

AN OVERVIEW OF BAPTISM AND HOLY SUPPER

The two church sacraments are baptism and Holy Supper.

BAPTISM

What happens?

The parents bring the child forward or an adult comes forward. There are readings from the Word, questions, prayers, water on forehead and chest, blessing, words from the minister.

Symbol:

Water, the sign of the cross

Promises Made:

Parents: We will teach our child about the Lord, His Word, and living a good life.

Adult: I will follow the Lord, learn from His Word, and try to live a good life

HOLY SUPPER

What happens?

The minister reads about the Last Supper. Then he breaks the bread and pours the wine. The people come forward and kneel down. The minister offers bread and wine to the people, and then blesses them.

Symbols:

Unleavened bread and wine

Promises Made:

I will follow the Lord, and I will try to receive His love and guidance.

Other ceremonies of the church are confirmation, betrothal, marriage, and home dedication.

CONFIRMATION

What happens?

An adult comes forward to be confirmed. The minister reads from the Word and asks questions. Then the person makes a declaration of faith. Then there are prayers, a blessing, and words from the minister.

Symbols:

“I believe...” (confession of faith)

Promises Made:

I will follow the Lord myself, learn from His Word, and try to live a good life

BETROTHAL

What happens?

A couple comes forward, there are readings from the Word, and questions. There may be an exchange of gifts. Then there are prayers, a blessing, and words from the minister.

Symbols:

A gift (sometimes a ring, sometimes a necklace, or sometimes something you'll put up in your house)

Promises Made:

We will prepare for marriage by learning what the Lord says about marriage, and by getting to know each other even better than we do now.

MARRIAGE

What happens?

The bride and groom come forward. There are readings from the Word, questions, exchange of rings, and statements by the bride and groom. Then the minister pronounces them husband and wife, and they kiss. An adult comes forward to be confirmed. The minister reads from the Word and asks questions. Then the person makes a declaration of faith. Then there are prayers, a blessing, and words from the minister.

Symbols:

Rings

Promises Made:

We will love each other and the Lord forever

HOME DEDICATION

What happens?

When a home is dedicated, the minister reads from the Lord's Word (in the home) and asks a question of the family. Then one person in the family declares the faith of the family. A copy of the Word is dedicated and then there are words from the minister, prayers, and a blessing.

Symbols:

Repository (special place to keep the Word in your home.)

Promises Made:

We will make the Lord a part of our family.

Ceremonies and Promises

Match each ceremony with the promise that participants make.

Church Ceremony

(Rite or Sacrament)

confirmation

baptism

betrothal

Holy Supper

home dedication

marriage

Promises Made

We will make the Lord a part of our family.

I will follow the Lord, and I will try to receive His love and guidance.

We will teach our child about the Lord, His Word, and living a good life.

We will love each other and the Lord forever

We will prepare for marriage by learning what the Lord says about marriage, and by getting to know each other even better than we do now.

I will follow the Lord myself, learn from His Word, and try to live a good life.

- Which one of the ceremonies could involve parents on behalf of a child or an adult speaking for him or her self?