

Baptism

Baptisms will be a spiritual highlight for you and your families. Baptism is the sign that our gracious God loves you and is committed to you and your children.

Baptism is not so much a pledge of our fidelity to God, but a promise of His faithful love to us. What parent doesn't want that promise for their child? If you are bringing your children for baptism, you will be asked to respond positively to the following questions.

1. *Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?*
2. *Do you claim God's covenant promises in (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (his) salvation, as you do for your own?*
3. *Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?*

Here is how the baptism ceremony at SRC generally proceeds:

- When you arrive on the day of baptism—go to the Welcome Desk, check in and get nametags (unless your child is already wearing one).
- About 15 minutes into the service, the pastor will call your family and the other families all up at the same time. Only immediate family members are to come up for the baptism (parents and siblings of the baptized child).
- We generally baptize children first and then adults—although sometimes we will baptize by family units. Families should remain up front until all baptisms are completed. If your child(ren) are disruptive or crying however, you may need to slip off the stage before we're finished with everyone.
- The pastor is available for baptism pictures with children and families after the worship is over.

I hope this helps prepare you and your family for a wonderful moment in your spiritual journey. To be claimed by Christ as one of His own children is an unspeakable wonder. Your church family can't wait to share that moment with you.

Seven Rivers Church