

BAPTISM

FAQs

Once you have put your faith in Christ, the next step for you is to be Baptized. Please take some time to review the following information about Baptism and what the Bible calls us to do as believers in Christ. To register for baptism, please go to the website and click on the Baptism tab or you may register at the Information Counter.

Who should be Baptized?

Every person who has believed in Christ should be Baptized. A Believer is someone who has realized that their sin separated them from God. They have given up all efforts to reach God through good works or religious activity. They have concluded that Jesus Christ's death on the cross for their sin is the only thing that can bridge the gap between them and God. A believer is someone who has decided to trust Christ alone for their salvation. If you have come to that point in your spiritual journey, then you are ready to be baptized.

(Acts 2:41; 8:12-12)

Why should I be Baptized?

A. To follow the example set by Christ.

"At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan." (Mark 1:9)

B. Because Christ commanded it.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20)

C. It demonstrates that I really am a believer.

"We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands." (1 John 2:3)

What is the meaning of Baptism?

A. It illustrates Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

"For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in Baptism you were also raised with Christ." (Colossians 2:12)

B. It illustrates my new life as a Christian.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

(2 Corinthians 15:3-4)

“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.” (Romans 6:4)

C. Baptism doesn't make you a Christian.

Only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring- it's the outward sign of the commitment you have made in your heart.

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.” (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Why be Baptized by Immersion?

A. Because Jesus was baptized that way.

“As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.” (Matthew 3:16)

B. Every Baptism in the Bible was by Immersion.

“Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water...” (Acts 8:38-39)

C. The word “Baptize” literally means “to dip under water.”

The Greek word “baptize” means “to immerse or dip under water.”

D. It best symbolized a burial and resurrection.

“Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.” (Colossians 2:12)

E. The founders of the major denomination agree:

Martin Luther (founder of the Lutheran denomination)

“I would have those who are to be baptized to be entirely immersed, as the word imports and the mystery signifies.”

John Calvin (founder of the Presbyterian denomination)

“The word “baptize” signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church.”

John Wesley (founder of the Methodist denomination)

“Buried with Him” alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the custom of the first church.

What about infant baptism?

In the Bible we find parents bringing children to Jesus. He held them and prayed for them and told us to welcome them. But he did not baptize them, and he did not tell anyone else to baptize them. Since baptism is a public profession of salvation (as the Bible teaches), only people who have intentionally received salvation should experience baptism.

We do offer **Baby Dedication** services twice a year for children 2 and under. This special event provides parents with the opportunity to publicly acknowledge that God has given His children to us on loan and that we as parents commit to raising them in a home that leads kids to a sincere faith in Jesus. For more information contact mkoperations@metchurch.com.

What about children?

The New Testament shows no example of Baptism when the person did not request it. All instances of Baptism followed an individual's decision to trust Christ alone for their salvation (Acts 2:41; 8:12; 10:47-48). At The Met we wait until the child is old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism. When a child makes a decision for Christ, we gladly baptize them into the Christian faith.

For more information on leading your child to Christ or to see if they are ready for baptism, attend our **For Heaven's Sake** class. For Heaven's Sake is an interactive class where parents can bring their children to hear God's plan for salvation. Parents will receive tools to take home and dialogue with their kids about their spiritual journey. For more information contact mkpastor@metchurch.com

Baptism Details

- 1. When are Baptisms offered?** On various weekends throughout the month.
- 2. How do I register?** Register online, at the Registration Desk or email baptism@metchurch.com. A pastor will contact you to set up a baptism counseling appointment.
- 3. What time and where do I report to the church?** Meet at the church 30 minutes before your scheduled service begins for a short Baptism Meeting with a pastor. This is a celebration and we encourage you to invite your family and friends.
- 4. What do I wear and bring with me?** Wear dark shorts and an I Love My Church shirt will be provided to you. Bring a change of clothes, a towel, and a plastic bag for your wet clothes. We provide rooms for you to change in.
- 5. How do I receive my picture that will be taken during Baptism?** You are welcome take your own pictures and a picture will be taken from the stage and a link will be posted on the Met Church Facebook page within a week or two. You will also be given a Baptism Certificate.

For any questions on Baptism at The Met, please email baptism@metchurch.com