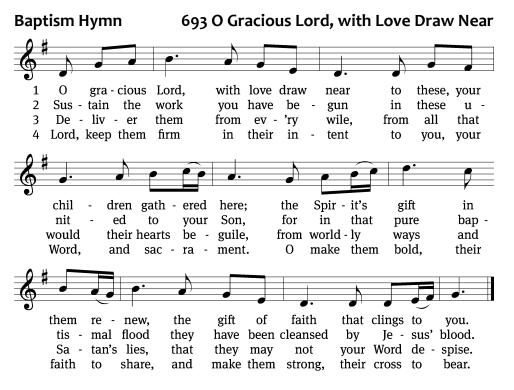
Holy Baptism



- O Father, grant that by your grace they may your will each day embrace, with fruits of faith their lives now bless, till they at death your name confess.
- 6 Then robed in white before your throne, your holy saints, by you foreknown, predestined, called, and justified, shall, crowned in light, be glorified.

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Remain seated

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, "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, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever. **Amen.**

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.

Sacrament of Baptism

For the baptism of children

The Gospel according to St. Mark:

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Evan Wunderlich, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart + to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

For the baptism of adults:

Do you believe that you were born in sin and therefore eternally lost? **Yes**, **I believe**.

Do you believe that the triune God—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit—planned and carried out your salvation?

Yes, I believe.

Do you believe that God grants you the forgiveness of sins in Holy Baptism? **Yes**, **I believe**.

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises? **Yes, I do.**

Eric Wunderlich, Ahlyah Martin and Randall Knapp, (each in turn) I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart + to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sin. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Evan and Eric, Ahlyah and Randy as your own children and made them members of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to them and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Word



First Reading Isaiah 7:10–14

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz again. He said, ¹¹"Ask for a sign from the LORD your God. Ask for it either in the depths below or in the heights above."

¹²But Ahaz responded, "I will not ask. I will not test the LORD."

13So Isaiah said:

Listen now, you house of David. Is it not enough for you to test the patience of men? Will you test the patience of my God as well? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give a sign for all of you. Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and name him Immanuel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CW 327 sts. 3, 3b

- O come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*
- 3b O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the Law in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised in advance through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures. ³This gospel is about his Son, who in the flesh was born a descendant of David, ⁴who in the spirit of holiness was declared to be God's powerful Son by his resurrection from the dead—Jesus Christ, our Lord. ⁵Through him we received grace and the call to be an apostle on behalf of his name, to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, ⁶including you, who were called by Jesus Christ.

⁷To all those loved by God who are in Rome, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- O come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the Law in cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

Gospel Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother, Mary, was pledged in marriage to Joseph. Before they came together, she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, her husband, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her. So he decided to divorce her privately. ²⁰But as he was considering these things, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son. And they will name him Immanuel," which means, "God with us."

²⁴When Joseph woke up from his sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him. He took Mary home as his wife, ²⁵but he was not intimate with her until she gave birth to her firstborn son. And he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Christian Worship

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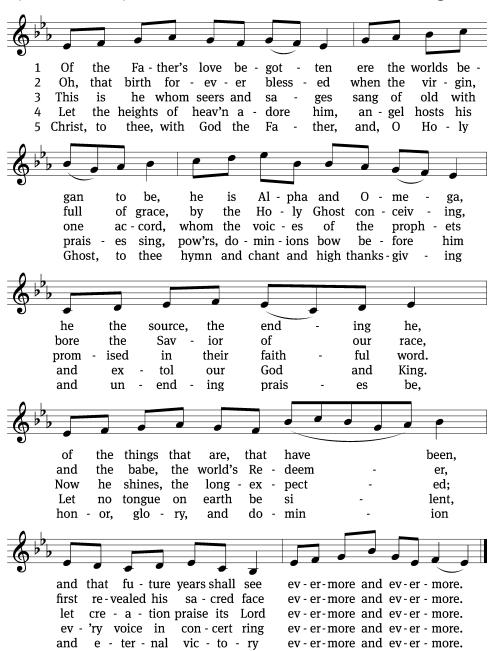
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Hymn of the Day

