

RITE OF BAPTISM

HYMN: "Descend, O Spirit, Purging Flame"



1. Des-cend, O Spir - it, purg - ing flame,
2. For - bid us not this sec - ond birth;
3. All praise be thine, O ris - en Lord,



brand us this day with Je - sus' Name!
grant un - to us the great - er worth!
from death to end - less life re - stored;



Con - firm our faith, con - sume our doubt; _____
Con - scribe us in your ser - vice, Lord; _____
all praise to God the Fa - ther be _____



sign us as Christ's, with - in, with - out.
bap - tize all na - tions with your word.
and Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

RECEPTION OF CHILD

Priest: What name do you give your child?

Parents: Christoph Alexander.

Priest: What do you ask of God's Church for Christoph Alexander?

Parents: Baptism.

Priest: You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

Parents: We do.

Priest: Godparents, are you ready to help these parents in their duty as Christian parents?

Godparents: We are.

Priest: My dear child, the Christian community welcomes you with great joy. In its name I claim you for Christ our Savior by the sign of his cross. I now trace the cross on your forehead, and invite your parents and godparents to do the same.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Reader: A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the foreign lands, and bring you back to your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you to cleanse you from all your impurities, and from all idols I will cleanse you. I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you, taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts. I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes, careful to observe my decrees. You shall live in the land I gave your fathers; you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Cantor: Wake up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you.

All repeat Antiphon:

Wake up and rise from the dead,
Christ will shine up on you.

(The cantor proclaims the following verses.)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom should I fear?
The Lord is my life's refuge;
Of whom should I be afraid?

(Antiphon)

One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
That I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord,
And contemplate his temple.

(Antiphon)

Your presence, O Lord, I seek.
Hide not your face from me;
Do not in anger repel your servant.
You are my helper: cast me not off.

(Antiphon)

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord,
In the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord with courage;
Wait for the Lord and be stouthearted.

(Antiphon)

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10

Reader: A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Come to Christ, a living stone, rejected by men but approved, nonetheless, and precious in God's eyes. You too are living stones, built as an edifice of spirit, into a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

You, however, are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people he claims for his own to proclaim the glorious works" of the One who called you from darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were "no people," but now you are God's people; once there was "no mercy for you," but now you have found mercy.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 3:16

Cantor: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All repeat Antiphon:



Cantor: God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

(Antiphon.)

GOSPEL

John 3:1-6

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

A certain Pharisee named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin, came to Jesus at night. “Rabbi,” he said, “we know you are a teacher come from God, for no man can perform signs and wonders such as you perform unless God is with him.”

Jesus gave him this answer:

“I solemnly assure you, no one can see the rule of God unless he is begotten from above.”

“How can a man be born again once he is old?” retorted Nicodemus. “Can he return to his mother’s womb and be born over again?” Jesus replied:

“I solemnly assure you, no one can enter into God’s kingdom without being begotten of water and Spirit. Flesh begets flesh, Spirit begets spirit.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

SILENCE

INTERCESSIONS

Priest: We have been called by the Lord to be a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people he has acquired for himself. Let us ask him to show his mercy to Christoph, who is to receive the graces of baptism, to his parents and godparents, and to all the baptized everywhere.

Through baptism, may Christoph become God’s own beloved son. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Once he is born again of water and the Holy Spirit, may he always live in that Spirit, and make his new life known to his fellow men. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Help him to triumph over the deceits of the devil and the attractions of evil. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: May he love you, Lord, with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love his neighbor as himself. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Help all of us here to be models of faith for Christoph. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: May all Christ's faithful people, who receive the sign of the cross at baptism, always and everywhere give witness to him by the way they live. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

LITANY OF THE SAINTS

Priest: Holy Mary, Mother of God

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint John the Baptist

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Joseph

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Peter and Saint Paul

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Nicholas

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Gregory

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Maximilian Kolbe

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Christoph

All: Pray for us.

Priest: Saint Alexander

All: Pray for us.

Priest: All holy men and women

All: Pray for us.

PRAYER OF EXORCISM AND ANOINTING BEFORE BAPTISM

Priest: Almighty and everliving God, you sent your only Son into the world to cast out the power of Satan, spirit of evil, to rescue man from the kingdom of darkness, and bring him into the splendor of your kingdom of light. We pray for Christoph: set him free from original sin, make him a temple of your glory, and send your Holy Spirit to dwell within him. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: We anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ our Savior; may he strengthen you with his power, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

Priest: My dear brothers and sisters, God uses the sacrament of water to give his divine life to those who believe in him. Let us turn to him, and ask him to pour his gift of life from this font on this child he has chosen.

