

The Aaronic Blessing (Sung)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

**The Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you.**

**The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you his peace. AMEN.**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.



AN ORDER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

September 26th, 2010

Baptism is a gift from God. With visible signs and words of promise, God moves toward us to claim us as children of the new covenant and members of the household of God. In baptism, God acts to unite us to Christ, to deliver us from the power of sin and death, and call us into a new life of growth and service.

In the sacrament of baptism the church recognizes God's covenant of grace. We receive God's gift with reverent joy and respond in faith and obedience.

Remember the words of Peter on the day of Pentecost:

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls."

Hymn: ***"Child of blessing, child of promise"*** **521**

The Presentation

Minister: Who comes to receive the gift of baptism?

Elder: On behalf of Session I present **Sophie Marie Oskam, daughter of Jonathan and Tarah Oskam.**

Minister: **Jonathan and Tarah** do you desire that **Sophie Marie** be baptized?
If so, please answer, **I do.**

Confession and Affirmation

It is our common lot that we turn away from God's gracious and loving action in our lives. We decide that we know best for ourselves and those whom God places in our care. We act in ways that serve to destroy God's way of justice and love for all creation. We sin and separate ourselves from God's love. Consequently, we need to turn to God and to seek forgiveness for the ways in which we have fallen short of what God calls us to be as spouses, parents, children and neighbours.

Jonathan and Tarah do you recognize and share in this need for confession to God and the seeking of God's renewal in your lives? If so, please answer, **I do**.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ, accepting him as Lord and Saviour, trusting in his grace and love? If so, please answer, **I do**.

Do you desire, in dependence upon the Holy Spirit, to mature as a Christian in the church, to seek the guidance of Christ as you listen to his Word, to celebrate his death and life at the table he provides, and to engage in his mission to the world? If so, please answer, **I do**.

Do you promise to raise your daughter, **Sophie Marie** in the love and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ within the home and the fellowship of the church? If so, please answer, **I do**.

The Prayer continues as the minister raises a handful of water and pours it into the font.

Almighty God; by the power of your Holy Spirit, by the sign of this water, you cleanse from sin through the death of Jesus Christ, those who receive this sacrament; you raise them to new life through his resurrection, and graft them into his body, the church.

Pour out your Spirit upon **Sophie Marie** that she may have power to do your will and continue forever as a servant of Christ to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory now and forever. AMEN.

The Act of Baptizing

Sophie Marie, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

May the Holy Spirit be upon you, **Sophie Marie**, child of God, disciple of Christ, member of the church. AMEN.

Declaration and Welcome

See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. (1 John 3:1)

Sophie Marie, you are now received by Christ's appointment into the holy, catholic church. Through baptism, God has made you a member of the household of God to share with Christ in the priesthood of all believers. Remember your baptism and give thanks. Be one with us in the church.

The minister will present the newly baptized member of the church to the elder who will in turn present them to the congregation. Upon the elder's return to the front they will give the child to the mother.

The congregation will stand, if able.

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, and sponsors, promise to guide and nurture **Sophie Marie** by word and deed, with love and in prayer, encouraging her to follow the way of Christ and to be a faithful member of His church?

If so, please answer, **we do**.

Let us profess our faith: # 539 in the Hymn Book

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. AMEN.**

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Water is poured visibly and audibly into the font.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O gracious God, for the gift of your Spirit and sign of water. In the beginning, when your Spirit moved over the waters, you gave order and life to your planet earth.

By the waters of the flood you cleansed the world, and established with Noah and his family a new beginning for all people.

In the time of Moses, you led your people out of slavery through the waters of the sea, making covenant with them in a new land.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus Christ, who was formed in the water of a woman's womb.

In the water of Jordan, Jesus was baptized and anointed by your Holy Spirit.

In his ministry to the world, Jesus offered living water to the woman of Samaria, washed the feet of his disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all nations by water and the Spirit.

And now, with your people of all times and places, we wait with eager longing as we look for the city of God, from which will flow the river of life for the healing of the nations.

Gracious God, by the gift of water and your Holy Spirit you sustain all life.

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