PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Godparent lights candle and holds it through baptism service.

SERVICE OF BAPTISM

L: Welcome in the name of God who creates, saves, and calls us with grace that lasts forever.

C: Amen.

If you have a candle for worship, please light it now.

L: Baptism is God's YES. Not just in general, but a YES made specifically and uniquely for each person. Who presents this child to receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism?

Parents and sponsors: We present ______ to be baptized. *(first and middle name)*

L: As you bring ________ to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, to pray for them daily, bring them to hear the word and share the Supper, teach them the prayers, creeds, and commandments, place in their hands the holy Scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer so they may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help ______ grow in the Christian faith and life? If so, say, "We do!"

Parents and sponsors: We do!

L: The world will waste no time telling ______ lies about power, value, and love. So we stand with this child this morning, one of many times, to speak God's truth about these things. People of God: Do you reject the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that pull us away from God? If so, say, "We do!"

C: We do!

L: Do you promise to speak the truth about <u>'s</u> identity as a child of God, affirming them through all circumstances with their first and forever name: Beloved? If so, say, "We do!"

C: We do!

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?"

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

Parent: pour water from pitcher into font during prayer:

L: Let us pray. Saving God, we give you thanks for the waters of creation that have nourished the earth since you spoke life into being. We remember Noah and his family rocking back and forth on the floodwaters, Miriam keeping watch over her brother Moses in the Nile, the Israelites fleeing through the spray of the Red Sea, the thirsty drinks they took from water that poured from a rock in the desert. You sent your son to be carried by the water and waves of Mary's womb, to be baptized in the Jordan with the crowds, to turn water into wine, to meet the Samaritan woman at the well, to feel the thirst of humanity in life and death. Rain down your Spirit so that, by this water and your word, we are renewed by the gifts of Jesus and the truth about love.

C: Amen.

Parent: cup hand and pour water on child's head three times as these words are spoken:

L: _____, you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon ______, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C: Amen.

Parent: trace sign of the cross on child's forehead.

L: ______, beloved child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

People, including sponsors, hold up a candle for all to see speaking together.

C: ______, we welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

BAPTISM HYMN