

# **The Sacrament of**



**BAPTISM**

**First Presbyterian Church  
Rumson, N.J.**

# THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*“Child of blessing, child of promise, Baptized with the Spirit’s sign  
With this water God has sealed you, Unto love and grace divine.”*

*Leader: “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourself with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Jesus Christ.”  
(Galatians 3:27-28)*

*Affirming the words of Jesus, we baptize those whom He has called. In baptism God claims us, and puts a sign on us to show that we belong to God.*

**People:** As a sign and symbol of inclusion in God’s Grace, baptism signifies:  
**the faithfulness of God,  
the washing away of sin,  
rebirth,  
putting on the fresh garment of Christ,  
being sealed by God’s Spirit,  
adoption into the covenant family of the church,  
resurrection and illumination in Christ,  
God’s steadfast presence among us.**

*Leader: As we celebrate this sacrament, let us remember and rejoice in our own baptisms.*

## QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

*Leader: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you turn from the ways of sin  
and renounce evil and its power in the world?*

**Response: I do.**

*Leader: Do you turn to Jesus Christ  
and accept him as your Lord and Savior,  
trusting in his grace and love?*

**Response: I do.**

*Leader: Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, participating actively  
and responsibly in the worship and mission of the church?*

**Response: I will, with God’s help.**

*Leader: Will you provide for the Christian nurture of your child?*

**Response: I will.**

**\*QUESTION ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION**

*Leader: Our Lord Jesus Christ ordered us to teach those who are baptized. Do we, the people of Rumson Presbyterian Church, promise to tell **Van Philip Shaheen** the good news of the gospel, to help him know all that Christ commands, and by our fellowship, to strengthen his family ties with the household of God?*

*Response: We do.*



**\*THE APOSTLES' CREED (unison)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's Only son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**



## **PRAYER OVER THE WATER**

*We give You thanks, O Holy God, for in the beginning Your Spirit moved over the water, and You created all that is seen and unseen. By Your gift of water You sustain life. In the Jordan River, Jesus was baptized by John and anointed by Your Spirit. We thank You, O God, for the gift of baptism. In this water we are buried with Christ in His death. From this water we are raised to share His new life, and are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God. Amen.*

## **THE ACT OF BAPTIZING AND WELCOME**

### **UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*God of love, we praise You for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the Body of Christ. We thank You for choosing to add to our communion **Van Philip Shaheen**. Together may we live in Your Spirit and so love one another that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.*