

Sunday, 26 July 2020

Liturgy: Order of Holy Baptism/Your Grace and Mercy

Pianist: Kristin Sternhagen

How great is our God;
Sing with me, how great is our God;
And all will see how great, how great
Is our God (sing all 2x)

Our God is greater, our God is stronger;
God you are higher than any other;
Our God is Healer, awesome in power;
Our God, Our God (sing all 2x)
...Our God

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
...Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when He said: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." 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 Jesus took away our sin by giving His life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of His righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words together:

C: 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.

P: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed You in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

L: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

(Service continues at the font.)

L: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in His promise, you have brought *Jubilee Ann Audry Punke* to be baptized. Jesus told us: "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

L: Receive the sign of the cross (✠) on the head and the heart to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

L: *Jubilee Punke*, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you (✠).

L: Brothers and sisters, our Lord commands that we teach His precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and godparents, to assist in whatever matter possible so that Jubilee may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

L: Let us pray:

L: Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which You offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our lives. Look with special favor on Jubilee and grant her a rich measure of Your Spirit that she may grow in faith and in godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

 *Baptized into your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among your saints, your chosen host,
Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.*

*My loving Father, there you took me To be henceforth your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, there you let me The fruit of all your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threat'ning clouds around I see.*

P: God is good...

C: All the time.

P: All the time...

C: God is good.

P: How great the love the Father has lavished on us...

C: That we should be called children of God.

P: Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine

C: To the only wise God be glory in the church throughout all generations.

P: Let God's people say:

C: Amen.

GRACEFUL DANCERS Death was Arrested by Melody Punke

LUKE 7:36-50

When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

"Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my

feet. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”

Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

The other guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?”

Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

JAMES 1:13-18

When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

 **HYMN In Christ Alone** (#752 in the greenish hymnal)

*In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in all,
Here in the love of Christ, I stand.*

*In Christ alone Who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless Babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid,
Here in the death of Christ, I live.*

*There in the ground His body lay,
Light of world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day*

*Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

*No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand,
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

SERMON I Will Call Upon the Lord...to fulfill my vows

a message based on Psalm 65

1 Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;
to you our vows will be fulfilled.

2 You who answer prayer,
to you all people will come.

3 When we were overwhelmed by sins,
you forgave our transgressions.

4 Blessed are those you choose
and bring near to live in your courts!

We are filled with the good things of your house,
of your holy temple.

5 You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,

6 who formed the mountains by your power,
having armed yourself with strength,

7 who stilled the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.

8 The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;
where morning dawns, where evening fades,
you call forth songs of joy.

9 You care for the land and water it;
you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain,
for so you have ordained it.

10 You drench its furrows and level its ridges;
you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

11 You crown the year with your bounty,

and your carts overflow with abundance.
12 The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.
13 The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain;
they shout for joy and sing.

 **HYMN What a Friend We Have in Jesus** (#411 in the red hymnal)

*What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!*

*Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged – Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness – Take it to the Lord in prayer.*

*Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge – Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.*

THANK OFFERING

 **OFFERING SONG**

*Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul.
Thank You, Lord, for making me whole.
Thank You, Lord, for giving to me
Thy great salvation so rich and free. **(Repeat)***

GRACEFUL DANCERS Who You Say I Am by Kayla Clark

PRAYERS

THE 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.

BENEDICTION

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

 Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN All the Way My Savior Leads Me

*All the way my Savior leads me
What have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy,
Who through life has been my Guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,
Here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.
For I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.*

*All the way my Savior leads me,
Cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for ev'ry trial,
Feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter
And my soul a-thirst may be,
Gushing from the rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see.
Gushing from the rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see.*

*All the way my Savior leads me
O the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
In my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal,
Wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song thru endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way!
This my song thru endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way!*