

Congratulations on taking this significant step in raising your child by choosing to baptize or dedicate them! We are excited to walk alongside you during this special occasion. The following details will help you prepare for this meaningful milestone. Your main point of contact for scheduling and any other logistics is Jill Swilling (jills@highrock.org), Family Ministry Assistant.

1. Schedule the Baptism/Dedication

Please schedule your baptism or dedication at least 6 weeks in advance. Baptisms are held at the 10:45 AM service only. Dates are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to plan ahead and remain flexible. If you have a specific pastor you'd like to perform the baptism or dedication, feel free to request them, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

2. Complete the Milestone 1: The Call Materials

Visit <u>www.highrockonline.org/milestones</u> -> The Call -> Additional Resources. Listen to Messages 1-3 and complete the discussion questions with your spouse or a trusted family member. This is a great opportunity to reflect on your journey together and your commitment to raising your child in faith.

3. Meet with a Pastor

One month before the baptism, have a meeting with a pastor to review the Milestone 1 material. Be prepared to discuss the reflection activities from the messages and any questions you have about baptism, dedication, faith, marriage, or parenting. These meetings can take place virtually or in person and typically last about one hour. Children are welcome to attend the meeting with you.

4. Submit Your Baptism Story

Three weeks before your baptism, submit a 250-400 word story about Christ's work in your life and how it has led you to this moment of wanting to raise your child to know and love God. This story will be printed and shared with the congregation on the day of the baptism. Your story could include:

- How you came to know Christ as your Savior
- · Hopes and dreams for honoring Christ as a family while raising your child
- The meaning behind your child's name

Please email your story as a Google Doc and include the child's name, parent's full names, and whether it's a baptism or dedication at the top of the document. Samples are available upon request.

Along with your story, please include 4-6 high-resolution photos of your family and child. Attach the images to the email (not embedded in the body).

5. Day of the Baptism

On the day of the baptism, please plan to arrive about 15 minutes before the service begins to meet with the pastor performing the baptism and review the details for the day.

6. Celebrate This Milestone

Take time to celebrate this special milestone in your child's life with family and friends. This is a momentous occasion, and we encourage you to mark it with love and joy!