

# ✠ RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM ✠



BABY

*Stand*

- ☐ 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 that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own.

Therefore, depart, you unclean spirit, and make room for the Holy Spirit in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- ☐ 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] with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in [him/her], which has been inherited from Adam and which [he himself/she herself] has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that [he/she] 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] would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C 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.

**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. **C 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.

**C** 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.

**P** The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even  
 † forevermore. **C** Amen.

*Sit*

**P** [Name,] do you renounce the devil?

**R** *Yes, I renounce him.*

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

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

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** 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?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** 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?

**R** *Yes, I believe.*

**P** [Name,] do you desire to be baptized? **R** *Yes, I do.*

**P** [Name,] I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new  
 birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you  
 with His grace to life † everlasting. **C** Amen.

**P** Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

**P** In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and 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 brothers 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.

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

**P** 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] the new birth in Holy Baptism and made them members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as they have now become Your children, You would keep them in their baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure 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.

**C Amen.**

**P** Lord and Giver of life, look with kindness upon the fathers and mothers of these children and upon all our parents. Let them ever rejoice in the gift You have given them. Enable them to be teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism that they may share eternally with their children the salvation You have given them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**P** Peace ✠ be with you. **C Amen.**