

## **SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM**

### **INTRODUCTION**

**Pastor Lyles**

**Brothers and sisters in Christ: through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty act of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.**

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

**These candidates are presented for Baptism:**

**\*Candidates under age 12**

***A Sponsor may accompany each candidate to the altar and stand behind him/her for the administration of Holy Baptism.***

### **RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**Pastor:**

**On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:**

**Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?**

**Candidates:**

***I do.***

**Pastor:** Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

**Candidates:** *I do.*

**Pastor:** Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in His grace, and promise to serve Him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations and races?

**Candidates:** *I do.*

**FOR SPONSORS OF CANDIDATES UNDER AGE 12**

**Pastor:** Will you nurture these candidates in Christ's holy church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

**Sponsors:** *I will.*

**FOR ALL CANDIDATES**

**Pastor:** According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

**Candidates:** *I will.*

**Pastor:** Will you who sponsor these candidates support and encourage them in their Christian life?

**Sponsors:** *I will.*

**Pastor:** Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**Congregation:** *We do.*

**Pastor** Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these candidates now before you in your care?

**Congregation:** *With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ.*

*We will surround these candidates with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others.*

*We will pray for them that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.*

**Pastor:** Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Do you believe in God the Father?

**All:** *I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

**Pastor:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**All:** *I 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 to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.)*

**Pastor:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All:** *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.)*

**Selection**

**"Take Me To The Water"**  
*As we process and assemble at the Baptismal Pool*

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**Candidates:** *And also with you.*

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**Eternal Father:** When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

**Candidates:** *Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.*

**Pastor:** In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called His disciples to share in the baptism of His death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

**Candidate:** *Declare His works to the nations, His glory among all the people.*

**Pastor:** Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in His final victory.

**Candidate:** *All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.*

**BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS**

**Pastor Lyles**