

# Baptism

When Jesus came into the world and started his work, one of the first things he did was get baptised. At that time, people were getting baptised to show they wanted to be right with God, and Jesus also came to be baptised. When Jesus then called people to be right with God, he also called them to be baptised. It is our way of showing that we have become Christians.

*Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved (Mark 16:16).*

The word baptism means immersion. We go completely under the water. We also want to be completely immersed in a life lived for God, with Jesus our Saviour and Leader. Baptism also means;



## Repentance

Repentance means to turn from our own way of living life and to turn to God, to have a deep change of mind and heart, and go in a new direction.

## Cleansing

Going into the water represents our desire to be washed clean from sin. The baptism does not magically do it, but it does symbolise what happens when we trust in Jesus and the Cross to cleanse us.

*And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name (Acts 22:16).*

## Commitment

In baptism we show that we really want to live our lives for Jesus, always. To come forward and be baptised in public is not easy, and living for Jesus is not easy either.

## Life and Death

Baptism symbolises the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus was lowered into the grave and was raised up again to a new life by the power of God. When we are baptised it shows we have died to sin and an old life and have risen up to live a new life by the power of God working within us.

*Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life (Romans 6:3-4)*

Please speak to one of our pastors or leaders if you are interested in baptism.