

Lutheran Book of Worship

Holy Baptism

INTRODUCTION

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

PRESENTATION

P In Christian love you have presented Everett for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring him to the services of God's house, and teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he grows in years, you should place in his hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

R **I do.**

THE PRAYERS

Stand

A Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

A God, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P. Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that Everett who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of he who is cleansed by this water and bring him forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen**

RENUNCIATION

- P** I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.
- P** Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?
- R** **I do.**

PROFESSION (CREED)

- P** Do you believe in God the Father?
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C** **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**
- P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C** **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**

BAPTISM

- P** Everett Philip Murray, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

LAYING ON OF HANDS

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

Sponsors or parents holding young children stand. The minister lays both hands on the head of each of the baptized and prays for the Holy Spirit:

- P** God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Everett Philip: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.
- C** **Amen**

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

P Everett Philip, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

The sponsor or the baptized responds:

Amen

After all have received the sign of the cross, they stand.

GIVING OF THE LIGHT

A lighted candle may be given to each of the baptized (to the sponsor of a young child) by a representative of the congregation who says:

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

When small children are baptized, this prayer may be said.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

WELCOME

Stand

The ministers and the baptismal group turn toward the congregation; a representative of the congregation says:

P Through Baptism God has made this new brother a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C 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 a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

PEACE

The ministers may exchange the peace with the baptized, with their sponsors and parents, and with the congregation.

Peace be with you.

R Peace be with you.

All return to their places.

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