

Baptism at Church on the Living Edge A Sacred Journey

Introduction

At Church on the Living Edge, baptism is more than a tradition—it is a sacred journey into communion with Christ. We see baptism as an invitation into God's purpose, where each person is transformed through the Holy Spirit.

As a Pentecostal community, we believe baptism is a powerful commitment and a life-changing experience. It marks our union with Christ, our membership in His body, and our participation in the Kingdom of God.

What Baptism Means

- Communion with Christ In baptism, we are drawn into the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, so that we may be transformed to walk in His way and be empowered by His Spirit.
- Sacramental Grace Baptism is not simply symbolic. Jesus said, "no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit" (John 3:5). It is a sacred action where God's grace is mediated to us by the Holy Spirit.
- Forgiveness and Initiation In baptism, the Spirit forgives our sins and initiates us into the Body of Christ, binding us to God's people across generations.

Pentecostal Distinctions

Baptism at COTLE is practiced as **believer's baptism by immersion**, following the New Testament pattern. It is both an outward sign of inward transformation and a moment where the Spirit affirms our belonging to Christ.

In our Pentecostal tradition, water baptism is deeply connected to the work of the Spirit. Just as the Spirit was poured out on Pentecost (Acts 2), baptism is part of God's vision to bring His people into a Kingdom marked by "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17).



Why Baptism Matters Here

At COTLE, baptism embodies our mission:

- **Encountering God** We meet God in the waters, drawn into His presence.
- Experiencing Transformation We rise renewed by the Spirit's power.
- Elevating Lives We are sent as witnesses of God's love to our city and beyond.

Baptism is a visible sign that we are a "modern expression of an ancient faith". It marks the beginning of a lifelong journey of living in God's love and serving His Kingdom.



theological and practical content for personal and spiritual development.

