

## The Ordinance of Baptism

Congratulations on your decision to be baptized! The Bible is clear that after we make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we should be baptized. *After we've repented and taken the Lord as our Savior, we should be baptized. –Acts 2:38*

Baptism is a visible symbol of God's saving work within a person. It is the outward sign of spiritual change that has happened in the spirit of a Believer. Baptism is an act of obedience which vividly pictures the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. The significance of baptism comes from Jesus Christ himself; *“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”” -Matthew 28:20*

Today we rejoice with you and pray that God's loving spirit continues to guide you beyond the Ceremony of Baptism into the destiny that He has for your new life in Christ Jesus.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

#### Prior to the Ceremony

1. The Deaconess Ministry will contact the “Candidate for Baptism” one (1) week prior to the ceremony to answer any questions and ensure that the Candidate is prepared.
2. On the day of Ceremony, the Candidate should arrive at the church 30 minutes prior to the service to prepare. The Deaconess Ministry will provide Baptism Robe, Foot-ware, Head Cap and a towel.
3. The Pastor will meet with the Candidate 20 minutes prior to the ceremony to talk through the ceremony while answering any final questions.

#### During the Ceremony

1. At the beginning of the Ceremony, the Pastor will share a devotional word about baptism.
2. The Pastor will ask the Candidate to join him in the baptistery and share their name.
3. The Pastor will then say, *“In obedience to the Great Commission and upon the profession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”*
4. The Candidate will then be immersed (completely covered) in the water. After all of the candidates have been baptized, the Pastor will close with a prayer.
5. After redressing, the Candidate should join the Deaconess on the front row during the Worship Service. During worship the Candidate will receive a Certificate of Baptism.

#### HELPFUL HINTS:

1. Pray for God's continued presence in your life.
2. Arrive 30 minutes prior to the Baptismal Service.
3. Bring a change of undergarments to wear after baptism.
4. Bring light (white) colored undergarments to wear under Baptismal Robe during baptism, a towel (we will furnish), and a bag to hold wet-clothes after baptism.



**BAPTISM**