

# Trinity Reformed Church of Northwest Connecticut

Biblical, Traditional, Congregational

Lord's Day Worship for  
April 21, 2024



*"And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them," – Romans 4:11*

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*"\*" = Please stand if you are able.*

## Welcome, Greeting & Announcements

### Call to Worship – Ezekiel 37:24-28

*Leader: My servant David will be king over them,*

**People: And they will all have one shepherd;**

*Leader: And they will walk in My ordinances and keep My statutes*

**People: And observe them.**

*Leader: They will live on the land that I gave to Jacob My servant,*

**People: In which your fathers lived;**

*Leader: And they will live on it, they, and their sons and their sons' sons, forever;*

**People: And David My servant will be their prince forever.**

*Leader: I will make a covenant of peace with them;*

**People: It will be an everlasting covenant with them.**

*Leader: And I will place them and multiply them,*

**People: And will set My sanctuary in their midst forever.**

*Leader: My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God,*

**People: And they will be My people.**

*Leader: And the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel,*

**People: When My sanctuary is in their midst forever.**

## Prayer of Invocation and Confession

### Gospel Absolution Text – Titus 3:5-7

**\*Hymn #169** (red hymnal) – *"My Heart Does Overflow"*

**Scripture Reading** – Jeremiah 32:37-41; Colossians 2:8-14

**Ancient Creedal Reading** – Apostles Creed (pg#845 in the red hymnal)

## Offerings Presented

[Please put your tithe/offering in the plates before or after the service – Thank you!]  
[Gifts labeled "Deacon's Fund go to aid those in need in the congregation.]

**\*Doxology #731** (red hymnal)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Sung Psalm #45c** (see insert below) – “Daughter, Incline Your Ear”

**Prayers of the Church & Lord’s Prayer** (sins)

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**Reformation Creedal Reading – Westminster Confession of Faith (1646 AD), 28.1,4.**

*Leader: Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament,*

**People: Ordained by Jesus Christ**

Matt 28:19

*Leader: Not only for the solemn admission of the party baptized*

**People: Into the visible Church;**

1Cor 12:13

*Leader: But also to be unto Him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace,*

Rom 4:11; Col 2:11-12

**People: Of his ingrafting into Christ**

Rom 6:5; Gal 3:27

*Leader: Of regeneration*

Titus 3:5

**People: Of remission of sins,**

Mark 1:4

*Leader: And of his giving up unto God, through Jesus Christ,*

**People: To walk in newness of life**

Rom 6:3-4

*Leader: Which sacrament is, by Christ’s own appointment,  
to be continued in his Church*

**People: Until the end of the world.**

Matt 28:19-20

*Leader: Not only those that do actually profess faith in  
and obedience unto Christ,*

Mark 16:15-16;

Acts 8:37-38

**People: But also the infants**

*Leader: Of one, or both, believing parents,*

**People: Are to be baptized.**

Gen 17:7-8; Matt 28:19; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15;  
Rom 4:11-12; Acts 2:38-39; 1Cor 7:14; Gal 3:9,14; Col 2:11-12

**Ministry of the Word**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**\*Sermon Text** – Acts 2:36-39

**\*Gloria Patri #735** (red hymnal)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**Sermon** – “Infant Baptism”

## Ministry of the Sacrament of Baptism

### Introduction and Prayer

**Words of Institution/Scripture** – Luke 18:15-17

### Baptismal Address and Charge

#### Affirmation of Parents

*Minister: In presenting your son for baptism, you are affirming your faith in God's promises both to you and to your son. Do you confess the Triune God as revealed in the Holy Scriptures as the only one true God?*

**Parents: We do.**

*Minister: Do you confess your sins unto Almighty God, and profess that Jesus Christ is fully God, fully man and without sin, and that He alone by His work on the cross, can save you from God's righteous wrath and is your only hope and salvation?*

**Parents: We do.**

*Minister: Do you confess and proclaim Jesus Christ as your Lord and desire to follow Him all the years God gives you?*

