

A LUTHERAN WELCOME TO
HOLY BAPTISM



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God Comes to Us

Lutherans believe baptism is a time when God, who is already present everywhere, shows up to claim us with Word and water.

Since the beginning, God has been at work in the world. God has been speaking, commanding, freeing, promising, calling, mending, and shaping the trajectory of the creation and its creatures. No person, place, or situation is beyond the scope of God's attention or the reach of God's power and love.



Lutherans believe God's involvement in the world is clearest in the story of Jesus, who is the Word of God in flesh and blood. Jesus entered human history as an infant (just like us) and then lived and died as one of us.

Having lived and died, Jesus knows the depths of the human experience. Having conquered the grave, the risen Jesus operates beyond the rational rules of physics. Jesus is forever free from the power of death.



"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,"



After Jesus rose from the dead, he gathered his disciples and commanded them to baptize others. It is by Jesus' invitation and command that a minister pours the water and says the words "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Each time someone is baptized, God's Word arrives from beyond our expectations, assumptions, hopes, and fears. The work of making this Word live in your heart, head, and whole being belongs to the Holy Spirit.



Is the water holy?

Yes, although not all by itself. Baptismal water is always and only water. When the water and God's Word of promise are together applied to the person being baptized, that whole thing is holy.