

Marc - With this act of welcoming Max into the covenant community, I charge you, Max, each day, to look to God in all things, to grow in God's grace through prayer and study of God's Word, and to remember this day, when God claimed you as one of his own. Thanks be to God!

Baptism of Max Alexander Bellan

August 18, 2024

Here the words of Scripture as we begin today,

Opening Verses

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18-20

“...You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” 2 Peter 2:9

“For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

Acts 2:39

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus Christ, and confident of his promises, we baptize those whom he has called. In baptism, we believe that God lays his claim to us and puts a sign on us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice. As we celebrate the sacrament, let each of us remember and rejoice in our own baptism.

Elder

On behalf of the Session, I present Max Alexander Bellan to receive the sacrament of baptism.

To Max,

Do you acknowledge your need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit? If so, say, "I do."

Do you claim God's covenant promises and benefits and by faith do you look to the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation? If so, say, "I do."

Do you now unreservedly present yourself to God, and do you promise by relying on God's power and grace through the Holy Spirit to live an exemplary life before God? If so, say, "I do."

Do you commit yourself to pray to God, learn the Scriptures and the great articles of our faith in Jesus Christ, and to remember the claim that Christ has laid upon you this day? If so, say, "I do."

To the congregation of CUP EPC,

Do you, the members of this congregation, acting for yourselves and in behalf of the whole Body of Christ, assume responsibility, for the spiritual nurture and encouragement of Max? If so, say, "We do."

Do you commit yourself to set a godly example before him and to encourage him in his walk with Christ? If so, say, "We do."

Marc - Max, child of the covenant, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Make a cross on Max's forehead

Prayer/Blessing

O Lord, uphold Max by your Holy Spirit. Give him 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.

Welcome

Elder – Max Alexander Bellan is now received into the visible church. Through baptism, God has made him a member of God's household, to share with us in the priesthood of Christ. I charge you, the people of this congregation, to nurture and to love him, and to assist him to be faithful disciples.

Congregation - With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the Gospel with you, and to help you know and follow Christ.