



# **BAPTIZED INTO HIS DEATH**

**Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School  
Grafton, WI  
February 22, 2024**

## A Sacrament, not a Sign

Signs and symbols. These are artifacts that represent something larger. Take thirteen red and white stripes with fifty-stars on a field of blue. That flag is more than just colored cloth sewn together. It represents something—the history, values, and ideals of the United States of America. That shiny piece of metal on the man-in-blue’s chest is more than decoration. It is a sign, marking that police officer as one who has authority, as well as the duty to protect and serve. Signs and symbols are important because they represent something larger.

There are those who view Baptism as an important sign, a symbolic representation of the way God washes away our sin. They could not be more wrong. Baptism doesn’t represent something. Baptism *is* something. St. Peter says plainly, “Baptism... saves you” (1 Peter 3:21). Baptism isn’t a sign. Baptism is a sacrament. God has connected his saving work and Word with a common earthly element—water. As we begin our Lenten look at Baptism, let us remember what we are looking at when we see someone come to the font. That is not a sign. It is not symbolic. It is a miracle... a Holy Sacrament.

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## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

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Organist:

Jeff Samelson  
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Principal: Nathan Schultz  
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*The 10:30 service is livestreamed for our members at home.*

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**Our Savior**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

# Order of Service

## 400 Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing

CW 400

*Stand*

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In Christ, God gives us water welling up for eternal life. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Prayer

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all. To you be glory and praise forever. 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 renewed 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, God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God forever. Amen.**

## The New Life of Baptism

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?

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

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

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

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

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

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

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

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?

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

Then let us pray.

## **Prayer**

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.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Reading** 1 Peter 3:18–22

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. <sup>19</sup>After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— <sup>20</sup>to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup>and this water 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, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

**679 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It**

CW 679:2

**Passion Reading**Mark 14:1-26—*Perfume, Plot, & Passover*

<sup>1</sup>Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. <sup>2</sup>“But not during the festival,” they said, “or the people may riot.”

<sup>3</sup>While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

<sup>4</sup>Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, “Why this waste of perfume? <sup>5</sup>It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor.” And they rebuked her harshly.

<sup>6</sup>“Leave her alone,” said Jesus. “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>7</sup>The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. <sup>8</sup>She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. <sup>9</sup>Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

<sup>10</sup>Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. <sup>11</sup>They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

<sup>12</sup>On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

<sup>13</sup>So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. <sup>14</sup>Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>15</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

<sup>16</sup>The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

<sup>17</sup>When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. <sup>18</sup>While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

<sup>19</sup>They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

<sup>20</sup>"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. <sup>21</sup>The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

<sup>22</sup>While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

<sup>23</sup>Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

<sup>24</sup>"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them.

<sup>25</sup>"Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup>When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus  
**were baptized into his death.**

## Sermon

## 647 Word and Water, Filled with Promise

CW 647: 1,2,4

## Offering

*Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today.*

*Please sign the friendship register and pass it down the pew.*

*Stand*

## 782 Luther's Evening Prayer



1 I thank you, heav'n-ly Fa - ther, thro' Je - sus, your dear Son,  
2 I trust my soul and bod - y in - to your lov - ing hands.



that gra - cious - ly you kept me while dai - ly tasks were done.  
All things that I en - coun - ter I leave to your good plans.



I pray that you for - give me for all my sins and wrongs,  
Send me your ho - ly an - gel to rout the e - vil one



and in your love con - tin - ue to keep me all night long.  
and crush his dread - ful pow - ers. A - men. Your will be done.

## Evening Prayer

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.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## Blessings

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,

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## 787 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven

CW 787:1,2

### Acknowledgments

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