

# NORTH HAVEN church

- 1. Register online to indicate your interest in baptism.
  - a. You can also speak with a pastor directly.
- 2. Have a conversation with a pastor
- 3. Once you've decided to proceed with getting baptized, decide which service you'd like your baptism to take place.
  - a. 9:00a (Classic Service)
  - b. 10:30a (Modern Service)
- 4. You will receive an info sheet reminding you of your baptism details.
- 5. Invite your family and friends.
- 6. Get Baptized!

#### BAPTISM DAY DETAILS

<u>WHAT TO WEAR:</u> Something appropriate when wet. *i.e.* Shorts and t-shirt over a swimsuit for women. Swim trunks and t-shirt for men

WHAT TO BRING: Towel, change of clothes, hygiene items

WHO TO INVITE: Family, friends, people who need Jesus

#### WHAT WILL HAPPEN THAT SUNDAY?

- Plan to arrive at ?, and no later than 30 minutes before baptisms.
- When you arrive, meet with a pastor for a brief overview of what will transpire.
- You will be asked 3 questions:
  - 1. "Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?"
  - 2. "Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins, rose from the dead, and is living today?"
  - 3. "Have you decided to follow Jesus and make Him the leader of your life?"
- As you prepare to get baptized, fold your arms in front of you as your baptizer holds your arm/hand and supports your back. Bend your knees slightly and your baptizer will lower you into the water and help bring you back up.

## Believers Baptism

"Belief" and "Baptism" are meant to go together, and in that order. Meaning that the Bible reveals God's design that once a person is saved, they should respond by getting baptized.

#### Matthew 28:19

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

#### Acts 2:41

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

#### Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

#### Acts 8:36

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?"

#### Acts 9:18

Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized.

### Infant Baptism

What about infant baptism? At North Haven, we don't baptize infants. However, we understand that many believers were baptized when they were infants. We view a person's infant baptism as a meaningful expression of a parent's dedication of their child to God.

Believer's baptism should be done after a person has received Jesus into their life and have thus been saved. Baptism is an outward expression of what God has done inwardly through Jesus. This is why it's very important that a person getting baptized understand the reason for their baptism. Believer's baptism is your declaration of faith and allegiance to the Lord. If you have not been baptized since you've become a follower of Jesus, now's the time!

#### Obedience

Let's make something very clear: Baptism is not a necessary means towards salvation. Salvation is through belief in Jesus alone. We're saved through God's grace, by faith. Baptism is an obedient response. Baptism is not a necessary means towards salvation, but it is an act of obedience to the Lord.

#### Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

#### Luke 23:39

<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who hung [on another cross] hurled insults at [Jesus]: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other criminal [on a different cross] rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? <sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

## **Outward Symbol**

Baptism is an outward symbol of what God has done inwardly.

#### Acts 2:38

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ...

Once we repent of our sins and receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we are called to get baptized. Repentance should lead directly to baptism. You see, baptism is done by us, not to us. The value of getting baptized is found in the believer's obedience and commitment to Jesus and as a testimony to those who are not yet saved.

An excellent example is the wedding ring. The ring itself does not make an individual married. But the ring serves as a public demonstration of one's commitment to another. Baptism, similarly, serves to be a public demonstration to God and others that a Jesus follower is truly committed to serving Christ with their entire being.

## Symbolism

#### Colossians 2:12

... having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

#### Romans 6:1-10

<sup>1</sup> What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup> Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—<sup>7</sup> because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

#### **Immersion**

The word baptism comes from the ancient Greek word baptizo, which means "to dip, dunk, to immerse."

#### Matthew 3:5-6

<sup>5</sup> People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. <sup>6</sup> Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

#### John 3:23

<sup>22</sup> After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized. <sup>23</sup> Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized.

## Any Questions?

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out and speak to any of our pastors. You can contact us by emailing any of the following:

Pastor Aaron Kangas aaron@northhavenchurch.org