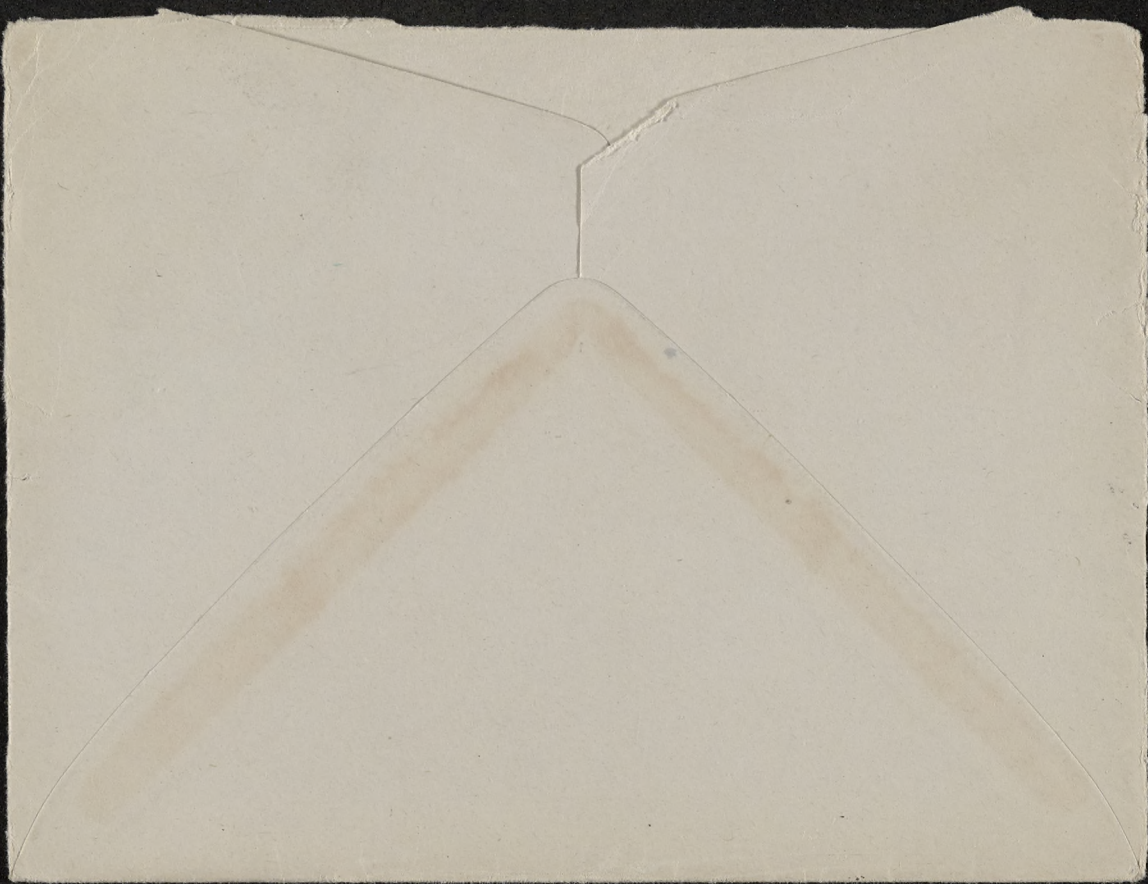


Carol

~~Book of~~ Baptismal

Certificates.





THE BAPTISMAL FONT

A M A N U A L

for Baptized Children of the
Methodist Episcopal Church

FRANK ALBERT DOMER
OF THE NORTH-EAST OHIO CONFERENCE



THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
NEW YORK CINCINNATI CHICAGO

THE BAPTISMAL FONT

A MANUAL
for Baptized Children of the
Methodist Church

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FRANK ALBERT DOMER
OF THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN



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Order for the Administration of Baptism to Children

The Minister, coming to the font, which is to be filled with pure water, shall say:

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as all children are members of the kingdom of God and therefore graciously entitled to Baptism, I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant that *this child*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and become a worthy *member* of Christ's holy Church.

