

## **WORSHIP**

### **Invocation**

“In the name of the Father and the of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

The word “invocation” comes from a Latin word which means “calling on.” In the invocation we “call on” God, asking Him to bless our worship.

At the beginning of the Divine Service, the Pastor says the invocation while facing the congregation to show he’s acting as God’s representative. It’s as if God is saying through him, “I called you here in fulfillment of my ancient promise and mandate. You have been made my baptized in my name and I adopted you as my children. Since Baptism has made you my children, you are heirs of the promises and gifts I long to give to your during the next hour. These gifts will be yours forever and will bear fruit every day of your life. You are my people. I am your God.

This begins our worship of the one true God. These words and the use of the sign of the holy cross, words first spoken and marked on us in Baptism, confess that the God upon whom we call is the God who calls his baptized people together by Word and Sacrament. It reminds us of our origins. It also reminds us that Luther urges us to remember our baptism on a daily basis and have “a new man daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity.”

Bible Reference: Matthew 28:19

#### Sources:

- ...Commission on Worship – Taking a Tour of Heaven Parts 1,2,3
  - ...Lutheran Witness – September, 1999
  - ...Lutheran Worship - History and Practice – CPH
  - ...Meaningful Worship – CPH
  - ...The Holy Communion – CPH
  - ...We Praise Thee, O God – CPH
  - ...Concordia Commentary - Luke Vol. 2 - page 480
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