

The Sacrament of Baptism



Statement of Purpose

Brothers and sisters, let us celebrate the gift of grace to us in the sacrament of baptism.

**There is one body, and one Spirit,
we have one hope in Christ.**

Presentation of Candidate Nancy Kerswill

On behalf of the congregation of Aurora United Church, I present **Austyn Elizabeth Hilliard, Declan Joseph Hilliard, and Ethan Bruce Tustin**, for initiation into the family of Christ through baptism.

Questions for Parents, Sponsors

Do you believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, and who works in us and others by the Spirit?

I do, by the grace of God.

Will you join together with your brothers and sisters in this community of faith to celebrate God's presence, and work and minister to a world in need of God's love?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you also grow together with your children and offer to teach them the Christian faith, and help them to take their place in the Christian family?

I will, God being my helper.

The Congregation Makes a Promise: Nancy Kerswill

Let us pledge to this family, our support and care.

As a church following in the way of Jesus, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within this community of faith. May God grant us all the grace to live out our baptism.

The Blessing of the Baptism Water

The water we use in baptism is a symbol of the grace of God—free-flowing, awakening, refreshing, renewing. It is a symbol of the unconditional love that names us and claims us as God's own. It also is a symbol of the faith that we share in common, as people of Christ.

Let us pray: Loving God, bless now this water that we will use in baptism. May it be a sign and promise of new life, not only for Austyn, Declan and Ethan, but also for all who have passed through the waters of baptism. In the spirit of Christ, whom was himself baptized, we pray. Amen.

The Baptism (What is the name of this child?)

Austyn Elizabeth/Declan Joseph/Ethan Bruce, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Austyn Elizabeth/Declan Joseph/Ethan Bruce, child of God, with the sign of the cross, you become one with Christ Jesus in the family of God. Amen.

Austyn Elizabeth/Declan Joseph/Ethan Bruce, may the blessing of the one God, Mother and Father of us all, be with you today and always. Amen.

Presentation of Certificate and Cross Candle Lighting

Sung Blessing (MV 214)

May God's sheltering wings, God's gathering wings protect you. May God's nurturing arms, God's cradling arms sustain you, and hold you in God's love, and hold you in God's love.