Wee Worship Baptism ■ November 1, 2026

A service for preschool children and their families

GATHERING SONG *sung by all*

O when the saints go marching in, O when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number when the saints go marching in.

O when the light begins to shine, O when the light begins to shine,
O Lord, I want to be in that number when the light begins to shine

OPENING PRAYER *Adapted from The Shema*

Presider Let us love God with our hearts *People* **and our neighbors as ourselves.**
Presider Let us love God with our minds *People* **and our neighbors as ourselves.**
Presider Let us love God with our strength *People* **and our neighbors as ourselves.**

SONG: LOVE THE LORD *sung by all*

Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind, and all your strength.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind, and all your strength.

With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and all your strength.

I will love the Lord with all my heart . . .

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THE LESSON OF THE DAY, FOLLOWED BY A STORY

Children are invited to move forward; parents are welcome, too.
All sing alleluia, after which the lesson is read and a story relating to the lesson is told.

Halle, halle, halle - lujah! Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Presider says

The candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

John Quattrini and James Wilder Quattrini are presented individually by their Sponsors or Parents and Godparents, as follows

I present . . . to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Presider asks each candidate when presented

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate **I do.**

The Presider addresses the candidates, sponsors, parents, and godparents

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to God's call. Therefore I ask:

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?
Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?
Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?
Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?
Answer **I do.**

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Answer **I do.**

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?
Answer **I do.**

The Presider then addresses the whole congregation.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Do not stop them." We thank God for *N., N., and N.,* who have come to be baptized today. Christ loves them and welcomes them into the Church. So I ask you all: Will you support these people as they begin their journey of faith?

People **We will.**

Will you help them to live and grow within God's family?

People **We will.**

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

The Presider then says these or similar words, to which all respond as indicated

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Presider Do you believe in God the Father?
People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 to the dead. 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.**

Presider Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **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.**

Presider Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Presider Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

PRAYERS

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth. Deliver them, O God, from the way of sin and death. Open their hearts to your grace and truth. Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church. Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit. Send them into the world in witness to your love. Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

All sing **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Presider blesses the water, first saying

Presider Praise God who made heaven and earth.

People **God's promises are for ever.**

Presider Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Loving God, we thank you for your servant Moses, who led your people through the waters of the Red Sea to freedom in the Promised Land. We thank you for your Son Jesus, who has passed through the deep waters of death and opened for all the way of salvation. Now send your Spirit, that those who are washed in this water may die with Christ and rise with him, to find true freedom as your children, alive in Christ for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

Each candidate is presented to the Presider, who pours water upon the candidate, saying

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

A candle, lighted from the Paschal Candle, is given to the newly baptized with these words

N., receive the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life. **Amen.**

SONG: THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

The Presider leads the newly baptized in procession, sprinkling the congregation with baptismal water, a sign of our renewed baptismal covenant.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine . . .

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine . . .

Every single day, I'm gonna let it shine . . .

All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine . . .

THE CHRISMATION

The newly baptized return to the front, and the Presider prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Loving God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Presider then marks the sign of the cross on each person's forehead using Chrism, saying

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Then the Presider says

Presider Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **We welcome you into the family of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

THE PEACE

All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ.

THE OFFERTORY

The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code Connections) and you will receive a return text with instructions.

SONG: I AM HOLY *sung by all*

I am holy *(I am holy)* **I am precious** *(I am precious)*
Because God made me this way *(Because God made me this way)*

You are holy *(You are holy)* **You are precious** *(You are precious)*
Because God made you this way *(Because God made you this way)*

We are holy *(We are holy)* **We are precious** *(We are precious)*
Because God made us this way *(Because God made us this way)*

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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Presider and People in dialogue:

Presider God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them unto God.**
Presider Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider

We give thanks to you all-holy God, for you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image and call us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. So we offer our praise to you, as we sing:

The People sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues

Glory and praise to you, holy and living God. You sent your beloved child Jesus to enter our world as a baby. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He ate with the sad and the lost, healed the sick, and brought good news to the poor.

On the night before he died for us on the cross, he ate dinner with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to God for it, broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. As you eat it, remember me."

After dinner Jesus took a cup of wine, again gave thanks to God, and gave the wine to his friends to drink, saying: "Drink this, all of you, for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for the whole world for the forgiveness of sins. As you drink it, remember me."

And so we sing our story of faith:

All sing **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Presider continues

God of love, we offer you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ. Grant that we, filled with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

All sing **Amen.**

Presider Let us now pray in the words Jesus taught us:

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.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence is kept and the bread is broken.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Everyone, regardless of age, is welcome to receive communion. Gluten-free wafers are available at the altar station. After receiving the bread and the wine, people may return to their seats. Songs are sung during communion.

COMMUNION SONG: SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD *sung by all*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu, alleluia.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you. Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and the door shall be opened up to you. Allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu, alleluia.

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COMMUNION SONG: I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS *sung by all*

I have decided to follow Jesus. (x3)
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me . . .

Sing alleluia, alleluia . . .

POST-COMMUNION SONG: THANK YOU, GOD *sung by all*

Thank you, God. Thank you, God.
I just want to thank you, God.

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The Presider blesses the People.

SENDING SONG: GO NOW IN PEACE *sung by all*

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The Presider dismisses the people.

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Land Acknowledgement

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging. We also remember and lament that this plot of land was given to St. Columba's Episcopal Church by an enslaver and that the wealth created by the labor of enslaved persons helped to build this sanctuary.

Children's Baptism Service: Adapted from The Book of Common Prayer (New York: Church Publishing, 1979) *and Common Worship: Christian Initiation—Additional Baptism Texts in Accessible Language* (© The Archbishops' Council 2015; London: Church House Publishing). Used with permission.

ST. COLUMBA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Columba's Episcopal Church is an inclusive Christian community of all ages that welcomes one and all, encourages spiritual curiosity, celebrates children and youth, and embraces the world in the spirit of God's justice and love.

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