

Baptism

The presiding minister baptizes each candidate. The candidate is immersed into the water, or water is poured on the candidate's head, as the presiding minister says:

 Name , I baptize you in the name of the Father,*

The candidate is immersed or water is poured on the candidate's head a second time:

and of the Son,

The candidate is immersed or water is poured on the candidate's head a third time:

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Or, "Name is baptized in the name of the Father,"...

After each baptism, the assembly may respond with one of the following, a sung alleluia, or another acclamation.

OR

**Blessed be God, the source
of all life, the word of sal-
vation, the spirit of mercy.**

**You belong to Christ,
in whom you have been
baptized. Alleluia.**

Clothed with Christ in baptism, the newly baptized may receive a baptismal garment.

The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Laying both hands on the head of each of the newly baptized, the minister prays for each:

Sustain name with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

_____ Name _____, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
Amen.

Welcome

A lighted candle may be given to each of the newly baptized (to a sponsor of a young child) as a representative of the congregation says:

OR

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly. A representative of the congregation leads the assembly in the welcome.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

*Those who have gathered at the font may return to their places.
An acclamation, psalm, or hymn may be sung.*