BLESSING OF THE WATER

Priest: Father you give us grace through sacramental signs, which tell us of the wonders of your unseen power. In baptism we use your gift of water, which you have made a rich symbol of the grace you give us in this sacrament. At the very dawn of creation your Spirit breathed on the waters, making them the wellspring of all holiness. The waters of the great flood you made a sign of the waters of baptism, that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness. Through the waters of the Red Sea you led Israel out of slavery, to be an image of God's holy people, set free from sin by baptism. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. Your Son willed that water and blood should flow from his side as he hung upon the cross. After his resurrection he told his disciples: "Go out and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Father, look now with love upon your Church, and unseal for her the fountain of baptism. By the power of the Spirit give to the water of this font the grace of your Son. You create man in your own likeness: cleanse him from sin in a new birth to innocence by water and spirit. We ask you, Father, with your Son to send the Holy Spirit upon the water of this font. May all who are buried with Christ in the death of baptism rise also with him in newness of life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

Priest: Dear parents and godparents: You have come here to present Christoph for baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit he is to receive the gift of new life from God, who is love. On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring him up in the practice of the faith. See that the divine life which God gives him is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger in his heart. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your own baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the church. This is the faith in which Christoph is about to be baptized.

Parents and godparents respond, "I do" to each of the following questions.

Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children?

Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness?

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

BAPTISM

Priest: Parents and godparents is it your will that Christoph Alexander should be baptized in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?

Parents and godparents: It is.

Priest: Christoph Alexander, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

EXPLANATORY RITES

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

Priest: Christoph, God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.

All: Amen.

CLOTHING WITH WHITE GARMENT

(Rev. Gentleman will explain the family history of the baptismal garment to be presented to Christoph.)

Priest: Christoph, you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourselves in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of our Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into everlasting life.

All: Amen.

*While Christoph receives his baptismal robe, some of the men will sing
"Veni, Creator Spiritus"*

PRESENTATION OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

Priest: Receive the light of Christ. Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. Christoph has been enlightened by Christ. He is now to walk always as a child of the light. May he keep the flame of faith alive in his heart. When the Lord comes, may he go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

EPHPHETHA (OR PRAYER OVER EARS AND MOUTH)

Priest: The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears to receive his word and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.

All: Amen.

Priest: Christoph, you have put on Christ, in him you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia.

CONCLUSION OF THE RITE

Priest: Dearly beloved, Christoph has been reborn in baptism. He is called a child of God, for so indeed he is. In confirmation he will receive the fullness of God's Spirit. In holy communion he will share the banquet of Christ's sacrifice, calling God his Father in the midst of the Church. In his name, in the Spirit of our common sonship, let us pray together in the words our Lord has given us.

All: 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.

BLESSINGS

Priest: God the Father, through his Son, the Virgin Mary's
child, has brought joy to all Christian mothers, as they see the
hope of eternal life shine on their children. May he bless Mary
Ann, the mother of Christoph. She now thanks God for the
gift of her children. May they be one with her in thanking him
for ever in heaven, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: God is the giver of all life, human and divine. May he
bless Michael, the father of Christoph. With Mary Ann, he will
be the first teacher of his sons in the ways of faith. May he be
also the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what he
says and does, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: By God's gift, through water and the Holy Spirit, we are
reborn to everlasting life. In his goodness, may he continue to
pour out his blessing upon all present, who are his sons and
daughters. May he make them always, wherever they may be,
faithful members of his holy people. May he send his peace
upon all who are gathered here, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: May almighty God, the Father, and the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit, bless you and remain with you forever.

All: Amen.

HYMN: "We Praise You, Lord, for Jesus Christ"



1. We praise you, Lord, for Je - sus Christ,
2. We praise you that this child now shares
3. We praise you, Lord, that now this child
4. We praise you, Lord, for Je - sus Christ,



who died and rose a - gain,
the free - dom Christ can give,
is graft - ed to the vine,
he loves this child we bring:



who lives to break the pow'r of sin
has died to sin with Christ, and now
is made a mem - ber of your house
he frees, for - gives, and heals us all,



and o - ver death _____ to reign.
with Christ is raised _____ to live.
and bears the cross _____ as sign.
he lives and reigns _____ as King.

CELEBRANT

The Rev. John W. Gentleman

PARENTS

Michael & Mary Ann Olbash

GODPARENTS

Marc & Kelly DeMille