



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

Waterford, Wisconsin

BAPTISM INFORMATION FORM

Date of Baptism: _____ Time: _____

Child's Name

Last	First	Middle

Date of Birth

Hospital

Father's Name

Mother's Name

Maiden:

Present Address

(Street / Route / Apartment)		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)

Phone

Email

Sponsors (if Lutheran)

Witnesses (if other than Lutheran)

The information on this sheet is correct and I agree to comply with the Biblical directives on the back of this form.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please read this information carefully

“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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

Matthew 28: 19-20

WHAT DOES THIS BIBLE PASSAGE TELL US?

First of all, it tells us that all people are to be baptized. Why? Because the Bible says that all people are born sinful and are under the judgment of God (even little children who appear to be so innocent and blameless). All people need the washing of forgiveness that God gives in and through Baptism.

Baptism is certainly something special! It is so much more than a quaint ceremony or sentimental tradition. The very power of God is in this Sacrament! Sins are forgiven and faith is actually created in the heart of your child.

Since your child becomes God's precious child in Baptism, your child also becomes a member of Christ's Church. That is why, except for cases of emergency, we ask that your child be baptized during a regular worship service in church. We all want to share this special event with our newest member.

Also understand that by having your child baptized you are handing your child over to Christ and His Church. You are telling God that you willingly give up your right to raise your child as you might please and are agreeing to raise that child as God pleases.

And what pleases God? Simply that your child grow in the Christian faith. Notice that the Bible passage above also talks about **"teaching."** To have your child baptized and then to neglect teaching your child about the Savior (by neglecting family Bible study, Sunday worship, Sunday School, etc.) is to break a promise that you are making to God on your child's Baptism day.

Jesus died on the cross for your little one. Your child is saved through the faith that the Holy Spirit places in his/her heart at Baptism. Heaven becomes a certainty for your child! But if your child's Baptism faith is not nurtured with Christian training, the day may very well come when your child will reject and push out the faith that was begun in Baptism.

So the key to understanding the Bible passage above is two-fold: **BAPTIZE** and **TEACH**. We rejoice that you are fulfilling God's first command by having your child baptized. And now we lovingly encourage you to strengthen your resolve to fulfill the second command -- to teach your child. We, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, stand ready to assist you in any way that we can. Please use us!

A WORD ABOUT SPONSORS (GODPARENTS)

The Lutheran Church has had the custom of **sponsors** or **godparents** for many centuries. A sponsor is not only a witness to the baptism of your child, but also makes the additional promise to remember your child in his/her prayers, to remind your child of his/her baptism, and to provide a Christian education for your child should you be unable or unwilling to do so. It is only reasonable, then, that **sponsors** be of the Lutheran faith.

If you wish, non-Lutherans can serve as **witnesses** -- testifying that your child has been baptized, but making no promises on your child's behalf.

You also have the option of having no **sponsors** at all. You yourselves can bring your child forward for baptism.

BY BRINGING YOUR CHILD TO BE BAPTIZED, YOU ARE DECLARING THAT YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IS WRITTEN ABOVE AND THAT YOU DESIRE TO COMPLY WITH IT. MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND YOUR LITTLE ONE.