

What We Believe About Baptism

What is Baptism?

Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.
(cf. Matthew 28:19)

What benefits does Baptism give?

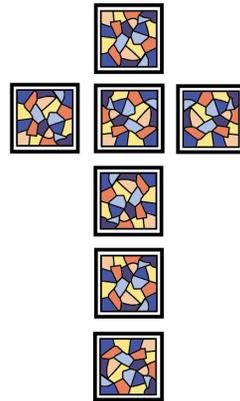
It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.
(cf. Mark 16:16 & Acts 2:38)

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit.
(cf. Titus 3:5-8)

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.
(cf. Romans 6:4)



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
Church and School

Learn, Live, Share...Christ

7910 E. St Joe Hwy
Lansing, MI 48917

For information on Baptism, or to schedule an appointment with the pastor, contact Sue Sundstrom at 517.882.8665.

OurSaviorLansing.org

Baptism of Infants & Children



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
Church and School
Learn, Live, Share...Christ

Beginning with Baptism

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Mark 10:14) Children have a place in the Kingdom of God and are able to receive God's gift of forgiveness, life and salvation that come by grace, through faith. Baptism delivers these gifts into a person's life by the power of God's word and promise.



Baptism was instituted by Jesus Christ to begin the new life of a disciple. When infants and children are baptized, they are counted as disciples of Jesus, and taught as they grow in years how to follow and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

Baptism is not something we do for God, but it is something God does for us, where He grants us the forgiveness of sins and the Holy Spirit, adopting us into His family. What a special gift that God gives to us in Baptism!

BAPTISM + TEACHING = A DISCIPLE

Getting Ready for Baptism

The first step in having your child baptized at Our Savior is to set up an appointment with the pastor. **You can contact the church office and speak with Sue Sundstrom at 517.882.8665 or ssundstrom@oursaviorlansing.org to set up your appointment.**

At this meeting, the pastor will go over what we believe about baptism and how we practice baptism at Our Savior, and emphasize the parent's promises to raise their child in the Christian faith.

Church Membership

Since Baptism makes you a member of the body of Christ, the baptized infant/child becomes a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church. Thus, parents are typically members of our congregation, or intend to become members. In certain cases, a pastor of Our Savior can baptize a child from another congregation with that pastor's permission.

Baptismal Promises

In Baptism, **God** makes promises: to wash away sins (Acts 22:16) and give the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38) as he claims that person as his beloved child (Mark 1:11). **Parents** also make promises: to pray for their child, remind them of their baptism, bring them to regular worship, place in their hands the Holy Scriptures, and teach them the Christian faith. **Sponsors** are mature Christians who join parents in making these promises, and who encourage both child and parents throughout the years.

Baptism Day

We conduct Baptisms during our worship services, where God's people can join in the celebration and affirm their love and support for your family. We worship at 8 and 10:45 a.m. during the school year, and at 9:30 a.m. during summer months.

Baptism Day is a day to celebrate! Invite your family and friends, whether they are Christians or not. Grandparents, relatives, and family friends are welcome. Many people take pictures right after the service, and plan a family gathering afterwards.

During the beginning of the service, the pastor will invite your family to come forward, along with your child's sponsors. After the parents pledge their commitment to raising their child in the Christian faith, the pastor will pour water over the child's head in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You will then receive a baptism certificate and a baptismal candle that you can use to remind your child of this special day.

