

Service of Prayer and Proclamation

July 19, 2020 • Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS
Charleston, WV

PRELUDE

Be With Us, Gracious Lord, Today

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM

Axel Woods Beckman

BAPTISM ANTHEM

See This Wonder in the Making

Soloist: Kurt Dolph

Text: Jaroslov J. Vajda

Tune: Losfsanger och andeliga wiser, Sweden 1873

The pastor invites the Baptismal family to gather around the font.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P 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.” *Matthew 28:18b-19; Mark 16:16a; 1 Peter 3:21*

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. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

P How is this child named?

R Axel Woods Beckman

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of the candidate while saying:

P **Axel**, 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 **Axel** according to Your boundless mercy and bless
Him with true faith by the Holy Spirit,
that through this saving flood all sin in him,
which has been inherited from Adam and which he
has committed since, would be drowned and die.
Grant that he 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 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.

The pastor addresses the sponsors.

P Is it your intention to serve **Axel** 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 promise of God according to the prophet Ezekiel.

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you.
(Ezekiel 36:25-27a ESV)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

(Mark 10:13-16 NKJV)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the candidate, and the congregation joins in praying:

C Our Father which 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.

The pastor addresses the candidate, sponsors, parents, and congregation:

P Let us together, with **Axel**, faithfully speak the testimony of the forgiveness of sins and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows in and through baptism.

P Axel, do you renounce the devil?

R Yes, I renounce him.

P Do you renounce all his works and 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 Who brings this little child to the Lord to receive His blessing and be baptized?


R We do.

The pastor pours water three times on the head of the candidate while saying:

P **Axel Woods Beckman**, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

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.

The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:

P Receive this white cloth to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgement seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

The pastor may light a baptismal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

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.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

P In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother 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 Axel the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to your good pleasure he 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.**

The baptized and his family return to their seats. The congregation stands for the rite of Confession and Absolution.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 291

Brief time of silence to think on God's Word and the sin we need to confess

P In repentance and in accordance with the faith we have just confessed, let us approach the throne of grace and seek the forgiveness our heavenly Father so graciously offers.

C **O almighty God, merciful Father, we poor miserable sinners, confess unto You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and we pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to us, poor, sinful beings.**

ABSOLUTION

LSB 291

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 24:4–7a

P A reading from Exodus, Chapter 24:

And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

2 Peter 1:16–21

P A reading from Second Peter, the sixteenth chapter.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

Make A Defense: How Do I know He Lives?

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

Almighty God, we are too quick to judge Your ways and too bold to presume upon Your wisdom. Grant us grace so that we may trust in Your Word and fulfill our baptismal vocation of worship, witness, prayer and works of mercy, both to our families and to our neighbors in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, we are stewards of Your creation, but we have often squandered its goodness and wasted its resources. Guide us to use wisely and for the benefit of all people the fruits of this good earth, and preserve its goodness for those to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we have been given new birth in Baptism. Help us to confess Your Son before the world, reflecting the glory of Your kingdom to all people. Bless all pastors, missionaries and church workers, that they may be faithful in their callings. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, we enjoy great freedom and blessing in our land. Bless Donald, our president; the Congress of these United States; our governor; and all those who make, judge and administer laws in our land. Give them wisdom in their actions for the protection of life and livelihood. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we give You thanks for the gift of health, which we must never take for granted. Hear our prayers on behalf of the sick, the aged, the infirm, those who mourn and those near death. Grant them healing in accord with Your will and grace to sustain them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, we too easily forget those in nursing homes, assisted living and the homebound. Give us grace so that we may bring them Your consolation and peace; and give them the aid and comfort of Your Word and our fellowship in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we are wounded by the sufferings of this life, and we need Your grace to sustain us in hope and equip us with patience. Give to us all that we need to pass through the day of trouble and be found faithful when Christ comes in His glory at the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gentle Lord, we ask You to visit the homes of Your people, that they may be places of blessing and love, where faith is nurtured and we learn to live out our new lives in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, hear us on behalf of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant that what we pray for, we may work toward, under the guidance of Your Holy Spirit, that at the Day of Judgment we may be found worthy to join the saints and enter into Your gift of eternal light and life forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **✝** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **✝** blood, which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISTRIBUTION

