

CHAPEL SERVICE - BAPTISM



THE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, unless a person is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."

C: Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

L: Let us worship our God, remembering the gift of Holy Baptism.

THE INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father,

C: The eternal God, who has no beginning and no end, and all blessings flow from His Almighty hand.

L: And of the Son,

C: The Lamb that was slain, but now who lives and reigns forever and ever.

L: And of the Holy Spirit,

C: Who brings the fire of faith, and works the regeneration of the heart, Amen.

L: Our Lord commanded Baptism saying to His children, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Surely I will be with you to the very end of the age."

C: The apostles have said, "The promise is for you and your children," and "Baptism now saves you."

L: 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"FATHER WELCOMES" (*All God's People Sing*, 94, © 1992 CPH)

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON (*response spoken after lesson*)

L: Through Baptism God has called us to be His own people,

C: To declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

L: The waters of Baptism remind us

C: That our sins have been washed away!

THE GOSPEL LESSON

L: Let us read together how Jesus has opened the Kingdom of God to little children.

C: People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this He was indignant and said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the Kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

SERMONETTE

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH

L: What blessings does Baptism give?

C: Baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe, as the words and promises of God declare.

L : Declare a Scripture that tells of one such promise.

C: Jesus says in the last chapter of the Gospel of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

L : What does Baptism mean for our lives?

C: Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned with all sins and evil desires. In Baptism we arise and live each day in righteousness and purity before God.

THE OFFERING

THE PRAYERS

L : We thank You for our sponsors—those who pray for us, support us in our spiritual life, and lead us by their example.

C: We thank You, O God.

L : We pray for baptized children, that they might continue to grow in love each day.

C: Give us Your power and Spirit, O God.

L : We pray for those who are not baptized, that they might learn more of the blessings of Baptism and be lead to the waters that create faith and forgive sin.

C: Help us to share with others what our Baptism means to us.

L : We pray with thanks that each and every sin is forgiven: past, present, and future.

C: Thank You for that peace of heart, O God, Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE RENEWING OF THE BAPTISM PROMISES

L : Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C: I do renounce them.

L : Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?

C: Yes, I believe.

L : Do you promise to follow your Savior all of your days?

C: Yes, I promise, with the help of God.

(A child Baptism may be offered here.)

THE BLESSING

L : Upon this promise, remember that Jesus saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

C: Whom He poured out on us generously!

L : We have been justified by God's grace,

C: And we are children of God, heirs of eternal life. That is our hope!

L : Peace be with you.

C: And also with you.

L : Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN

Adapted from the chapel book of St. Paul's Lutheran School, Janesville, Wisconsin and used with their permission.