

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

# MORNING WORSHIP

June 10, 2018 9:30 A.M.

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## PREPARATION AND PRAISE

*Upon entering the sanctuary please maintain silence and turn off all electronic devices for the sake of the congregation's preparation for worship.*

Prelude: "All Creatures of Our God and King" Low  
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Low

Welcome and Announcements

## ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

- \* Call to Worship: Psalm 145:3–4, 10–11, 21  
Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
**there is no end to his greatness.**  
One generation shall praise your works to another  
**and shall declare your power.**  
All your works praise you, LORD,  
**and your faithful servants bless you.**  
They make known the glory of your kingdom.  
**and speak of your power.**  
My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD:  
**Let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**
- \* Hymn: "Praise the LORD, Sing Hallelujah" PH 188
- \* God's Greeting:  
Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**Who made heaven and earth.**  
Blessed be God.  
**And blessed is his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**
- \* Prayer of the Day:  
**Almighty God, fountain of all wisdom, you know our needs before we ask, and our lack of knowledge in asking. Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which we in our unworthiness dare not ask, and in our blindness cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**
- \* Response: "Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound" PH 462

## CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

Romans 6:3–4

God's Will for Our Lives:

Ephesians 4:21–25

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

I Peter 2:9–10

\* Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (inside front cover of the Psalter Hymnal)

Response: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

PH 556

Congregational Prayer

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

\* Hymn: "I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace"

PH 495

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading:

Luke 5:1–11 (p. 1019)

Sermon: *Deep Water*

Prayer

\* Hymn: "What the Lord Has Done in Me"

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## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18–20).

Hear also these words from Holy Scripture: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:4–6).

### The Institution

Congregation of our Lord Jesus Christ: Today we have the privilege of celebrating God's promises as we baptize one of His covenant children, and the joy of welcoming into the fellowship of this church those whom God has brought to worship and serve the Lord together with us in this congregation. As we do these things today, let us again remember what the Lord has revealed to us about holy baptism in his Word:

First, Scripture teaches that we and our children are sinners from birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us (Ps. 51:5). This means that we are all under the judgment of God and for that reason cannot be members of his kingdom unless we are born again. Baptism, whether by immersion or sprinkling, teaches that sin has made us so impure that we must undergo a cleansing which only God can accomplish. Therefore, we ought to be displeased with ourselves, humble ourselves, and turn to God for our salvation.

Second, baptism is a sign and seal that our sins are washed away through Jesus Christ. For this reason we are baptized into the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Our baptism into the name of God the Father is his assurance to us that he makes an everlasting covenant of grace with us and adopts us as his children and heirs. Therefore, he surrounds us with his goodness and protects us from evil or turns it to our profit.

When we are baptized into the name of the Son, we are assured by Christ himself that he washes us in his blood from all our sins. Christ joins us to himself so that we share in his death and resurrection. Through this union with Christ we are liberated from our sins and regarded as righteous before God.

Baptism into the name of the Holy Spirit is the assurance that the Spirit of God will make his home within us. While living within us, the Spirit will continually work to strengthen and deepen our union with Christ. He will make real in our lives Christ's work of washing away our sins. He will also help us each day to live the new life we have in Christ. As a result of his work within us, we shall one day be presented without the stain of sin among the assembly of the elect in life eternal.

Third, because all covenants have two sides, baptism also places us under obligation to live in obedience to God. We must cling to this one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We must trust him and love him with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We must abandon the sinful way of life, put to death our old nature, and show by our lives that we belong to God. If we through weakness should fall into sin, we must not despair of God's grace, nor use our weakness as an excuse to keep sinning. Baptism is a seal and totally reliable witness that God is always faithful to his covenant.

Our children should not be denied the sacrament of baptism because of their inability to understand its meaning. Without their knowledge, our children not only share in Adam's condemnation but are also received into God's favor in Christ. God's gracious attitude toward us and our children is revealed in what he said to Abraham, the father of all believers: "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you" (Gen. 17:7). The apostle Peter also testifies to this with these words: "The promise is for you and your children and for...all whom the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:39). Therefore God formerly commanded circumcision as a seal of the covenant and as a declaration that righteousness comes by faith. Christ also recognized that children are members of the covenant people when he embraced them, laid his hands on them, and blessed them (Mark 10:16). Since baptism has replaced circumcision, our children should be baptized as heirs of God's kingdom and of his covenant. As the children mature, their parents are responsible for teaching them the meaning of baptism.

### **Prayer of Preparation**

Let us turn to God, asking that in this baptism his name may be glorified, we may be comforted, and the church may be edified.

We thank you, O God, for our baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters, and you created everything that is, seen and unseen. In the time of Noah, you destroyed evil in the water of the flood; and by your saving ark, you gave a new beginning. In the night of trouble you led Israel through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the water of the Jordan, our Lord was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. In the baptism of Christ's death and resurrection, you have set us free from sin and death and opened up the way to eternal life. May Christ, who sank deep into death and was raised Lord of life, keep us and our little ones in the grip of his hand. May your Spirit separate us from sin and mark us with a faith that can stand the light of day and endure the dark of night. To you be all honor and glory, dominion and power, now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Profession of Faith: Kenneth McCarthy

In your baptism, you were marked as a member of Christ's church. It is our joy to welcome you today as a member of this congregation. We believe that the Holy Spirit has led you here at this time for your own good and the good of this congregation. We invite you now to affirm your faith in Christ and express your commitment to the life of this church and mission God has given to us.

1. Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God sent to redeem the world, do you love and trust him as the one who saves you from your sin, and do you with repentance and joy embrace him as the Lord of your life?
2. Do you accept the gracious promises of God sealed to you in your baptism, and do you affirm your union with Christ and his church which your baptism signifies?
3. Do you promise to join with us, sharing your gifts, in our worship and fellowship, and in the mission God has given us in the world?

*Answer:* I do, God helping me.

## Baptismal Vows

And just as you have affirmed God's saving work in your own lives, you are also asked to affirm the Savior's work as you present your child for baptism:

1. Do you acknowledge that our children, though sinful by nature, are received by God in Christ as members of his covenant, and therefore ought to be baptized?
2. Do you acknowledge the teaching of the Old and New Testaments, summarized in the Apostles' Creed and taught in this Christian church, is the true and complete doctrine of salvation?
3. And do you sincerely promise to do all you can to teach this child, and to have him taught, this doctrine of salvation?

*Answer:* We do, God helping us.

## Baptism of Xavier Andrew McCarthy

Our Lord said: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14).

Xavier Andrew McCarthy, I baptize you into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*To the congregation:*

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support this child by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

*Answer:* **We do, God helping us.**

## OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

\* Song of Praise: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

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\* Offertory Prayer

Offering: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

Peeters

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

\* Benediction:

Hebrews 13:20–21

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

\* Doxology: “God, the Father of Your People”

PH 322

\* Postlude: “O God Beyond All Praising”

Honoré

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