

LUMBER·CITY
CHURCH

Baptism Information Packet

What to Expect at Your Baptism

A Guide to Your Baptism Day & Next Steps in Your Faith Journey

The Meaning of Baptism

Jesus changed everything for us. The impact of His life, death, and resurrection was evident almost immediately. It changed the way the first-century church worshiped.

Baptism and Communion became new forms of worship for early Jewish converts to Christianity. In Communion, the early Christians remembered Jesus' death in their place for their sins. In Baptism, they remembered Jesus' resurrection in their place for their salvation and anticipated their future personal resurrection. That is why we celebrate these ordinances even today. Though they hold no special power, baptism and communion are significant acts of faith that remind us that Jesus is the hero of our salvation and proclaim the power of the cross before the world.





Biblical Foundations of Baptism

- While the Catholic Church holds that there are seven sacraments, Protestant churches believe Christ ordained **two ordinances: baptism and communion**.
- The word *baptism* comes from the Greek word **baptizo**, a garment maker's term describing the process of immersing a cloth in liquid to **clean it and change its color**.
- John the Baptist was a prophet. His message to the Jewish nation was one of repentance (Matthew 3:2). **Those who received his message were baptized**.
- John baptized in enough water to **immerse people completely**. The scriptures say that Jesus came up out of the water (Matthew 3:16). Jesus Himself was baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3). Scripture tells us that He "came up out of the water," showing us that He was fully immersed.
- Jesus commanded His disciples to make disciples of all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18-20).
- All three persons of God were present at Jesus' baptism: The Son was in the water, the Father spoke from heaven, and the Spirit descended in the likeness of a dove.
- (Romans 6:4) Baptism is a dramatic expression of our death to sin and resurrection to new life with a new nature and new desires (Psalm 51:10).
- Everyone who places their trust in Jesus should be baptized because Jesus commanded it. It's an outward proclamation of an inward change.
- Baptism is not a necessary component of salvation (Luke 23:39-43).

Step 1: Your Baptism Conversation

Before you are baptized, we encourage you to meet with a pastor or elder. This is a time to discuss your faith journey and make sure you understand the significance of baptism. It's not about passing a test—it's about preparing your heart and confirming your faith in Jesus.

Step 2: What Happens on Baptism Day?

- You will step into the baptism tub and sit down.
- You will be asked three important questions:
 -  Have you decided to follow Jesus?
 -  Has He washed away all your sin?
 -  Will you follow Him all the days of your life?
- You will be encouraged to hold your nose and close your eyes.
- You will be gently laid back under the water and brought back up, symbolizing your new life in Christ.
-  You will celebrate with your church family as they cheer you on!

Step 3: Sharing Your Story (Optional)

Many people share a short testimony video before their baptism. This helps others hear how Jesus has transformed your life. It's not required, but it's a powerful way to declare God's work in your life.

Step 4: Spontaneous Baptisms





Sometimes, people feel led to be baptized on the spot during a baptism service. If this happens, one of our elders will talk with you briefly to ensure you understand the meaning of baptism and confirm your faith in Christ.

Step 5: Your Next Steps After Baptism

Baptism is not the end—it's the beginning of your journey as a disciple of Jesus. We want to make sure you have someone walking with you as you grow in your faith. Every baptized believer will be connected with a Life Group to encourage and guide them.

Testimony Prompts (If You Choose to Share Your Story)

If you'd like to share your testimony before your baptism, here are some prompts to help you:

1.  Why have you decided to be baptized today?
2.  What was your life like before you met Jesus?
3.  How did you come to know Him?
4.  What has changed in your life since following Jesus?

Keep it simple, authentic, and focused on Jesus!

For more information or to schedule a baptism conversation, contact us at:
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