Then the Minister shall pray:

Almighty and Everliving God, we beseech thee, that of thine infinite goodness thou wilt look upon *this child* and grant that by the aid of thy Holy Spirit *he* may be steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and that *he* may so live the life which now is, that *he* may enter triumphantly the life which is to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then the Minister shall address the Parents or Sponsors as follows:

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as *this child* is now presented by you for Christian baptism, and is thus consecrated to God and to his Church, it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the meaning and purpose of this holy Sacrament; that *he* be instructed in the principles of our holy faith and the nature of the Christian life; that *he* shall be trained

to give reverent attendance upon the public and private worship of God and the teaching of the Word, and that in every way, by precept and example, you shall seek to lead *him* into the love of God and the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you solemnly engage to fulfill these duties so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

Answer. We do.

Then the People shall stand and the Minister shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel written by Saint Mark.
[Chapter 10. 13-16.]

And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Let the little children come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Then the Minister, who may here take the child in his arms, shall say to the Parents or Sponsors:

What name shall be given to this child?

And then, repeating the name, he shall baptize the child, saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then the Minister shall pray:

O God, our Heavenly Father, grant that *this child*, as *he grows* in years, may also grow in grace and in knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that by the restraining and renewing influence of thy Holy Spirit *he* may ever be a *true child* of God serving thee faithfully all *his* days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, fount of all love and wisdom, source of all power, so guide and uphold the Parents [or Sponsors] of *this child*, that, by loving care, wise counsel and holy examples, they may lead *him* into that life of faith whose strength is righteousness and whose fruit is everlasting joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Or the Minister may offer extemporary Prayer.

Then the Minister and the People may say:

Our Father, who art in heaven:

Hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. **Amen.**

Then one or more stanzas of a hymn such as the following may be sung:

"Shepherd of Tender Youth."

"See Israel's Gentle Shepherd Stands."

"Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us."

Then the Minister may say:

Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, now and evermore. **Amen.**

To the Parents

Dear Parents. Your child has this day been dedicated by you to the Lord in Christian baptism according to the usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

We hold that all children are members of the kingdom of God, and therefore graciously entitled to baptism. Infant baptism contemplates a course of religious instruction and discipline and it is expected of all parents or guardians who present their children for baptism, that they will use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity with the Word of God.

We regard children who have been baptized as under the special care and supervision of the Church. When they shall understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into Full Membership in the Church upon the recommendation of the Official Board or the Board of Stewards and the approval of the Pastor. The Discipline provides that classes of baptized children shall be formed for religious instruction in every church. These classes are sometimes conducted in connection with the Junior Epworth League.

Thus the Church expects to do its part in the religious education of its children. To be effective this must be

supplemented by the Christian training of the home. I trust this will not be overlooked or neglected by you. In presenting your child for Christian baptism you have promised that *he* shall be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn the meaning and purpose of this holy sacrament, that *he* shall be instructed in the principles of our holy faith and the nature of the Christian life, that *he* shall be trained to give reverent attendance upon the public and private worship of God and the teaching of the Word, and that in every way, by precept and example, you will seek to lead him into the love of God and the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God graciously help you and help the Church to lay well the foundation for a noble Christian character in the child you have this day dedicated to Him.

Faithfully, YOUR PASTOR.

To the Baptized Child

My dear Child. Before you were old enough to act for yourself in such matters, your parents dedicated you to God in Christian baptism. You were thus early in life brought into membership in the Church and your name inscribed upon our Church record among the baptized children. When you are old enough to understand these obligations you may be received at once into Full Membership in the Church upon meeting the requirements and answering publicly the questions provided for by the Discipline, and which will be found on page 15 of this manual.

I trust that you may early learn to really love your Church and the blessed Christ which the Church repre-

Baptismal

This Certifies that Carol D
Franklin B. Muller and
at Paterson N. J. on the
was this day **Baptized** by me in the name of
Holy Spirit according to the usages of the

Methodist Episc

and is therefore entitled to be received into
the requirements of the Discipline shall have

Embury Church
Paterson N. J.
October 1 1933

Certificate

Dean Muller child of

Lucie Muller, born

24th day of July A. D. 1933

of the Father and of the Son and of the

he

Episcopal Church

into full membership in the Church, when

have been met.

Oscar L. Joseph

Pastor.

sents. We learn to love people only when we become acquainted with them and see in them that which is attractive and worthy of our love. You will learn to love Christ and the Church in the same way. If you will study the life and teachings of Christ as recorded in the Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and the history and doctrines of our Methodism, I am sure you will soon learn to love them both.

