

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What is the Invocation?

At the beginning of the Divine Service, you will hear Pastor say: "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" as he makes the sign of the cross. This is the Invocation. The word "invocation" comes from a Latin word that means "to call upon."

Why do we begin the Divine Service with the Invocation?

The Small Catechism says that the right way to use God's name is to "call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks." The Invocation and the sign of the cross begins the Divine Service by "calling upon" God who, through the power of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, called us to faith in Jesus. When we call, He comes to be with us, giving us His wonderful gifts of salvation!

Can I call upon God in this way in my own daily devotions?

Of course! Speaking the Invocation and making the sign of the cross is a wonderful way to begin and end your daily devotions. Go ahead and try it!



Parents: During the service, help your children listen for times when the Pastor speaks the name of our Triune God. Practice speaking the Invocation and making the sign of the cross with your children during family devotions. Remind them that this reminds us of our Baptism.



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