

## ***Baptism of Jeremiah Xavier Sloan***

**INVITATION** *[The baptismal party should approach the font.  
All children present are invited to stand near children who are to be baptized.]*

**\*BAPTISMAL HYMN**  
*“Wherever He Leads I’ll Go” —598*

### **WELCOME**

PASTOR: Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**PEOPLE: *There is one body and one Spirit.  
There is one hope in God’s call to us.***

PASTOR: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

### **ADDRESS**

PASTOR: Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. “I ought to be baptized by you,” John said, “yet you have come to me!”

**PEOPLE: *Jesus said, “Let it be so for now. For in this way, we shall do all that God requires.” So John agreed.***

PASTOR: As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and lighting on him.

**PEOPLE: *Then a voice said from heaven, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am well pleased.”***

PASTOR: At another time, Jesus said: Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. In as much as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ’s church, the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

### **QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES: INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN**

PASTOR: [addressing the parents] Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

**PARENTS: *We do.***

PASTOR: [addressing the parents and sponsors] Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

**PARENTS AND SPONSORS: *We will, with the help of God.***

PASTOR: Will you teach this child that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

**PARENTS AND SPONSORS: *We will, with the help of God.***

PASTOR: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ’s disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

**PARENTS AND SPONSORS: *We do, with the help of God.***

PASTOR: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ’s presence, by furthering Christ’s mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

**PARENTS AND SPONSORS: *We do, with the help of God.***

### **\*CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT**

*[All who are able may stand as the congregation is asked to make promises.]*

PASTOR: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

**PEOPLE: *We promise our love, support, and care.***

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

***ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.***

### **PRAYER OF BAPTISM**

*[The water is visibly poured.]*

PASTOR: Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

### **ACT OF BAPTISM: NAMING OF A CHILD**

*[When a child is baptized, as the child is handed into the arms of the pastor, the parents are asked to name the child.]*

PASTOR: By what name will your child be called?

**PARENTS: Jeremiah Xavier Sloan.**

*[The pastor, administering the water by pouring, says this.]*

PASTOR: Jeremiah Xavier Sloan, you are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**PEOPLE: Amen.**

*[The pastor may lay hands on the head of the baptized and say these words.]*

PASTOR: The Holy Spirit be upon you, Jeremiah Xavier Sloan, child of God, disciple of Christ, member of the church.

**ACT OF PRAISE** —*Gloria*

***ALL SING: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.***

***Amen, Amen.***

**PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED**

PASTOR: We give you thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful, for this your child and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as sons and daughters in the one household of your love. Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this new member of the body of Christ.

***ALL: Give to the newly baptized: strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.***

**BENEDICTION**

*[Those leading the service greet the newly baptized, the parents, and the sponsors informally. The pastor, sponsors, or others move through the congregation with the newly baptized and introduce the person as a sign of entry and incorporation into the living community of faith.]*

PASTOR: Go in the peace of Christ.

***ALL: Thanks be to God.***

*[Those who have participated in the Order for Baptism may return to their places in the congregation.]*

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Pastor Daniel Johnson, Officiating

