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN. GIVE TO ALL OF US, GRACE TO GROW IN FAITH, AND LOVE AND WISDOM, THAT WE MIGHT THANK YOU... FOR THIS GIFT OF HOLY BAPTISM... THROUGH YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

ALMIGHTY GOD, FATHER (+), SON (+), AND HOLY SPIRIT (+), BLESS YOU NOW AND FOREVER. AMEN.

(Introduction of the Newest Member of the Christian Church)

(The Congregation Rises and our Liturgy for Day continues)