



## CHOOSING A SPONSOR FOR YOUR CHILD

Baptism is God “calling us by name” (Isaiah 43:10) and making us His own, the beginning of a life meant to be lived in a relationship. That is where the parents and sponsors come in!

Sponsors (also called Godparents) are additional adults who come alongside your child to remind them of who s/he is in Jesus, and who encourage you as parents in your own spiritual life and the raising of your kids!

Choosing a sponsor, or godparent, for your child’s baptism should take some *careful thought*. Share your thoughts with them about the commitment involved in baptismal sponsorship. Ask them if they would honestly be able to make the following commitment to your child:

1. To pray for your child regularly.
2. To remember your child’s baptism anniversary and birthday every year with a card, letter, or other form of contact.
3. To be a model of love, care, and Christ-like kindness and discipleship.
4. To see that the child is brought up as a disciple of Jesus, and brought to worship regularly, especially if anything should happen to you.

For clarity, it is not necessary that your sponsors be Lutheran, but that they have faith in Jesus as their Savior, model the life of a believer, and understand the work that God performs in baptism.

Let them take a few days to think about the commitment before asking them to respond to you with a decision. If they feel they can’t make this kind of commitment, thank them for their honesty, and ask someone else. **Your child deserves sponsors who will remind them of their identity as a beloved child of God throughout their lives**, rather than merely token sponsors who stand up in front of the congregation and make promises they don’t intend to keep.

If you have no family or friends who can make this commitment, we would be glad to help connect you to someone who may be willing to serve as the sponsor(s), or as special “prayer partners.”