**Parents: We do.**

*Minister: Do you promise to teach the Holy Scriptures to your son, and to raise him in the true faith within Christ's Church?*

**Parents: We do.**

*Minister: Do you promise to love your son, to pray for him, to help him in every way, so that he may become a true disciple of Jesus Christ?*

**Parents: We do.**

#### Affirmation of Sponsors – Jerry Franceschetti Jr. & Michelle Delaney

*Minister: Do you the sponsors of this child promise to aid and support in the raising of Caleb Thomas Franceschetti in the ways of Christ?*

**Sponsors: We do.**

#### Affirmation of the Congregation

*Minister: The Christian nurture of this child cannot be assumed by the parents alone. Since we are members of Christ's Church, the responsibility of caring for this child must be shared by all. Do you the members of the Trinity Reformed Church promise to do your part in receiving and caring for this child as Christ's own?*

**Parents: We do.**

**Baptism** – Of Caleb Thomas Franceschetti son of David & Janelle Franceschetti

### Charge, Prayer, Presentation & Benediction

**\*Hymn #359** (red hymnal) – “*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*”

**\*Benediction** – Numbers 6:24-26

[After service, until 12:30 PM, there is coffee hour fellowship downstairs – Everyone is welcome!]

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## Announcements

- There will be a brief Elder & Diaconate meeting after church today.
- If you are interested in joining the prayer team for the **Internet Prayer Chain**, please email the facilitator, Donna Ensminger at: **trcnwprayer@gmail.com**.
  - Joining the prayer team means you promise to pray for the requests sent out by Donna by email.
  - We will be taking prayer requests shortly.
- The Elders are **reviewing the bylaws**. If you have any suggestions, please contact one of the Elders no later than April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- There are **Bibles** and “**Basics of the Faith**” pamphlets about various theological topics free if you are interested.
- **Summer worship hours** will be at 9:30 AM for July and August. Sunday School for All Ages will end sometime in June.

## Upcoming Special Events

- There will be a **Special Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, after church, to do the following business:
  - To examine and vote on the Elders’ recommendation that Jonathan Haulenbeek become a Ruling Elder of TRC.
  - To discuss and vote on the Elders’ recommended changes to the bylaws.
  - To receive the Elders’ “State of the Church” report.
  - To ask any questions the congregation might have of the Elders.
- On Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> (with a rain date of July 27<sup>th</sup>), there will be a **pool party and picnic** for the church at the Decker-Gabelmann house. (Time & details to be announced.)

## Normal Weekly Schedule

### Sunday

9:00-10:15 AM

#### **Sunday School for All Ages**

- Younger Children’s Class (Vika Winters)
- Older Children’s Class (Mason Goodell)
- Women’s Study (Verna Aldrich)  
Taking Hold of God: Reformed & Puritan Perspectives on Prayer edited by Joel R. Beeke & Brian G. Najapfour
- Adult Study (Pastor Doug)  
Christ & Creed: The Early Church Creeds & their Value for Today by Nate Pickowicz.

10:30 AM

#### **LORD’S DAY WORSHIP**

(Lord’s Supper on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday)

c.11:40 AM

#### **Coffee Hour**

### Tuesday

10:30 AM – Noon

**Christian Classic Study** (Pastor Doug’s house)  
Augustine’s City of God

### Wednesday

6:30 – 8:00 PM

**Wednesday Bible Study** (Pastor Doug's house)  
Book of Genesis

### Friday

6:30 PM

**YADG** – Young Adult Discussion Group (Pastor Doug's house)  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays

### Saturday

[*morning*]

**Prayer Group** – Meets at the Decker-Gabelmann house.  
If you are interested, please contact Sheryl Gabelmann.

## Contact Information

**Worship:** Every Sunday at 10:30 AM (9:30 AM for July & August) at the Winchester  
Grange: 100 Newfield Rd, Winchester Center, CT 06098

