

Baptism: Frequently Asked Questions

What is baptism?

In the United Methodist tradition, baptism is a sacrament. This means it is a time when we encounter God's grace in a particular and specific way. United Methodism has many acceptable understandings of baptism. Generally it is understood as a covenant between God, a family, and the church community that they will care for one another.

Why are most baptisms children?

Historically baptism has been performed on young children. In some traditions (though not mainline United Methodism) Baptism ensures that a child will go to Heaven should they die. Today we baptize children to live into the covenant to care for them, teaching about the love of God and life in the church.

Can adults or older children be baptized?

Absolutely! Anyone seeking to become a member of the church must first be baptized. When we welcome an adult or older child through baptism the covenant is about the promise that we will support them as their church. We do not rebaptize people. If a person is baptized as an infant and later wants to be baptized as an adult, we work with them to find a meaningful way for them to profess their faith.

Can I be baptized in a lake?

Yes. UM polity allows for baptism by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion. The parents or person being baptized choose the method most meaningful for them.



8:00 am – Worship and Communion
in the Chapel
9:00 am – Worship in the Sanctuary
11:00 am – Emergent Worship in the
Education Conference
Center
6:15 pm Wednesday Worship

507-289-4019

www.cumethodist.com

email@cumethodist.com

To Live, Love and Serve as Jesus Teaches
An inclusive church where all are welcome!

November 8, 2009

11:00 am

Today at Emergent Worship

Gather:

Gathering Music

Welcome, Centering, Praising

Encounter God's Word:

Word: Mark 12:38-44

Message: "The Problem with Pedestals"

Pastor Amanda Larsen

Responding:

Sharing our Joys, Concerns, and Prayers

Sacrament of Baptism

ReEntering:

Praising

Blessing

Closing Music

Welcome to Emergent Worship

Emergent worship comes from within the community. The origin of the word liturgy is λειτουργία (leitourgia in ancient Greek), “work of the people.” Emergent worship is liturgy. Members of our community provide some of the ideas for this service.

Each service has several elements that do not change from week to week. We take time to center ourselves and we take time to reenter the world. Other parts of the service change each week, especially how we connect to God’s words and the music we use to praise God.

Remembering and Giving Thanks November is a time when we begin thinking about families and gatherings and celebrating. We also notice who is no longer at the table. During November at 11:00 we will be “Remembering and Giving Thanks” for those people - living and passed, who have shaped who we are. November 22 will be a Thanksgiving Celebration with Piano and Instrumental Praise. November 29 is the first Sunday in Advent, and we will be blessing the Advent wreath. You are invited to bring visual reminders of your own people for whom you give thanks, to be part of our altar in November.

Children are invited to sit in the front (near the action!). We do have nursery care for children through age three. However, we encourage children to worship with us. When they cry, or giggle, or shout “ba!” they remind us to praise God in all things. Quiet toys are available outside the sanctuary in worship bags. Coloring supplies

are in the “loft.” Our Children have created a behavior covenant that they live into together.

Centering Breath One of the Hebrew words for Spirit is ru’ah, which is also translated as breath. Our centering breath ritual enhances our participation, sets our intention, and focuses our thoughts. This helps us to be fully present for anything, including worship.

Music for this service today is offered by the Band. If you are interested in being a part of music for this worship service, please speak to Pastor Amanda.

Offering We take an offering in gratitude to God for what God is doing in our lives.

Encountering the Word of God is the central portion of this service. We encounter God’s words in many ways and in many places throughout the week. It is at this point in worship we are especially attentive to listening to God’s words for us.

ReEntering We take time at the end of the service to ReEnter the world of our daily lives. On a good day we leave as changed people. We share a blessing with one another to transition into a time of Christian fellowship.

If you are interested in being a part of the planning for the service (no meetings required!) or have comments about this service, please contact Pastor Amanda at amanda@cumethodist.com, or 289.4019, x 111.