*Bread of the World in Mercy Broken
Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness
Jesus to Thy Table Led
Children of Thy Heav'nly Father*

LSB 563

LSB 725

TABLE THANKSGIVING

P Now, may this the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you in the one true faith unto life everlasting as you go in His peace and with His Spirit.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION (Aaronic)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and **✠** give you peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

LSB 602

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book
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PRAYER LIST

Baby Ben (Jeff & Tina Clark's grandson) diagnosed and being treated for hip dysplasia – follow up ultrasound set for July 30

Charlie (friend of Rick and Sarah Shaver) hospitalized for recurrent liver problems.

Ethan Davis (teen family friend of Tina and Jeff Clark) Thanks be to God, Ethan was released from the hospital. He still has a great amount of healing ahead of him, but we are all so thankful that the treatment worked as they hoped.

Nancy Gaarenstroom resting at home following a hospitalization; still could use prayers for returned strength in her legs.

Sheri Moore was released from the hospital after a successful procedure and tweaking her medications.

Gary Smith (friend of Sheri Moore) diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

Anthony McIntosh – prayers of thanksgiving that the Covid virus test was negative

Terri North and other members of Cleo's family (nephew and niece of Janet Winans) Cleo passed into eternity Thursday evening.

Judy Knox has received medicine and treatment for a fourth bout of shingles and must remain quarantined from her brand-new great-granddaughter.

John (neighbor of Tee Boyd) will undergo surgery to remove melanoma from his back.

George Clay (Tee Boyd's son-in-law) admitted to the hospital with blood clots in his lungs.

Rick and Sue Robinson (friends of Jeff and Tina Clark) Rick is recovering well in ICU following open-heart surgery and Sue suffers health issues and should also be included in prayers.

Keith Ritz (father of Kevin Ritz) is back in the hospital with complications from previous surgery

Melissa (friend of Kelly Reimert) recovering well from heart catheterization but dealing with a poor prognosis given to her father and is having to juggle her own health struggles with helping care for her father.

Family of Jessica Stanley (niece of Melody Trierwiler) passed into eternity following complications from cancer surgery. The family has recently experienced other serious health challenges and deaths, the impact of which has been exacerbated by the quarantine.

Cheron Stanley (niece of Melody Trierwiler) recently diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer (her third bout of cancer).

Meghan (daughter-in-law of Sue Reed) a nurse, developed fever and sore throat after being exposed to a patient with Covid – awaiting test results.

Sue (Friend of Sue Reed) – dealing with wildfires in Colorado; family has been evacuated.

Liz Albitz, Ali, Betty and Bob, Ed & Kim Booten, Billie Brisendine, Catherine, Teresa Cisco, Linda Cooper, James Cosby, Susan and Skip Daly, Debra, Erin, Harrison and Cindy Gapter, Doris Gerke, Jim and Marlene Hanson, Jo Hartley, Jamie Holm, Roy "Hutch" Hutchison, Jack, Tom Janicki, Linda, Roy and Betty Lindmark, Lisa, Marie Marcum, Jeanneane Maxon, Sandy McKinney, Meghan, Melissa, Bob Mitchell, George Mitchell, Lori Nettles, Cleo North, Herb & Marian Pauley, Harold Reed, Thresa Robinson, Donna Ruffatto, Dave Sanders, Stu and Marcia Schwalm, Carmella Shaver, Peggy Shell, Barbara Spence, Tina and John Thaxton, Jeff & Cara Wade, Family of Debbie Bradley Wilson, Taegan Witcher, Family of Zach

All diagnosed with Covid-19; All diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, and their caregivers; All diagnosed with any form of cancer; All diagnosed with any incurable (even if treatable) disease. For our congregation - that we would pursue God's will for us as His people gathered here to bring Him glory as we make disciples being help, hope, home in the body of Christ.