**Church's Mailing Address:** Trinity Reformed Church; P.O. Box 343; Riverton, CT 06065

**Pastor Doug:** (860) 379-1147; douglas\_aldrich@sbcglobal.net

## Online Resources

**Church's Facebook Page:** facebook.com/people/Trinity-Reformed-Church/61554974150922/

**Church's Webpage:** TrinityReformedCT.org

**Church Youtube Channel:** youtube.com/@TrinityReformedCT

**Pastor Doug's Youtube Channels:**

*Simply Reformed:* youtube.com/simplyreformed

*Pilgrims of Plunder:* youtube.com/@PilgrimsofPlunder

*Liking, Commenting, Sharing  
facebook posts and Subscribing,  
Liking, Commenting on youtube  
helps boost TRC's online  
outreach.*

## Leadership

**Teaching & Preaching Elder:** Pastor Doug Aldrich  
(860-379-1147; douglas\_aldrich@sbcglobal.net)

**Ruling Elders:** Bob Ensminger  
(860-485-8738; robert.ensminger@arthurgrussell.com)  
Rich Gabelmann  
(860-605-7852; rgabelmann0415@gmail.com)

**Deacons:** David Mattson (*chair*), Carl Bierce, Caleb Goodell,  
Mason Goodell, Dean Winters

**Music Coordinator & Treasurer:** Cindy Rines

**Clerk:** Sheryl Gabelmann

**Sunday School:** Verna Aldrich, Mason Goodell

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# Sermon Notes

Acts 2:38-39  
"Infant Baptism"  
April 21, 2024

## Introduction

- 1) Three critical Christian holidays about Christ are centered around two Old Testament holidays.
  - a) During the time of the Old Testament holiday of **Passover** is when the Lord Jesus rose from the dead; This is the Christian holiday of **Easter**.
  - b) 40 days later the Lord Jesus bodily assumed into heaven; This is the Christian holiday of the **Ascension**.
  - c) 50 days after Passover/Easter comes the holiday of **Pentecost**.
- 2) Luke 24 describes Easter.
  - a) Acts 1 describes the ascension of the Lord Jesus into heaven after His resurrection.
  - b) Acts 2 describes Pentecost.
- 3) Pentecost, like Passover, originally was one of the three great harvest/pilgrim festivals of ancient Judaism.<sup>1</sup>
  - a) Numerous Jews, from various nations, gathered in Jerusalem for the holiday of Pentecost. Acts 2:5-11
  - b) On this day the Holy Spirit came upon the early church powerfully, like fire. Acts 2:3-4
  - c) This is as per the promise of Christ, that He and the Father would send the Spirit in a special way to the saints. Matt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; 11:13
  - d) This is the beginning of the New Testament church!  
(Though in the broad sense it started with the creation of Adam.)
- 4) The Jews at Jerusalem were amazed, perplexed, and a few mocked, at this powerful act of the Spirit. Acts 2:12-13
- 5) Peter, in Acts 2:14-36, gives his great Pentecost sermon explaining the meaning of this miraculous event.
  - a) Peter ends his sermon with a devastating conclusion – *"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."* – Acts 2:36
  - b) Who is the "you" in the "you crucified" Christ?  
Or more broadly speaking: Who crucified Christ?
  - c) Four groups: Acts 4:27-28
    - i) The Jews, from whom the Messiah would come, who call for His crucifixion, as per prophesy. Is 52:13-53:12; Matt 27:20-26; Mark 15:32; Luke 20:17-18

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<sup>1</sup> The three great pilgrim festivals of the Old Testament are:

**Passover** (Pesach, Feast of Unleavened Bread) – Celebrates the Exodus and the time of planting, sometime between March and April. (Ex 12:3-20; Lev 23:6; Deut 16:1-8)

**Pentecost** (Shavuot, Feast of Weeks, Day of First Fruits, Feast of Harvest) – The completion of the barley harvest, the first harvest, sometime between May and June. (Ex 23:16; 34:22; Num 28:26; Lev 23:16)

**Feast of Tabernacles** (Sukkot, Feast of Booths, Feast of Ingathering) – The second harvest and the end of the year, sometime between September and October. (Lev 23:34; Num 29:12-38)

