

# Wednesday, March 6, 2024 Baptized into His Death

# Service Theme Reliving Your Baptism Every Day

You can and should celebrate the day you were born. However, you cannot actually relive the day you were born. Yet, we need to relive the day we were reborn in Baptism every day. Not in the sense that we go to church, stand by the font, and have the pastor pour water over our head. That only needed to happen once. But when we repent of our sins, it is like reliving our baptismal day. Our sinful nature, which was buried with Christ in our Baptism, is reburied through repentance. In the first of his 95 Reformation theses, Dr. Martin Luther wrote, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent,' he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance." The entire life! Today we see the joy and the need to relive our baptism every day through repentance.

CW 129 Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

1 Alas! and did my Savior bleed, And did my Sov'reign die? Would he devote that sacred head For sinners such as I?

2 Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!

3 Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut its glories in When God, the mighty Maker, died For his own creatures' sin.

4 Thus might I hide my blushing face While his dear cross appears, Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt my eyes to tears.

5 But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give myself away— 'Tis all that I can do.

#### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

C: And also with you.

#### **PRAYER**

M: We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ into his death. By it we share in his resurrection. By your Spirit enable us to relive our Baptism through daily contrition and repentance that we may always walk by the light of faith and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Blessed be God forever. Amen.

#### THE NEW LIFE OF BAPTISM

M: As baptized children of our loving Father, we confess our sins without fear.

C: Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in what we have thought, in what we have said, and in what we have done. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

Silence for personal confession

M: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in his great mercy has pardoned and delivered you from all your sins.
 May he also confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

#### **PRAYER**

M: Almighty and ever-living God, in Baptism by water and the Spirit you have forgiven all our sins. Now let your Holy Spirit rest upon us, we pray: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding; the Spirit of counsel and strength; the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness; that our delight may always be in the fear of the Lord.

#### C: Amen

## Hymn

CW 737:1 God's own child, I gladly say it

God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free,
Lasting to eternity!

# **LESSON – Romans 6:1-14 (EHV)**

What shall we say then? Shall we keep on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>Absolutely not! We died to sin. How can we go on living in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him by this baptism into his death, so that just as he was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too would also walk in a new life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be united with him in the likeness of his resurrection.

<sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him, to make our sinful body powerless, so that we would not continue to serve sin. <sup>7</sup>For the person who has died has been declared free from sin. <sup>8</sup>And since we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that since Christ has been raised from the dead, he will never die again. Death no longer has control over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died, he died to sin once and for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>In the same way also consider yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its desires. <sup>13</sup>Do not offer the members of your body to sin as tools of unrighteousness. Instead, offer yourselves to God as those who are alive from the dead, and offer the members of your body to God as tools of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>Indeed, sin will not continue to control you, because you are not under law but under grace.

CW 737:4 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.

**PASSION READING –** Mark 14:43-65—Trial Before the High Priest

<sup>43</sup>Just then, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. A crowd was with him, armed with swords and clubs. They were from the chief priests, the experts in the law, and the elders. <sup>44</sup>Now his betrayer had given them a signal, saying, "The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him and lead him away under guard." <sup>45</sup>He went right to Jesus and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. <sup>46</sup>They laid hands on him and arrested him. <sup>47</sup>But one of those who stood nearby drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

<sup>48</sup>Jesus responded by saying to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to capture me as you would a criminal? <sup>49</sup>Day after day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But this happened so that the Scriptures may be fulfilled." <sup>50</sup>Then the disciples all left him and fled.

<sup>51</sup>A certain young man was following him, wearing just a linen cloth over his naked body. They seized him, <sup>52</sup>but he left behind the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

<sup>53</sup>They led Jesus away to the high priest. All the chief priests, the elders, and the experts in the law gathered together. <sup>54</sup>Peter followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. He was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire.

<sup>55</sup>The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for testimony against Jesus in order to put him to death, but they did not find any. <sup>56</sup>Many testified falsely against him, but their testimonies did not agree. <sup>57</sup>Some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: <sup>58</sup>"We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.' " <sup>59</sup>Yet even on this point, their testimony did not agree.

<sup>60</sup>The high priest stepped forward and questioned Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is this they are testifying against you?"

<sup>61</sup>But Jesus was silent and did not answer anything.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"

<sup>62</sup>"I am," Jesus said. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming with the clouds of heaven."

<sup>63</sup>The high priest tore his robes and said, "Why do we need any more witnesses? <sup>64</sup>You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?"

They all condemned him as being worthy of death. <sup>65</sup>Then some began to spit on him. They covered his face and struck him with their fists, saying, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him and beat him.

### **RESPONSE**

M: All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus

C: Were baptized into his death.

CW 115 He Stood before the Court

- 1 He stood before the court
  On trial instead of us;
  He met its pow'r to hurt,
  Condemned to face the cross—
  Our King, accused of treachery;
  Our God, abused for blasphemy!
- 2 These are the crimes that tell The tale of human guilt; Our sins, our death, our hell— On these the case is built. To this world's pow'rs the Lord stays dumb. The guilt is ours; no answers come.
- 3 The sentence must be passed,
  The unknown pris'ner killed;
  The price is paid at last,
  The law of God fulfilled.
  He takes our blame, and from that day
  Th' accuser's claim is wiped away.
- 4 Shall we be judged and tried?
  In Christ our trial is done;
  We live, for he has died,
  Our condemnation gone.
  In Christ are we both dead and raised,
  Alive and free—his name be praised!

# **SERMON TEXT & THEME**

Romans 6:1-4,12-14 ... Because of God's work in Baptism

- 1) You've died to sin.
- 2) You've been raised to live a new life

CW 471 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

- 1 Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright, Illumined with the light of grace That issues from your holy face.
- 2 Destroy in me the lust of sin;From all impureness make me clean.Oh, grant me pow'r and strength, my God,To strive against my flesh and blood.
- 3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,That gladly I obey your Word.Oh, let your will be my desireAnd with new life my soul inspire.
- 4 Grant that I only you may love
   And seek those things which are above
   Till I behold you face to face,
   O Light eternal, through your grace.

#### **EVENING PRAYERS**

M: O Lord, support us all the day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.

C: Amen.

#### 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

#### **BLESSING**

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son

and the Holy Spirit, bless us and preserve us.

C: Amen.

### <u>Hymn</u>

CWS 588: 1,5,6,7 Abide with Me

1 Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!

5 I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me!

6 I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me.

7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!