As early as possible I hope you will learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Ten Doctrines of Grace, which you will find in this book, and which include the fundamental principles of our Church belief.

I am praying that God will keep you ever pure and true to Him and to your Church, and that you may be a happy Christian, and a very useful member of the Church throughout your entire life.

Sincerely your pastor,

.....

The Ten Commandments

I. THOU shalt have no other gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them; for I, the Lord thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generations of them that hate me;

and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And for-

give us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church,* the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Ten Doctrines of Grace

I. I believe that all men are sinners.

II. I believe that God the Father loves all men and hates all sin.

III. I believe that Jesus Christ died for all men to make possible their salvation from sin, and to make sure the salvation of all who believe in Him.

IV. I believe that the Holy Spirit is given to all men to enlighten and to incline them to repent of their sin and to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

* By "the holy catholic Church" is meant the church of God in general.

V. I believe that all who repent of their sins and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ receive the forgiveness of sin. (This is justification.)

VI. I believe that all who receive the forgiveness of sin are at the same time made new creatures in Christ Jesus. (This is regeneration.)

VII. I believe that all who are made new creatures in Christ Jesus are accepted as the children of God. (This is adoption.)

VIII. I believe that all who are accepted as the children of God may receive the inward assurance of the Holy Spirit to that fact. (This is the witness of the Spirit.)

IX. I believe that all who truly desire and seek it, may love God with all their heart and soul, mind and strength, and their neighbors as themselves. (This is entire sanctification.)

X. I believe that all who persevere to the end, and only those, shall be saved in heaven forever. (This is the true final perseverance.)

Form for Receiving Persons into the Church from Preparatory Membership after Re- quired Instruction Has Been Given.

On the day appointed, all that are to be received into the Church shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved, the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the Head, the habitation of the

Holy Spirit, the fellowship of those who believe and obey the gospel. It is expected of those who unite in this fellowship that they will not only share in its privileges, but that they will also fulfill its duties in which, by word and deed, the beauty and power of the Christian life will be exemplified in themselves and commended to others.

Into this holy fellowship the *persons* before you, who *have* received the Sacrament of Baptism, who *have* learned the nature of these privileges and these duties, and who *have* also been instructed in the teachings and the aims of the Methodist Episcopal Church, *come* seeking admission. We now propose in the fear of God to question *them* as to *their faith* and purpose, that you may know that *they are* proper *persons* to be admitted into this Church.

It is needful, however, that you be reminded of your own responsibility, as having previously entered this holy fellowship and now representing the Church into which they seek admission. Inasmuch as they should find in you holy examples of life and loving help in the true serving of their Lord and ours, I beseech you so to order your own lives that these new disciples may take no detriment from you, but that it may ever be to them a cause for thanksgiving to God that they were led into this fellowship.

Then, addressing the Persons seeking admission, the Minister shall say:

Beloved in the Lord, you are come hither seeking union with the Church of God. We rejoice that you have heeded the call to be Christ's *followers*; and are minded to undertake the privileges and the duties of membership in the

Church. Before you are fully admitted thereto, you should here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Question. Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, and pledge your allegiance to his kingdom?

Answer. **I do.**

Question. Do you receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the New Testament of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Answer. **I do.**

Question. Will you be loyal to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and uphold it by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service?

Answer. **I will.**

Then the Candidates shall kneel and the Minister, laying his hand upon the head of every one severally, shall pray:

The Lord defend thee with his heavenly grace and by his Spirit confirm thee in the faith and fellowship of all true disciples of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Candidates shall then rise, and the Minister, extending to each the right hand of fellowship, shall say:

We welcome you to the fellowship of the Church. May God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church on earth until you are called to the fellowship of the Church in heaven.

The Minister addressing the congregation shall say:

Brethren, I commend to your love and care *these persons* whom we this day have received as members of our Church and call upon you to do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope and perfect them in love.

Then one or more stanzas of a hymn such as the following may be sung:

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord."

"The Church's One Foundation."

"O Where Are Kings and Empires Now?"

Then may the Minister say:

The blessing of God Almighty; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Membership Certificate

This Certifies that.....

was received by me into **Full Membership** in the

Methodist Episcopal Church

on the.....day of.....A. D. 19.....

at the altar of the.....Church

in.....

.....Pastor.