

WATER BAPTISM

Congratulations on your desire to be baptized in water. This document is prepared to provide you with some very important information.

Scripture:

- “And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:15–16)
- “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,” (Matthew 28:19)
- Matt. 3: 1-17

What is water baptism?

Baptism as an ordinance (observance) or divine instruction to be administered by His church as an outward, visible sign (testimony) of a believer's inner experience of God's saving grace.

Jesus commanded that anyone who decides to follow Him be baptized in water. Mark 16: 15-16
Jesus modeled water baptism for us. Matthew 3

Who can be baptized?

Water baptism is for those who:

- **Believed the gospel:** “And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”” (Acts 16:31)
- **Confessed their sin.** (Matt. 3:6)
- **Received Jesus as Lord and Savior.** “But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12)
- **Repented of their sin:** To repent means more than being sorry. It is a change of heart, a change of mind, a change of direction in life. Now you are ready to follow and obey the Lord Jesus Christ. “And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2:38)
- **Have been born-again.** “Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born-again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”” (John 3:3)
- **Have decided to continue living for God.** They will be fruitful (Matt. 3:8,10)
- It is the final act of the "**repentance- believe- baptism**" response to the Gospel.

PWC BAPTISMAL CLASS

What does water baptism represent?

- It signifies our identification with Christ in His saving act, i.e., death and resurrection unto new life. Romans 6:3,4 “Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”
- It symbolizes our identification with the Church. 1 Corinthians 12:12,13 “The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So, it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body- -whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”

How is baptism administered?

- The Greek word for baptism used in the New Testament is "baptizo" meaning to dip or immerse

What is the procedure for being baptized?

- Inform Pastor Mike or board member directly, text, email, etc.
- He will meet with you for a brief interview and to give instructions.
- You are encouraged to invite your friends and relatives to attend the service to witness your baptism.
- Have you followed the Lord in Baptism? If not:
 - What steps might God have you take this week to further determine if He would have you take this public profession?
 - What answers do you need; questions you have?

The Baptismal Event

- A day, time and venue will be announced
- You must bring a complete change of clothing and a towel
- Change into modest and appropriate clothing for baptism
- We begin with prayer and songs of worship
- This is followed by a brief exhortation from Scripture
- New believers are called one by one, prayed for, and then immersed in water
- You are welcome to share a brief testimony of how Jesus changed your life. It will be a blessing to others.