

What is Baptism?

We believe God's love comes first. We become capable of love because God first loved us. Baptism is God's invitation to declare and own that love.

Baptism is a universal sacrament, recognised across all Christian churches as a sign of God's love for us and entry into the church.

Baptism is sometimes called a 'Christening'. People have themselves or their children baptized (or 'christened') as part of a church service.

*"The promise is for you,
for your children, and
for all who are far away,
everyone whom the Lord
our God calls."*

Acts 2: 39

A Baptism Blessing

*The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face
to shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord look on you
with kindness
and give you peace.
Amen*



Baptisms & Thanksgivings



*Overview of the services we
could offer you*

**Macclesfield
Methodist Church**

'Serving our community in faith'

The Methodist Church 

How old do you need to be to be Baptised?

In the Methodist Church we believe in baptism as a sacrament open to all people – no matter how old or young that person is. It is undertaken once in the Methodist Church. Most people are baptized as babies though some wait till later in life.

“Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.. For it was you who formed my inward parts, you knit me together in my mother’s womb.” Psalm 139: 4, 13

Baptisms or Thanksgiving?

We offer a Service of Baptism or a Service of Thanksgiving. Both usually take place within a Sunday morning service so that members of the church can attend and support you.

Baptism Service:

A baptism service first reminds us that God loves us first and then invites the child into the life of the Church.

When a child is brought to be baptized, the parents and godparents are asked to make promises on behalf of their child. These are promises about loving their child, living Christian lives and developing their child’s awareness of God’s love for them in their lives.

If the child is older or an adult they can make these promises on their own.

Symbols of water, signing the cross and a Baptismal candle are used in Baptism to remind us of Jesus’ own baptism, the water renewing us in Him and His light coming into our lives.

The church congregation will also be asked to support the family in love and prayer.

Thanksgiving Service:

We are invited in this service to love God and to raise our children to do the same.

A service of thanksgiving does not use the symbols or special words of baptism.

The promise to share faith is optional, depending on the level of Christian commitment you may have as parents.

The church congregation will also be asked to support the family in love and prayer.

“Jesus took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name, welcomes me.” Mark 9: 36-37