Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly is seated.

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words:

**OPTION A: God, who is rich in mercy and love**

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

**Sponsors for each candidate, in turn, present the candidates:**

I present name for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents or others who bring for baptism children who are not able to answer for themselves:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your children baptized into Christ?

*Response:* I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

- to live with them among God's faithful people,
- bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
- teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
- place in their hands the holy scriptures,
- and nurture them in faith and prayer,
- so that your children 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 your children grow in the Christian faith and life?

*Response:* I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture these persons in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

*Response:* I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support name and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

*We do.*
PROFESSION OF FAITH
The presiding minister addresses candidates for baptism as well as the parents and sponsors of young children. The assembly may join in the responses.
I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

OPTION A: Three Renunciation Questions
Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
Response:
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?
Response:
I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?
Response:
I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.
Do you believe in God the Father?
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT
Water may be poured into the font before or during the thanksgiving. At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
**OPTION C: Blessed are you, holy God**

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

_Amen._

**BAPTISM**

_The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. The candidate is immersed into the water, or water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:_

*name*, I baptize you in the name of the Creator,*

_The candidate is immersed or water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:_

and of the Christ,  
_The candidate is immersed or water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:_

and of the Holy Spirit.

_Amen._

**OPTION A: Blessed be God**

Blessed be God, the source of all life,  
the word of salvation,  
the spirit of mercy.

_Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized may receive a baptismal garment._

_The presiding minister continues:_

Let us pray.  
We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

_Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:_

Sustain *name* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: 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, both now and forever.

_Amen._

_The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:_

*Name*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

_Amen._

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Raindrops, oceans, lakes, and rivers; welcome, child of God.

Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters; welcome, child of God.

When the world feels wide around you, when the dark of night surrounds you,
we are here to tend and guide you. Welcome, child of God.