

✠ **THE CONFESSION OF THE FAITH** ✠

[Baptism is based on the command and promise of Christ, who causes Baptism to bring saving grace to the candidates by the power of the Word: "It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believes this, as the words and promises of God declare."]

[To the sponsors, the parents, and the congregation]

Because this candidate cannot answer for himself, we shall all, together with parents and sponsors, speak in testimony of the forgiveness of sin and the birth of the life of faith which God our Father bestows upon this candidate in and through Baptism:

*Do you renounce the devil? I do renounce him!
and all his works? I do renounce them!
and all his ways? I do renounce them!*

*Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty? Yes, I believe
in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

*Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son? Yes, I believe
in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the
dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of
God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to
judge the living and the dead.*

*Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? Yes, I believe
in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.*

Do you desire to be a baptized and forgiven person? I do!

✠ **THE BAPTISM IN THE NAME
OF THE HOLY TRINITY** ✠

[Through Holy Baptism poor sinners are adopted into God's family in the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit: "Without God's Word the water is plain water and no baptism. But with the Word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit."]

*Valentine Evander Ostreko, I baptize you in the Name of
the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! .. Amen!*

[To the newly baptized and all the baptized here present]

*Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has
given you new birth through water and the Holy Spirit and has
forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life
everlasting! Amen!*

Peace be with you! Amen!

[The baptismal party returns to the pews]

✠ **A FINAL NOTE
FOR BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS** ✠

"What does such baptizing with water indicate? It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

[Explanatory notes contain quotations from two primary statements of what Lutherans believe, teach and confess: The Augsburg Confession, and Luther's Small Catechism.]

Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Boone, Iowa

The Office of
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Lutheran Formula of 1526
included in the Small Catechism
and the Lutheran Service Book Agenda



Image courtesy of the Digital Image Archive, Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

Valentine Evander Ostreko

*Son of Russell Duane and Camille Ostreko
Born April 16, 2021*

*Reborn into Christ
May 9, 2021*

Sponsors: Rev. Michael and Kira Standfest

**MARTIN LUTHER'S ADMONITION
TO THE BAPTISMAL PARTY
AND THE CONGREGATION**

“In all Christian earnestness I would ask all those who administer baptism, who hold the children, or witness it, to take this wonderful work to heart in all its seriousness. For here, in the words of these prayers, you hear how meekly and earnestly the Christian church concerns herself about the little child and how he confesses before God in plain undoubting words that he is possessed by the devil and is a child of sin and wrath, and prays very diligently for aid and grace through baptism that he becomes a child of God. Remember, therefore, that it is no joke to take sides against the devil and not only to drive him away from the little child, but to burden the child with such a mighty and lifelong enemy. Remember, too, that it is very necessary to aid the poor child with all your heart and strong faith, earnestly to intercede for him that God, in accordance with this prayer, would not only free him from the power of the devil, but also strengthen him, so that he may nobly resist the devil in life and death.

I suspect that people turn out so badly after baptism because our concern for them has been so cold and careless; we, at their baptism, interceded for them without zeal . . . See to it, therefore, that you are present in true faith, listen to God's Word, and earnestly join in prayer. For when the pastor says, “Let us pray,” he is exhorting you to unite with him in prayer. And all sponsors and the others present should repeat with him the words of his prayer in their hearts to God, . . . carrying the little child's need before God most earnestly, setting themselves against the devil with all their strength on behalf of the child, and showing that they realize this is no joke as far as the devil is concerned. For this reason it is right and proper . . . to treat the matter with seriousness and true faith, lest the holy sacrament be made a mockery for the devil and an insult to God, who through it showers us with the abundant and infinite riches of his grace. He himself calls it a new birth by which we are being freed from all the devil's tyranny, loosed from sin, death, and hell, and become children of life, heirs of all the gifts of God, God's own children, and brethren of Christ.

Ah, dear Christians, let us not value and administer this unspeakable gift so indolently and indifferently, for baptism is our only comfort and admits to every blessing of God and to the communion of all the saints. To this may God help us! Amen!”

✠ THE OFFICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

[The baptismal party gathers at the baptismal font]

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit! Amen!

✠ THE EXORCISM ✠

[The Lutheran Church retained the Exorcism from the historic baptismal rite because of the Biblical doctrine of original sin. “It is taught among us that since the fall of Adam all men who are born according to the course of nature are conceived and born in sin. That is, all men are full of evil lust and inclinations from their mothers' wombs and are unable by nature to have true fear of God and true faith in God.”]

[To the candidate]

Depart O unclean spirit and make room for the Holy Spirit! Receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your mind ✠ and upon your heart ✠ to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified Amen!

[To the congregation]

*Let us pray: O Almighty eternal God, who according to Your righteous judgment did condemn the unbelieving world through the flood; and in your great mercy did preserve believing Noah and his family; and who did drown hardhearted Pharaoh with all his host in the Red Sea and did lead your people Israel through the same on dry ground, thereby prefiguring this bath of your baptism; and who through the baptism of your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has consecrated and set apart the Jordan and all water as a salutary flood and a rich and full washing away of sin: We pray through your same boundless mercy that You will graciously behold this **Valentine Evander Ostreko**, and bless him with true faith in his spirit so that by means of this saving flood all that has been born in him from Adam, and which he himself has added thereto, may be drowned in him and engulfed, and that he may be sundered from the number of the unbelieving, preserved dry and secure in the holy ark of Christendom, and serve Your name at all times fervent in spirit and joyful in hope, so that with all believers he may be made worthy to attain eternal life according to Your promise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

..... Amen!

[To the candidate]

I adjure you, O unclean spirit, by the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit ✠ that you come out of and depart from this servant of Jesus Christ,

***Valentine Evander Ostreko** Amen!*

✠ THE WORD OF GOD ✠

[God does bring blessings to those who are baptized, including infants: “It is taught among us that Baptism is necessary and that grace is offered through it. Children, too, should be baptized, for in Baptism they are committed to God and become acceptable to him.”]

*The Holy Gospel of St. Mark **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!***

*People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them. *[Mark 10:13-16 NKJV]**

*This is the Gospel of the Lord! **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!***

✠ THE OUR FATHER and THE BLESSING ✠

[In Holy Baptism, God is at work. It is a sacrament, a divine activity, through which he gives his blessing: “Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.”]

[We pray together for God's blessing on the candidate]

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 forever and ever. Amen!

[To the candidate]

The Lord preserve your going out and coming in now and forevermore. Amen!