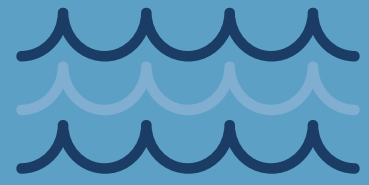


Baptism at Norval United Church

Baptism is a wonderful celebration of life. At Norval United we baptize both children and adults as a way of symbolically welcoming them into the family of Norval United Church and the broader Christian community.



In the early church, baptism was a sign that the person wanted to wash away their old life and adopt a new life in following Jesus. It was a commitment to do their best to follow Jesus' way and his teaching. At first, only adults were baptized but those early believers soon wanted their children to be baptized as well.

Today, infant baptism is a celebration of the life, love and joy an infant brings to a family. And it is also an expression of the faith and desire of parents to raise their children well.

A baptism typically takes place during a Sunday morning worship service. Parents will be asked questions about their beliefs and commitments, the godparents (if there are any) will be asked for their commitment, and the congregation of Norval United will pledge its support to the family.



We love baptism Sundays at Norval United Church. Baptism is a visual reminder of God's love for our world and in our world.



Here are the questions we ask at a baptism and the responses.

You don't need to memorize the responses!

To the Parents

Do you believe in God, the Source of love, in Jesus Christ, love incarnate, and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

I do, by the grace of God.

Will you seek to follow the way of Jesus Christ, resisting oppression and evil, seeking justice, and witnessing to God's love for all creation?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you attempt to follow the way of Jesus Christ in your public and private life?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you share with your daughter or son the Christian life and seek to grow with her or him in faith, hope and love?

I will, God being my helper.

To the Godparents

Do you promise to love and care for this child and be a source of encouragement and support to this family?

I will, with God's help.

To the Congregation

Will you, the congregation and friends of Norval United Church, commit to this family to uphold them and support them within the community of faith?

We will, God being our helper.