

Baptism for All

Baptism...saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. – 1 Peter 3:21

"Want a tough stain out?" That's how the old commercial began. It ended by claiming a product that could get the job done. There are lots of sprays, foams, and cleaners that companies promise are the answer to our coffee, wine, and pet stain problems. But can any of those products deliver? If there actually was a stain remover guaranteed to deliver results as promised and was free...would you be interested?

God has one for you. He has provided a special "product" that has his faithful promise and almighty power behind it, and it is completely free. It's not for coffee, wine, or pet stains, but for something far worse. It's for guilt!

Guilt is what is left behind when we sin, and like an ugly stain it sticks in our hearts and minds. We want to get rid of it, but how? We can't shout it out, even though guilt can make us angry and do lots of shouting. We can't scrub it out, even if we try our hardest to clean up the messes we have made. So, what can get the tough stain of guilt out?

Baptism in a word that means to wash with water. God's word together with water makes baptism a cleanser that God promises will bring results: "...not the removal of dirt...but the pledge of a good conscience toward God." A guilty conscience comes from sin, and sin makes us unacceptable before our holy, sinless God. Baptism takes away our guilt because in baptism God connects us to Jesus and his work of salvation. In baptism God gives us the great gift of forgiveness through Jesus. His death was the payment for sin, and his resurrection is the guarantee that the stain of our sin has been removed. By our baptism God frees us from guilt. We are saved from the consequences of sin—death and damnation!

Think about your house with every single stain removed from your carpet and couch, and from your shirt and blouse. Even the toughest stains are eliminated. Baptism is a blessing of God that is much greater! Baptism is God's amazing life-saving "product" to take out the stain of sin's guilt from your heart. Jesus guarantees it.

Baptism.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Bringing Christ's Forgiveness to Sinners



What's the purpose of church?

You are invited to First Evan on January 22 for

A church service that explains the church service

- Understand Lutheran worship
- Enrich your worship experience

Sunday, January 22 - 8:00 or 10:45am

Breakfast in the FEC (gym) at 9:15am

Worship Schedule

Sunday 8:00am + 10:45am

Monday 7:00pm

Bible Instruction Class

This course covers the basic teachings of the Christian faith. It is an opportunity to learn or review the central message of God's Word—our sin and God's grace, which is found in Jesus Christ. **The class is open to all.** Contact the church office or one of the pastors for more information or to enroll.

728 Villa Street
Racine, WI 53403
262.633.8267
churchoffice@firstracine.org
www.firstracine.org

Wisconsin Lutheran School

WLS offers Christ-centered daily education for children in Pre-Kindergarten through 8th Grade. First Evan and Epiphany Lutheran Churches have operated Wisconsin Lutheran School for over 40 years. WLS is a Racine Parental Choice school.

School Office 262.456.2770 www.wisconsinlutheranschool.org