

Considering Your Promises:

“In Christian love you have presented your child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore,

- faithfully bring your child to the services of God’s house,
- teach your child the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostles’ Creed and the Ten Commandments,
- as your child grows in years, you should place in your child’s hands the Holy Scriptures,
- and provide for instruction in the Christian faith...

...that, living in the covenant of your child’s Baptism and in communion with the Church, your child may lead a Godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.”



The occasion of your child’s Baptism deserves your careful, intentional and honest consideration on how you will fulfill your Baptismal promises. Baptism provides a natural opportunity for you to reorder your own Christian life, for your own benefit and for your child’s.

Use these spiritual disciplines to help you live out faithful commitment to your promises.

Prayer

- personal
- together

Bible Reading

Worship Participation

Christian Learning

- personal
- for your child

Service Toward Others

Celebrate Baptismal Anniversary

Resources for Christian Parents:

Visit the First Lutheran Church Library for these resources and many others.

Small Children and Toddlers:

Read Aloud Bible Stories, vol. 1, 2, 3 & 4
Moody Press Pub.

Nursery and Early Elementary:

Arch Book Series - Concordia Pub.
Little Visits With Jesus - Concordia Pub.
Little Visits With God - Concordia Pub.
The Christian Family Bedtime Reading Book
- Augsburg Fortress Pub.



Sponsors:

Some people wish to have sponsors for their child. Sometimes these sponsors are called “Godparents.” The role of the sponsor is to aid the parents in their promises made to their child.

Sponsors, therefore, should be people who:

- view Baptism as a sacramental gift from God.
- will regularly pray for your child.
- will remember your child on their Baptismal anniversary,
- and who provide a Christian witness in the way they live their lives and the words they speak.

It is not necessary to designate sponsors, because the members of First Lutheran will promise to do all these things for your child. So, in addition to any sponsors you may choose to be part of your child’s Baptism, your brothers and sisters of First Lutheran will also be your child’s sponsors.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM



“I Baptize you in the name of the Father,
in the name of the Son,
and in the name of the Holy Spirit”
Amen



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BAPTISM IS ABOUT PROMISES

❑ God's Promises

As the water is poured and the Word of God is spoken, God will embrace your child with his promises.

❑ Your Promises

When you present your child for Baptism, you will make significant promises.

❑ The Congregation's Promises

As we witness your child's Baptism, we will surround you and your child with meaningful promises

Baptism is a most wonderful thing. It is more precious than a priceless jewel, more valuable than all the gold in the world, and its promises are surer than the rising of the morning sun.

—Martin Luther



*Upon the cornerstone of Baptism,
a life can be built that is filled with
purpose, peace, hope and joy.*

God's Promises

- God promises to make your child his child, for your child will be baptized in God's triune name. (Matthew 28:19)
- God promises to wash your child clean of all sin. (Acts 22:16)
- God promises to give your child the Holy Spirit that will enable your child to call upon Jesus as Lord. (Titus 3:5)
- God promises to make your child a member of the body of Christ, the church. (Romans 6:5)
- God promises to grant your child eternal life. (Mark 16:16)

In Baptism, your child will be born again and begin a whole new life, a life led by Christ instead of a life driven by sin.

Water is the visible sign of these solemn promises that God gives in Baptism. Water, then, can be a daily reminder to you and your child of the wonderful love and mercy that God has given in Baptism.

Your Promises

- You promise to nurture your child with the gift of faith in your home.
- You promise to nurture your child with the gift of faith in the community of faith, the church.
- You promise to live your life and raise your child in a way that bears witness to the steadfast love and mercy of God.

Because of the magnitude of the promises that God makes in Baptism, there will be no greater promises that you will ever make to your child than your Baptismal promises to your child.

The Congregation's Promises

- We promise to look upon your child as a vitally important member of our Christian community.
- We promise to support you in making God's promises known to your child.
- We promise to equip you to live on your journey of faith.

We will live out these promises as we gather together to worship with you every week, feasting on the Word and the Sacrament. We will welcome your child in our worship services. We will join with you in weekly adult Christian learning, occasionally holding a class on Christian parenting. We will provide Sunday school and other Christian learning and fellowship opportunities for your child throughout your child's life.

