

Beginning of Ministry & Baptism

Confirmation - Lesson A3

Name: _____ Date: _____

Memory Verse of the Week: "Jesus answered, truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of _____ and the _____, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God." John 3:5

John the Baptist (Matthew 3:1-12)

- **Isaiah 40:3** - 'A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the _____; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
 - John the Baptist was the last OT _____, sent to prepare the way for Jesus
 - A prophet's role was to proclaim the _____ of God, call people to repentance, and go against the culture.
- **Matthew 3:2** - _____ for the Kingdom of heaven (or God) is near!
- **Matthew 3:11** - I baptize you with water for repentance...He will baptize you with the _____ and with fire.
- **John 3:30** - 'He must become greater; I must become less.'

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-16)

- Model baptism for us
- Inaugurate Jesus' ministry and that He was approved and authorized by God
- 3 persons of the Trinity
- Identified with humanity

What is a Sacrament? (Literally means _____)

- Commanded by _____, _____ element, and means of grace that offers _____
- How Many Sacraments Do We (Lutherans) Believe in? _____

What is the purpose of baptism?

- Obey God's _____ to be baptized (John 3:5, Mark 16:16)
- Receive _____ and marked as one in the _____ of God (1 Peter 3:21)
- Creation of _____ and receive the Holy Spirit (John 3:5, 1 Corinthians 12:3)
- Means of grace where we receive the _____ of sins (Titus 3:4-6)

Why Do We Baptize Babies?

- Majority of Christians across the globe baptize infants
- The first documents about the early church show infants were baptized
- Babies are born _____ and need what baptism offers (Psalm 51:5, Romans 5:18)
- God is the _____ of faith and faith is a gift (Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Corinthians 12:3)
- Baptism replaces _____ (Colossians 2:11-12)
- _____ are baptized in the Bible (Acts 10:24, 47-48, 16:14-15, 16:30)
- _____ are brought to Jesus to be blessed (Luke 18:15, Matthew 21:16)

Main Point: God is the INITIATOR of faith and we are a new creation, through the Holy Spirit.

Reflection Time- *Use this space to silently reflect on these questions:*

1) Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 *'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.'* **What does this verse mean to you?**

2) How have you changed as a result of your faith?

3) What is the purpose of baptism?

4) Read Titus 3:4-6 *4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior---* **What does this verse mean to you?**

5) What questions do you have about baptism or the purpose of it?

Parent Signature _____ Date _____