

3	For the LORD Most High is to be feared; * he is the great King over all the earth.
4	He subdues the peoples under us, * and the nations under our feet.
5	He chooses our inheritance for us, * the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
6	God has gone up with a shout, * the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.
7	Sing praises to God, sing praises; * sing praises to our King, sing praises.
8	For God is King of all the earth; * sing praises with all your skill.
9	God reigns over the nations; * God sits upon his holy throne.
10	The nobles of the peoples have gathered together * with the people of the God of Abraham.
	The rulers of the earth belong to God, * and he is highly exalted.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *The head that once was crowned with thorns* **Hymnal 483**

Gospel

Luke 24:44-53

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you--that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Sermon

Mr. Peter Doddema, Seminarian

Procession to the Font *Descend, O Spirit, purging flame*

Hymnal 297

The Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

(Parents and godparents please stand; the congregation may be seated)

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsors: I present *Alexa Nana Adwoa*, to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Sponsors: I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Sponsors: I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Sponsors: I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Sponsors: I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Sponsors: I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Sponsors: I do.

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Sponsors: I do.

Celebrant: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Sponsors: I do.

Celebrant: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: **We will.**

Celebrant: Then, standing together, let us all renew our baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

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

People: **I will, with God’s help.**

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

People: **I will, with God’s help.**

Celebrant: 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 for the Candidates

Celebrant: Let us now pray for *Alexa Nana Adwoa Gibbs* who *is* to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader: Deliver *Alexa*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Open her heart to your grace and truth.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Send her into the world in witness to your love.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son, may live in the power of his resurrection, and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

(The congregation, including parents, godparents, and candidates may be seated)

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Celebrant touches the water:

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that he who here is cleansed from sin and born again, may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

(Will the parents, godparents [and candidates] please come forward now; children in the congregation may also come forward)

Celebrant: *Alexa Nana Adwoa*, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her 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.*

Anointing her with Chrism in the sign of the cross the Priest says:
Alexa Nana Adwoa, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ’s own forever. *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

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

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**