

AT THE FONT

We enter the church of Jesus Christ through baptism in which God washes all our sins away. We begin our worship remembering the name in which we were baptized, making the sign of the cross with which we were marked at our baptism.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father so too we might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:3-4

Jesus said, Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any they are retained. John 20:22-23

From Luther's Small Catechism:

What does Baptism mean for daily living?

It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance; and that day after day a new self should arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever.

In confession we return to our baptism and are granted a new beginning as the forgiveness of all our sins is declared.

ENTRANCE HYMN

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:13

We pray in peace for peace. This is the first time in our worship that we share the peace our Lord spoke after his resurrection. We pray for the whole world, for the church and for ourselves.

HYMN OF PRAISE The angels first sang these words the night of Jesus' birth(Luke 2:14). We sing of peace once more.

THIS IS THE FEAST We join those standing before the throne of God singing the praises of the lamb once slain(Revelation 5:12; 7:12)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray for ourselves and all of God's people that we may become and do all that Christ intends.

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament - The history of God choosing, leading, saving, punishing, and redeeming God's people Israel. Woven throughout is the promise of the Messiah (Anointed One = King).

New Testament - Letters and writings intended for the people of the Christian church

ALLELUIA - translated this means, "Praise the Lord"

When Jesus taught that he was the bread of life and that whoever eats of this bread will live forever many who followed him left him. He asked the disciples if they too would leave him. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6:68

Gospel - Readings from the four gospels that tell of Jesus' life and death and resurrection - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

THE SERMON - God's Word is spoken to the people of God. The sermon is not about God's Word, it is God's Word through which the Holy Spirit acts to create faith.

HYMN OF THE DAY - A hymn that is intended to reinforce the themes in the Prayer of the Day, Lessons, Gospel and sermon.

APOSTLES' CREED or NICENE CREED

These creeds reached their final form in the 4th century and are a summary of the faith that the church teaches.

THE PRAYERS - In response to hearing God's word we pray for others, the first act of our love for all whom God has created. In this prayer we pray also for all in need, for the church, and for the world.

SHARING THE PEACE - Before we bring our gifts to the altar we are reconciled with our sisters and brothers as Jesus commands in Matthew 5:23. This greeting was the greeting with which Jesus was reconciled with his disciples following his resurrection. John 20:19-21

OFFERING - We offer ourselves with the gifts we bring just as the prayer that follows the offering declares. Our offering is surrounded by the gifts God offers to us, the Word and the Sacraments.

PREFACE - changes with the season of the church year

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - Isaiah 6:3, the song of the creatures who are before the Lord in heaven is combined with the song of the people greeting the Messiah, Jesus, with palm branches, Mark 11:9

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION - Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE LORD'S PRAYER - Luke 11:2-4, Matthew 6:9-13, with the conclusion from David's prayer (1 Chronicles 29:11-13) added

DISTRIBUTION

THANK THE LORD - our response to God's gift

BENEDICTION - Numbers 6:22-26