

Baptized into his Death

A Sacrament Not A Sign

BLESSING

M: May God lead you in truth and steady your spirit.
May Christ renew your joy and strengthen your will.
May the Spirit teach you God's hidden wisdom and fill you with
songs of rejoicing.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
C: **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

HYMN: CW 592

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

M: In Christ, God gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
C: **Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

PRAYER

M: Blessed are you, sovereign God of all. To you be glory and praise
for ever. You are our light and our salvation. From the deep waters
of death you have raised your Son to life in triumph. Grant that all
who have been born anew by water and the Spirit may daily be re-
newed in your image, walk by the light of faith, and serve you in
newness of life; through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ, to whom
with you and the Holy Spirit we lift our voices of praise.

Blessed be you, O God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
C: **Blessed be God for ever.**

THE NEW LIFE OF BAPTISM

M: Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.
Therefore I ask you:

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the
breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
C: **With the help of God, I will.**

M: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin,
repent and return to the Lord?
C: **With the help of God, I will.**

M: Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

C: **With the help of God, I will.**

M: Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbor as yourself?

C: **With the help of God, I will.**

M: Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

C: **With the help of God, I will.**

M: Then let us pray.

PRAYER

M: Eternal God, our beginning and our end, preserve in your people the new life of baptism; as Christ receives us on earth, so may he guide us through the trials of this world and enfold us in the joy of heaven, where you live and reign, one God for ever and ever.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN: CWS 761 (see insert)

Christ Is With Me

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

God of heaven, Lord of our salvation, you came into a hostile world to bring us peace and comfort. You came to save people like us.

C: **Thank you, Savior, for your sacrifice.**

M: Be with us this evening in your love and keep us mindful of your forgiveness. May we never consider your presence in our lives inconvenient,

C: **but be with us by your Spirit and guide our every step on the path of righteousness. Amen.**

PASSION READING

Matthew 26:1-35

Plot, Passover, & the Lord's Supper

M: All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus

C: **were baptized into his death.**

HYMN: CW 98

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

DEVOTION

1 Peter 3:21-22

The water [of the flood] symbolizes baptism that now saves you also — not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand — with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

OFFERING

EVENING PRAYERS

M: O God our Father, by your mercy and might the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light. We place into your hands our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes, knowing that only what you bless will prosper. To your great love and protection we commit each other and all those we love, knowing that you alone are our great defender.

C: **Amen.**

Special prayers and petitions may follow

THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: O Lord, you have taught us to pray...

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.**