

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?

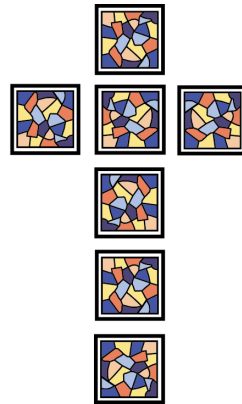
It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.
(cf. Mark 16:16)

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

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

OurSaviorLansing.org

Getting Ready for Adult Baptism



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Beginning with Baptism

God wants to bring a great blessing into your life – a “washing of water and the word” that brings the forgiveness of sins, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and adoption into God’s family. Baptism was instituted by Jesus Christ to initiate a new follower. By repenting of our sins and being baptized into Christ, we embark on a journey with Jesus as a disciple.



Jesus gave this commission to his disciples after he rose from the dead, “**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to**

obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

When the Apostle Peter addressed the crowd in Jerusalem at Pentecost, and shared with them the message that Jesus had died and rose again to be the Savior, he told them, “**Repent and be baptized, everyone of you, for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call.**” (Acts 2:38-39)

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.

If you are ready to take this step in becoming a follower of Jesus and a member of the Christian Church, then this brochure will fill you in on what to do next.

LEARN

Getting Ready for Baptism Sessions

There are four sessions with the pastor to talk about the meaning of Baptism, the life of Jesus, and how we grow in our faith as Christians. Contact the Church Office to set up a time for your first session.

LIVE

Baptism Sponsor

The Christian life is lived in community. We are all members of the body of Christ, and we rely on each other. If you have a Christian friend who would like to serve as your sponsor, they can attend the Getting Ready for Adult Baptism sessions with you and help you through the material. And they also get to be with you at your Baptism.

SHARE

Baptism Offering

Just as God gives freely to us, we give freely to others. Part of following Jesus means sacrificing for the needs of others. You get to choose a charity of your choice to make a special contribution to in honor of your Baptism and in gratitude for the Lord’s work. (The charity must be other than Our Savior Lutheran Church and School). The contribution may be monetary or a special act of service.

Your 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 you. This is a day to celebrate! Invite your family and friends, whether they are Christians or not, and ask them to be there. Many people take pictures right after the service, and plan a special lunch or family gathering afterwards.

During the beginning of the service, the pastor will invite you to come forward, along with your family, your sponsor, and any other significant people you want to invite. After affirming your faith in Christ, the pastor will pour water over your head in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. He will then invite your family and sponsor to lay hands on you and pray for this new life in Christ.

