

# Great Encounters with God

Helping you enter into baptism and Communion

Church of the Savior / Confirmation / Fr. Kevin

## Why talk about baptism and Communion?

1. Encounters with God; God touches us through them

Matthew 28:18-19 Go & baptize

1 Corinthians 11:23-25 Words of institution - do this in remembrance

*And as Anglicans, we believe that*

2. **Jesus touches us through them.**

(Michael Ramsey: "the sacraments are Christ's acts, the touch of the hand of Christ upon human lives through visible media.")

"Matter matters"

Symbol



Symbol AND Reality  
(= Sacrament)



## Baptism

Matter Used	Symbol of	Spiritual Reality of	Required of Us
	<p>New life</p> <p>Washing away sin</p>	<p>(1) grafts us into the Church</p> <p>(2) signs &amp; seals God's promises to forgive us and adopt us</p> <p>(3) strengthens faith (39 Articles)</p>	<p>"Receive rightly" =</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Water</li> <li>*In Name of Father, Son, Holy Spirit</li> <li>*Faith</li> <li>*Prayer</li> </ul> <p>(from BCP &amp; The 39 Articles)</p>

## Communion

Matter Used	Symbol of	Spiritual Reality of	Required of Us
	<p>Jesus' death to rescue us</p> <p>Our unity with, and love for, other Christians</p>	<p>(1) we share in ("partake of") the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ. (i.e., are spiritually fed by the life-giving power of Jesus' death and resurrection)</p> <p>(2) strengthens our faith</p>	<p>Receive "rightly, worthily, and with faith" (from 39 Articles)</p>

### What does this mean for me?

- If you haven't been baptized, we would encourage you to.
- Be respectful and kind to Christians who have different views on baptism or Communion.
- Come to Communion open to all that God wants to give you.

### Can I ask questions?

Yep. You might be interested in some of the ones I've been asked:

- I don't get baptizing babies. How much can they even understand?
- What are the requirements for the child's parents?
- Why do I have to be baptized to take Communion? I already believe...
- I was already baptized. Do I need to be re-baptized?
- What's the difference between being immersed and having water sprinkled on you?
- What does the word "Eucharist" mean?

### Want to learn more?



#### It Takes a Church to Baptize: What the Bible Says about Infant Baptism by Scot McKnight

Handouts:

- "2 Ways Christians Have Understood Spiritual Growth"
- "3 Ways Christians Have Understood Baptism"
- "4 Ways Christians Have Understood Communion"

**Understanding Four Views on the Lord's Supper**  
by John Armstrong, editor

