

These Certificates Are Pointless

When we set out to design some keepsake certificates adorned and inspired by the art and teaching of Pastor Daniel Erlander, we realized that the conventional idea behind things like diplomas and awards—earning a fancy piece of paper to show off one’s achievements or smarts or skills—doesn’t fit so well with the vision of Christian life and community Dan shared so freely and generously.

“You don’t need points,” he would sometimes say. “It’s okay to be pointless.” With the deep grace of that declaration in mind, we made these certificates to help you and your congregation try another way to recognize and celebrate people.

It is our hope that the whimsical creativity of Pastor Daniel Erlander will inspire your congregation to recognize and honor all the people who promote and encourage various aspects of Christian ministry.

You don’t
need points.



Come sing
with me!



An “official” seal

This seal uses the back-cover image from *A Place for You*. It incorporates the no-longer-crabby people and Sarah dancing and smiling together. The rulebook / scorecard is thrown away, and they share the good news: All is gift. All is grace.

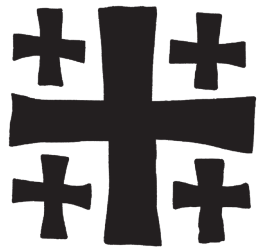
Erlander Baptism Certificates

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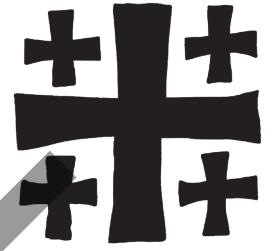
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God's beloved child,



_____,
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

These people bore witness:



Your baptism took place at:

Official Signature

Date

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them,
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."

Luke 18:16



When you were buried with Christ in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

Colossians 2:12

Today we witnessed God's promises poured out upon

in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Where this baptism took place:

Who was there to witness:



Official Signature

Date



Today we witnessed God's promises poured out upon

in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Where this baptism took place:

Who was there to witness:



Official Signature

Date

Holy Baptism



Today we witnessed
God's promises
poured out upon



Where this baptism took place:

Who was there to witness:

and it was marvelous!

Official Signature

Date

I have redeemed you; I have called you
by name; you are mine.
Isaiah 43:1





Certificate of Baptism

On this day, in the company of all the saints,
we witnessed all the promises of God poured out upon

May the gift of God's Holy Spirit fill you with wisdom, understanding,
and courage. May you honor God's holiness and rejoice in the wonder
of God's presence, now and forever.

Congregation and Place of Baptism

Official Signature

Date

Who was there to witness

Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4



Baptismal Sponsor

Thank you for choosing to welcome _____
into the life of the church and for your continued
support of growth in faith, hope, and love.



Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47

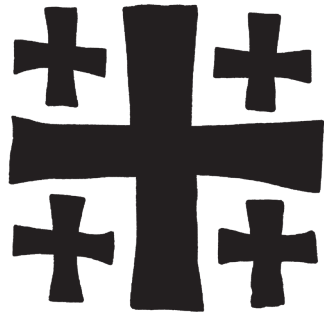


Congregation

Location

Official Signature

Date



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Acts 2:46-47



Congregation

Location

Official Signature

Date



You can frolic!

You teach us about joy, delight, and play. Thanks for reminding us that God wants us to have fun as we learn and grow!

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar and all that fills it;
let the field exult and everything in it.

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Psalm 96:11-12



Congregation

Location

Official Signature

Date



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Congregation

Location

Official Signature

Date