

EVENING WORSHIP

DECEMBER 5, 2021

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 203

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

The Invocation

The Confession of Faith

The Heidelberg Catechism #72-74

Leader: Does this outward washing with water itself wash away sins?

*Leader and People: No, only Jesus Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit cleanse us from all sins.*

Leader: Why then does the Holy Spirit call baptism the water of rebirth and the washing away of sins?

*Leader and People: God has good reason for these words. To begin with, he wants to teach us that the blood and Spirit of Christ take away our sins just as water removes dirt from the body. But more importantly, he wants to assure us, by this divine pledge and sign, that we are as truly washed of our sins spiritually as our bodies are washed with water physically.*

Leader: Should infants also be baptized?

*Leader and People: Yes. Infants as well as adults are included in God's covenant and people, and they no less than adults, are promised deliverance from sin through Christ's blood and the Holy Spirit who works faith. Therefore, by baptism, the sign of the covenant, they too should be incorporated into the Christian church and distinguished from the children of unbelievers. This was done in the Old Testament by circumcision, which was replaced in the New Testament by baptism.*

The Hymn No. 207

*Good Christian Men, Rejoice*

The Scripture Reading

Zechariah 3:1-10

The Hymn No. 200

*It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

*The children are dismissed to their choirs.*

The Evening Prayer

The Sermon

Rev. Carl Kalberkamp

Psalm 109

A Troubling Psalm?

The Hymn No. 254

*Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

The Benediction