



## WCF Prayer:

Chapter 28 - Of Baptism

### **Gracious Lord and Heavenly Father,**

We praise you that the Lord Jesus Christ has ordained the sacrament of Baptism as a means of admission into your visible Church. We thank you that in this holy ordinance you have given us a sign and seal of the covenant of grace—of our ingrafting into Christ, of regeneration, the remission of sins, and a visible commitment to walk in newness of life through Him.

Living God, we acknowledge that this sacrament is given by Christ's own command to be faithfully administered in His Church until the end of the age. We thank you that in the application of water, we are baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father, we recognise the solemnity and dignity of this ordinance and that it is to be administered only by those set apart for this sacred task. We rejoice in the freedom you have given, that this sacrament does not need immersion, but is rightly administered by pouring or sprinkling of water also upon the person being baptised.

Living God, as you called Abraham and his sons to bear the sign of your covenant, so we thank you that you call all who profess faith in Christ, together with their infant sons and daughters to receive this sign of your promises.

Lord, we humbly confess that although baptism is of great importance and must not be neglected, your grace is not bound to it. We praise you Lord God that we can be regenerated and saved without baptism. We acknowledge also Lord God that only you know who are undoubtedly regenerated and that the sign of baptism does not in itself guarantee the presence of salvation.

Gracious Father, we have come to understand that you have not tied the efficacy of baptism only to that moment of administration. Yet we praise you that by the right use of this sacrament, the grace promised is nevertheless truly offered, exhibited and conferred by the Holy Spirit. And we know Lord God that The Holy Spirit works only that which is in accordance with your will and at your appointed time. Lord we know that this is true whether of the mature person or infant child.

Lord, we understand that this glorious sacrament should be administered to a person only once.

Strengthen our faith through this sacrament, deepen our assurance of your promises and cause us to walk ever more faithfully in the newness of life that is ours in Jesus Christ.

Amen.