

Week 4 Baptism: Clothed With Christ

Gathering Song [Grace Worn Like a Coat by Your Listening Sanctuary](#)

Daily Prayer *Jesus, Jesus you are with me as I step into this day.*

Let me hear you gently calling, "Precious child, walk this way."

Jesus, Jesus when I hear you, calling me to follow you,

In that hour, give me grace to love my neighbor like you do. Amen.

Scripture: Galatians 3:27 Context: 26-29 Clothed With Christ

...for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Devotional Thoughts

What is the importance of the various articles of clothing that we wear? We wear warm clothes for below zero temperature because it can save one's life. We prepare for a rainy day by wearing a waterproof coat and rubber boots. Police officers or military might wear Kevlar or bulletproof gear to protect themselves in a dangerous situation. We have different clothes for fishing, various sports or attending a wedding.

What if we spent as much time wearing Christ as we spend worrying about what we wear as clothes for all the events in our lives? Through our baptism, we are clothed with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, empathy, peace, grace. These are the spiritual coverings of righteousness and salvation received through faith.

Are there risks in wearing Christ? Is it possible that you have something to lose? Or perhaps we have nothing to fear. How would the people you see on a weekly basis respond if they knew you were "clothed in Christ" because of the way you responded to them with grace, hope and love? In Galatians 3:27, Paul wanted us to understand we wear Christ like a cloak that protects us and identifies us as belonging to God.

This Week's Challenge? Belonging to Christ means that we shine Christ's light in the world. What will you choose to wear this week? This is your challenge. Will you wear humility, or kindness, or compassion? What would it look like to clothe yourself in joy? Perhaps you will choose to wear gratitude or generosity. Remember that however we cloth ourselves with Christ this week, we are children of God. We are living out our baptismal promises every time we engage in relationships with other people and with all of creation.

Affirmation of Christian Vocation: Make the sign of the cross on your forehead (or if you are doing this devotion with others, make the sign on the forehead of another) while saying...

All that we do belongs to God—our work and our rest.

We follow Jesus with thankful hearts and open hands, serving our neighbor in love.

Morning and evening, at work and at play, our life is in Christ Jesus our Lord. AMEN