

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 3:15-17,21-22	The baptism of Jesus
Monday	Isaiah 42:1-9	The Lord's servant
Tuesday	Ezekiel 36:24-28	God will make you clean
Wednesday	Acts 2:14,22-41	Many are baptized in Jesus' name
Thursday	Romans 6:3-11	Baptized into Christ's death
Friday	1 John 5:6-12	The witness about Jesus Christ
Saturday	Psalm 106:1-12	God saves through water
Sunday	John 2:1-11	The wedding at Cana

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Scripture Verse for this Week:

Now this is what the Lord says. He created you, people of Jacob; he formed you, people of Israel. He says, "Don't be afraid, because I have saved you. I have called you by name, and you are mine." – Isaiah 43:1 (NCV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Heavenly Father, I am your baptized child. Please send the Holy Spirit to me. Amen. (Luke 3:22)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, please open my ears to hear your voice and my lips to shout your glory. Amen. (Psalm 29:3-9)

A Blessing to Share:

You are a baptized child of God, and he loves you dearly. May he make you strong and bless you with peace. Amen.
(Luke 3:22, Psalm 29:11)

Mealtime Refrain:

God has saved us:
He has called us by name and we are his. (Isaiah 43:1)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, your children gather in your name. Bless our table and all we share around it. Amen.

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What do you know or remember about the day you were baptized?
- What did God do for you through your baptism?
- What does it mean to you that you are baptized?

Devotional Practices:

As part of your household devotion times this week, say together the church's baptismal creed, the *Apostle's Creed*. Talk together about what each part of the creed means.

Service:

Have household members decorate cards to send to their Baptismal Sponsors or Godparents. Use these to say "thank you" for their support and prayers over the years.

Rituals and Traditions:

Do you celebrate baptismal birthdays in your home? Here are some ideas for developing a practice of baptismal remembrance:

1. List the baptism dates of each household member on your home calendar.
2. Celebrate each baptismal birthday with a special meal to honor the baptized person. Invite godparents or other faith mentors to attend.
3. Give faith-related gifts on baptismal birthdays.
4. Ask godparents to write a letter to their godchild each year. Keep these in a special book.
5. Each year take photos of the baptized person at your church font. Ask your pastor to give them a special blessing.

From Martin Luther's "Small Catechism":

What is Baptism? Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God's Word and by his command. (Matthew 28:19)

What benefits does God give in Baptism?

In baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised. (Mark 16:16)

What does Baptism mean for daily living? It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance, and that day after day a new self should arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever (Romans 6:4).

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