- ii) The Gentiles, in particular the Romans, who were ruling Judea at that time under Pontius Pilate. Matt 27:2ff; Mark 15:16; Luke 3:1; 1Tim 6:13
- iii) More importantly: All humanity, you & I, because it was for the “sins of the world” that Christ went to the cross. John 1:29; Rom 3:9-20,23; 1Cor 15:3; Eph 2:1-3; 1John 2:2; 4:14
- iv) Finally, God the Father who decreed His Son’s sacrifice for the sins of the world. Is 53:4,10; Luke 22:22; 1Pet 1:20 Acts 2:23; 3:18; 4:27-28;
- 6) This fiery Gospel changes their hearts: “*Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Brethren, what shall we do?’*” – Acts 2:37
- 7) Peter’s answer is glorious: “*Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.’*” – Acts 2:38-39
- 8) So, we have three critical things:
- Repentance.**
  - Baptism.**
  - Gift of the Holy Spirit.**
- 9) Let’s go through each one.

## Repentance

- 1) “**Repentance**” (*metanoēō*) – Is “to change one’s mind” or “to relent” in the sense of complete change of direction. Matt 3:2; 12:41; 21:29,32; Mark 1:15; Luke 10:13; 15:10; 17:3; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30; 2Cor 7:8; 7:21; 12:21; Rev 2:5; 3:16
- It’s a major theme, and command found throughout the Bible.<sup>2</sup>
  - Having sorrow of sin is good. However, it’s the change that is critical. Ps 51:17; Matt 5:3-4
- 2) Repentance should be distinguished from mere regret, or remorse (*metamélomai*), which is merely to regret something that has been done, and wish it was undone, yet with no effective change of heart.
- Judas Iscariot regretted betraying Jesus, but he didn’t repent. Matt 27:3
  - To be sad that you got caught isn’t repentance.
  - Unlike Saul/Paul, who truly repented from his sins to Christ. Acts 9:1-19
- 3) True repentance is to turn away from sin, yourself, the world, and Satan and turn to Christ.
- Thus, true repentance always includes **faith**.
  - They fundamentally go together. Acts 19:4; 20:21; Heb 6:1
- What were the Lord’s first words of ministry?

<sup>2</sup> To give a few examples:

- Ancient Israel was frequently called to repentance. (2Chr 6:37; Is 30:15; Ezek 14:6; 18:30)
- It was righteous Job’s reaction when he saw God. (Job 42:6)
- Repentance was John the Baptists main message. (Matt 3:2,11; Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3; Acts 19:4)
- It was the core of Apostolic preaching. (Mark 6:12; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 8:22; 17:30; 20:21; 26:20)
- There is no hope without repentance. (Ps 7:11-12; Jer 8:4-6; Ezek 18:32; Luke 13:3,5; Acts 11:18)
- Repentance is a daily practice for the Christian. (2Cor 7:9-10; 2Pet 3:9; Rev 2:5,16; 3:3,19)
- Repentance is a mighty work of God’s grace. (Acts 11:18; 2Cor 7:10; 2Tim 2:25)



ii) Mark 1:14b-15 – “*Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent and believe in the gospel.**’*”

4) Biblical saving faith includes:

- a) To intellectually **know** the facts about Christ and His cross. Acts 8:30-35; Rom 10:14-15
- b) To intellectually **assent** (or **agree**, or **believe**) to the knowledge about Christ’s Gospel. John 6:28-29; Heb 11:1; Rom 1:16-17; 5:1-2;
- c) To willfully **trust** and place one’s life in Christ’s Gospel. Rom 4:16-22; 10:10; Eph 3:12; Heb 4:16; 10:38; 11:7-10; James 1:6

5) If you do not get sin, you will never understand. You will never have (true) faith, hope or love. You will have only darkness and death.

## **Baptism**

1) If one has faith & repentance, then one should be baptized, be washed in Christ.

2) As Peter commanded, “*Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ*” – Acts 2:38b

3) What is baptism?