358 Of the Father's Love Begotten

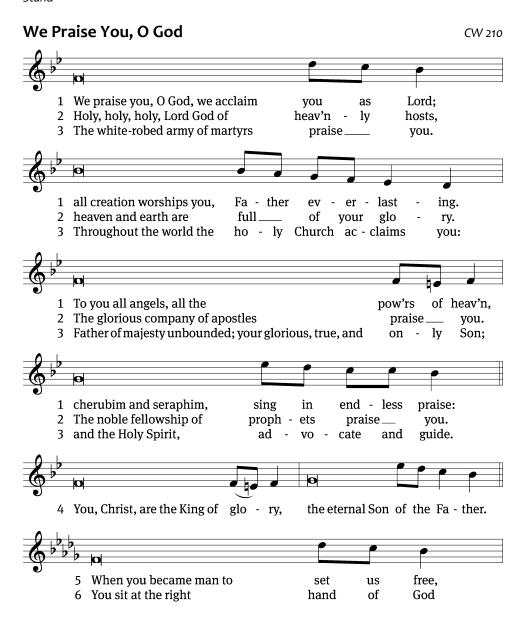


Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-c. 413, abr.; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, alt.; Tune: plainsong, 13th cent.; Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Matthew 1:18–25

"A Non-Traditional Family"

Stand





Be seated

Reception of New Members

Friends in Christ,

After a review and instruction in the teachings of the Bible and our Lutheran church, you have requested to become communicant members of this congregation. You have come to worship today to confess your unity with us and to take your place as a part of this faith community. I now ask you:

Do you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? If so, answer: I do. I do.

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and this congregation, as you have come to know them, are faithful to the Word of God? If so, answer: I do.

I do.

Do you desire to remain faithful to the teachings of Christ, be diligent in the use of God's Word and sacraments, and lead a godly life as the Lord gives you strength? If so, answer: I do, and I ask God to help me.

I do, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your desire to join us in worship and mission and support this work with your prayers and gifts? If so, answer: It is, and I ask God to help me.

It is, and I ask God to help me.

With sincere joy we welcome you as communicant members of Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church and of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The pastor addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters,

As we welcome these new members of our Christian family, I encourage you in the name of Jesus to keep them in your minds, hold them in your hearts, and pray for them again and again. Show them the face of friendship and offer them a hand of support. Encourage them with your "works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

The peace of Christ be with us all. Amen.

Let us rise and pray.

Stand

Gracious Father, we thank you for leading Eric, Joan, Randy, Ahlyah, Tammy and Jordan to desire to become communicant members of our congregation and for giving them joy to confess their faith to us. Guide us with your wisdom as we worship and work together. Mold our minds and hearts in a single Christlike will so that we may be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



CW 213



Prayers of intercession, the Prayer of the Day, and the Matins prayer follow.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins, and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

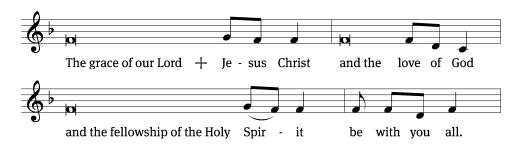
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

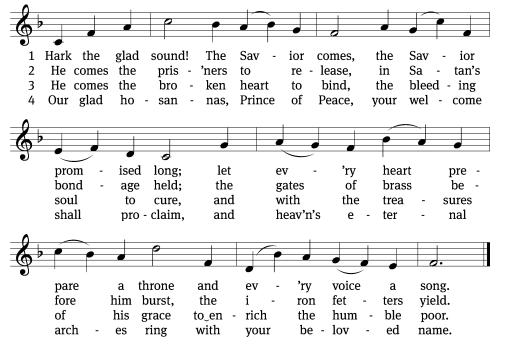












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