



## What is baptism?

We believe that when people receive Jesus' gift of salvation, they are to be baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Baptism is an outward sign of having been cleansed from sin. It is a covenant with the church to walk in the way of Christ through the power of the Spirit.

Baptism by water is a public sign that a person has repented of sins, received forgiveness of sins, died with Christ to sin, been raised to newness of life and received the Holy Spirit. Baptism is a sign of the believer's incorporation into the body of Christ as expressed in the local church. Baptism is also a pledge to serve Christ according to the gifts given to each person.

Baptism is for those who confess Jesus Christ a Lord and Saviour and commit themselves to following Jesus in obedience as members of the local church. Baptism is for those who understand its meaning, are able to be accountable to Jesus and the church, and who voluntarily request it on the basis of their faith response to Jesus.

We practice waterbaptism by immersion and invite you to follow Jesus in this act of faith and confession.

## How do I become baptized?

The first step in getting the process going is to let one of our pastors know that you are interested in being baptized. Twice a year, usually toward the end of April and October, we invite those interested in following Jesus in this next step of faith to let us know. And we would do it other times too.

Once you have let us know we ask that you read and fill out this application, including the telling of your faith story (testimony). At that point we will get you further information including a timetable and resources and then invite you to share your story with a gentle group of folk from our Spiritual Care Ministry Team who will walk with you in the days leading up to baptism. On that day you will be asked to make a public statement of your faith (either pre-recorded or live). Upon that confession of faith you will be baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Getting baptized is easy. Following Jesus and being a disciple is harder. Part of our baptism process includes you selecting a mentor from the congregation to walk with you in the following months - someone to pray and encourage you as you continue that walk.

## Statements of Faith

*This is an essential statement of faith that all followers of Jesus would uphold - "We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; On the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen." (The Apostle's Creed)*

### Application for Baptism at Cornerstone Church

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Name:               |  |
| Birthdate:          |  |
| Address:            |  |
| City & Postal Code: |  |
| Phone & Email:      |  |

### Testimony Worksheet:

As part of the application process, the Spiritual Care Team and the congregation will want to hear the story of how Jesus has been working in your life. Please take time to write out a first draft on the next page. This isn't just a formality - it's a good exercise because, as followers of Jesus, being able to tell our story well is one of the best ways of telling others about Him. Peter went so far as to tell us to, *"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have"* (1 Peter 3:15).

In your testimony consider sharing: a bit about yourself - key points/persons in your life that have drawn you closer to and/or strengthened your relationship with Jesus; how Jesus became more than just a name and Someone you know; when did being a disciple become part of your life and what that has meant; some of the significant times of growth in your walk; what Jesus has been doing in your life lately; and why do you want to be baptized.

Once you have done that and filled out the form it may be submitted to the church office or emailed to

[info@cornerstoneye.ca](mailto:info@cornerstoneye.ca).