- a) Baptism is one of the sacraments of the Church.
- b) A sacrament is a worship ceremony commanded by the Lord Jesus for His church that proclaims through physical signs (water, bread & wine) the grace of the Gospel of the Triune God’s good promise, like a sign & seal, that we are in Christ.<sup>3</sup>
- c) There are two sacraments:
  - i) **The Lord’s Supper**: The sign & seal of being frequently nourished in Christ through His body and blood (as symbolized by bread & wine).
  - ii) **Baptism**: The sign & seal of being brought into Christ’s New Covenant church with the promise of the washing of regeneration (as symbolized by water) by Christ.

4) The Sacraments are not magical, they in and of themselves don’t save. We are only declared right with God by grace alone, through faith alone on account of Christ alone.<sup>4</sup>

- a) You can be saved without sacraments. Luke 23:43; 1Cor 1:17
- b) However, it is a sin to neglect them because Christ Himself commands them.
- c) Though not magical, the Sacraments are more than a memorial, as they powerfully proclaim the Gospel to us. And they are a means of grace, and a sign and a seal of Christ’s promises to us, when received by faith. John 6:50ff; Rom 4:11; 1Pet 3:21

5) We see this in Peter’s sermon: “*each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.*” - Acts 2:38c

6) There is another promise.

<sup>3</sup> Gen 17:1-22; Ex 12:1-13; Num 9:1-14; Matt 26:17-30; 28:19; Mark 4:11; 14:22-26; Luke 22:15-20; John 6:26-58; 13:1-4; Acts 2:38-39,42,46; 8:35-38; 16:14-15,31-33; 18:8; 20:7,11; Rom 6:3-7; 1Cor 2:1-2; 4:1-2; 5:6-8; 10:1-33; 11:17-34; Gal 3:26-29; Eph 5:29-30; Col 1:24-28; 2:2-3,9-17; Eph 1:7-10; 3:2-10; 5:26,29,32; Heb 8:1-6.

<sup>4</sup> Gen 15:6; Hab 2:4; Matt 16:16-17; Mark 10:52; 16:16; John 1:12-13; 3:16-18; 5:24; 6:28-29; 8:24; Acts 10:43; 13:39; 15:11; 16:31; Rom 1:17; 3:20-28; 4:3-5; 5:1; 10:4-6,9; 11:6; Gal 2:16,21; 3:5-6,11,14,22-25; 5:4; Eph 1:5-8,13; 2:8-9; Phil 3:9; 1Tim 1:16; 2Tim 1:9; Titus 3:5-7; Heb 11:7,38; 12:2; 1Pet 1:5; 1John 5:1,13.



## Holy Spirit

- 1) Acts 2:38d – *“and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*
- 2) The Holy Spirit is fully God, *He* (not it) is the third Person in the Trinity.
  - a) He is that Person of God who goes into all things and gives existence and life.
  - b) In the broad sense, the Holy Spirit has been working since the beginning of creation. Gen 1:2; Ps 104:30; John 20:22
  - c) If God were to remove His Spirit completely, that thing would cease to exist. Job 34:14-15
- 3) The Bible also promises a new era of the Spirit in the New Covenant. 2Cor 3:6
  - a) Throughout the Gospels there is the promise that Christ will baptize *“with the Holy Spirit and fire”*. Matt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33
  - b) That the Father and the Son will send the Holy Spirit in a special way. Luke 11:13; John 7:39; John 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7
  - c) Which begins with the Christian Pentecost in Acts 2.
- 4) John, chapters 14-16, are the most detailed prophesies of the coming work of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8 is the great chapter describing the Spirit after the cross & Pentecost.)
- 5) We read in John 14-16 that the Holy Spirit . . .
  - a) Is the Spirit of Truth, and the Helper. John 14:17; 15:26; 16:13 John 14:26; 16:7
  - b) Dwells (in a special way) only in the Christian. John 14:17
  - c) Will teach us and lead us to Christ bringing glory unto the Lord Jesus. John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13-14 Matt 10:19-22; Mark 13:11-13; Luke 21:12-1
  - d) Gives us Christ’s peace. John 14:27
  - e) Will bring conviction of sin, righteousness and judgment. John 16:8-11
- 6) It is by the Holy Spirit that we are made born again / regenerate. John 3:5-8; 1Pet 1:3,11-12,23
  - a) From this new birth comes faith & repentance.
  - b) This leads to a life in the Spirit, living by faith, hope and love in Christ.<sup>5</sup>

