



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

What do you do when you arrive at church? Many people attend to the tasks associated with the beginning of the service, looking at the bulletin they have received or checking out what the opening hymn will be. There is blessing to be found also in looking around us and acknowledging those gathered with us. Each of us is singularly special to God, and, joined together, we become “the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand” (Psalm 95:7). There is no more special place to be than in the sheepfold of our God as part of His flock!

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

HYMN: “FATHER WELCOMES”

LSB 605

Refrain

Fa - ther wel - comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly
through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,
Life for - ev - er has been won.
1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly
is of these. Life and love I have to give,
rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
Refrain
Mer - cy for your sin.
Live in the peace of God.



✠ HOLY BAPTISM ✠

Colt Michael Gertz

Son Michael Gertz and Cassondra Tromble

BAPTISMAL ADDRESS

Matthew 28:18b–19; Mark 16:16a; 1 Peter 3:21

- 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.” 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.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

- P** 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.

HOLY GOSPEL FOR BAPTISM

Mark 10:13–16 NKJV

- 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.”
- P** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

ADDRESS TO SPONSORS

- P** From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles’ Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. After *Colt* has been baptized you are at all times to remember him in your prayers, support him in his ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, encourage him in regular worship and faithful reception of the Lord’s Supper, and be an example to him of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for our neighbor. Is it your intention to serve *Colt* 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.

LORD’S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

- 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.

PROFESSION OF OUR COMMON FAITH

spoken by everyone

- P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
- C** Yes, I renounce them.
- P** Do you believe in God, the Father?
- C** Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
- C** Yes, I 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.
- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- C** Yes, I 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.

✠ THE BAPTISM ✠

- P** I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

BLESSING OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED & BAPTISMAL CANDLE

THE WELCOME

- P** Through baptism God has added *Colt* to His own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- C** We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, a child of the same heavenly Father, to work with us in His kingdom.

PRAYER FOR THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

- 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 *Colt* 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 Your 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.
- P** To you, *Colt*, the Lord bless you in all your ways from this time forth and forevermore.
- C** Amen.

HYMN: "FATHER WELCOMES"

LSB 605

Refrain

Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly

through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,

Life for - ev - er has been won.

2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,

be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve

Shall be _____ born a - gain. *Refrain*

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SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

L This is the Word of the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

⁵The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, ⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

⁸Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹in accordance with

L This is the Word of the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Ezekiel 34:11–24

¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

1 Timothy 1:5–17

the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1–10

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I

have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?

⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN: “BY GRACE I’M SAVED”

LSB 566



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is
6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; In Je - sus' prom - ise



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,
I re - joice; For though I know my heart's con - di - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our
I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is glad, all



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.
God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.
grief has flown Since I am saved by grace a - lone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775 Text and tune: Public domain

TEACHING FROM GOD’S WORD

Message Notes

Main Points:

One thing NEW I learned:

What can I apply to my life?

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19 LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Our Lord, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to seek after us lost sheep and to bring us home rejoicing. Let us call upon Him in thanksgiving and petition for ourselves and all people.

O Father in heaven, we pray to You through the Son in the Holy Spirit. Grant that we may daily recognize that You provide for our every need of body and soul. We praise and bless Your holy name for these gifts from above. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, You call pastors and set them to the task of shepherding Your people. Bless them in their work of providing Your gifts to those You have gathered and as they seek those who have wandered away. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious Lord, look with favor on the households of this congregation, and grant that all may live in love that issues from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, our King, You appoint princes and all governing authorities. Remember those You have placed in authority over us, and grant that they might fulfill their responsibilities according to Your Word and for the good of Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of life, You heal and deliver. Hear our cries for all who are in need of strength and rescue [*especially* _____]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Most merciful God, remember Your baptized children who have wandered from the household of faith. Pursue them as a shepherd who seeks lost sheep. Strengthen their families to persist in prayer and confidence in Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, You bring up the souls of Your people from Sheol. Receive our thanks that You restore to life Your people who go down to the pit, and preserve us in faith until we sing Your praises with them in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, all things are Yours, and You have promised to well supply us with all that we need. Give us courage and faith, that we may give a confident “amen” to these prayers, certain that You will give us all that is good and beneficial to our salvation and preserve us from all things harmful, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom, with whom and in whom be all honor and glory, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING PRAYER

C Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received the gift of forgiveness of all my sins. I have heard, through Your Word, the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ for me and all people. May Your Word pass from my ear to my heart, from my heart to my lips, and from my lips to the ears of others, so that Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

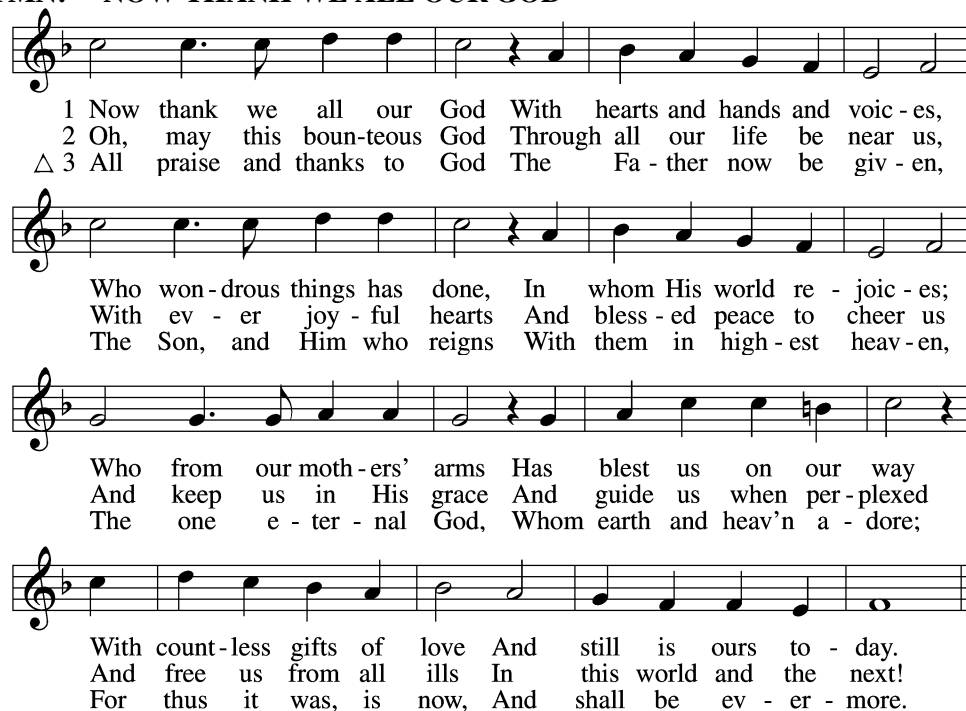
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: “NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD”

LSB 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,

Who won - drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,

Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;

With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

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