## Who Receives These Promises?

- 1) Who receives these great promises (forgiveness of sins, gift of the Holy Spirit)?
  - a) Acts 2:39 – *“For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”*
  - b) So, there are three groups who could receive these promises.
- 2) First, those who Peter is preaching to.
  - a) Obviously, he is calling his audience to repent and turn to Christ.
  - b) In one sense, the first group called are the Jews, since it is to them that God first spoke and they have the promises of the Old Covenant. Rom 1:16; 2:9-10; Rom 3:1-2 + 9:4-5
- 3) The third group, are *“all who are far off.”*
  - a) Not just in the sense of time, such as those alive in 2024.

<sup>5</sup> John 5:42,44-47; Rom 5:1-5; 12:5,9-12; 1Cor 13:4,7,13; 2Cor 5:7,11,14; Gal 5:5-6; Eph 1:12-13,15,18-19; 2:4,8,12; 4:2,4-5; Col 1:4-5,23; 1Thes 1:3-5; 5:8; 2Thes 2:13-16; 1Tim 1:1-2,4-5; 4:10-12; Titus 1:1-2,4,6,8-9; 3:4,7-8,15; Heb 10:23-25; 1Pet 1:3,5,7-9; 1:20-23

- b) But to those who are beyond Jerusalem.
  - c) Especially the Gentiles (i.e. non-Jews).
    - i) Before Christ, only one people received God's direct revelation: The Jews.  
Hence the Old Testament.
    - ii) After Christ, the Gospel of the New Covenant is to be preached to all nations.
    - iii) As per the prophecies of the Old Testament.
    - iv) We are living testaments to this promise being fulfilled.
  - d) This is why the church is commanded to "*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*" - Matt 28:19-20
- 4) There is another group, the second one: "*For the promise is for you and your children*".
- a) God is very concerned about, and works through, not just individuals and families, but also generations.
 

	Ex 20:5-6; Deut 4:9-10; 6:4-7; 11:18-21; 28:9-11;
	Deut 30:5-6; Ps 33:11; 48:13; 78:5-6; Ezra 9:2;
	Lam 5:19; Dan 4:3,34; Mal 2:15
  - b) This is very hard for modern hyper-individualistic man to understand.
 

*Ps 48:12-14 – "Walk about Zion and go around her; Count her towers; Consider her ramparts; Go through her palaces, that you may tell it to the next generation. For such is God, our God forever and ever; He will guide us until death."*
  - c) The Old Testament's promises of the New Covenant include children of believers.
 

	Ps 78:4-6; Is 44:3; 54:10,13; 59:20-21; 61:8-9; 65:23;
	<b>Jer 31:1; 32:38-40; Ezek 37:24-28;</b>
  - d) The idea that God works through generations is seen in the New Covenant too.
 

	Luke 18:15-17; 1Cor 7:14
	Acts 2:39; 10:2; 16:15,31-34; 18:8;
- 5) That is why the vast majority of Christians throughout the ages have practiced infant baptism.
- a) Baptism is to be given to new converts and the children of believers.
  - b) Not that baptism magically makes you born again.
  - c) But that we rest on the promises of God, that He has promised good to me and my children.
- 6) As circumcision (which was given to children) was the sign and seal of bringing children of believers into the visible OT church (visible = the church we see) thus baptism is the sign and seal of bringing children of believers into the visible NT church.
- |  |            |
|--|------------|
|  | Rom 4:11;  |
|  | Col 2:9-14 |
- 7) Baptism requires faith, whether the faith of the new convert or the believing parent.
- a) We trust in Christ's promises of good to us and our children.
  - b) We respond in faith, while always remembering faith itself is a gift from God, the sign of the inner working of the Holy Spirit.
  - c) Because salvation is solely of God.
  - d) As Peter concludes in Acts 2:39 – "*as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.*"