

STATION 1: IDENTITY

At the baptismal font

Instructions: In baptism we are buried with Christ, dying to ourselves and our own plans and will, and surrendering our lives to the service of Christ. The commitment we make to love and serve others is a response to God's love so lavishly poured out on us first.

Before you approach the baptismal waters, read through the below invitation and prayer. Consider what it means for you to be a servant of Christ. When you are ready, approach the font to remember the day that God claimed you at your baptism. Remember that you are a beloved child of God.

INVITATION

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants.

Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him.

Christ has many services to be done.

Some are more easy and honorable,

others are more difficult and disgraceful.

Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests,

others are contrary to both.

In some we may please Christ and please ourselves.

*But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ
except by denying ourselves.*

It is necessary, therefore,

that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

Let me be your servant, under your command.

I will no longer be my own.

I will give up myself to your will in all things.

STATION 2: SERVICE

At the mirrors by the windows

Instructions: Stand in front of a mirror – look at yourself. Pray these words from the covenant.

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

**Lord, make me what you will.
I put myself fully into your hands:
put me to doing, put me to suffering,
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
let me be full, let me be empty,
let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and with a willing heart
give it all to your pleasure and disposal.**

*Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants.
He is the source of all salvation to those who obey.
Christ will have no servants except by consent;
Christ will not accept anything except full consent
to all that he requires.
Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing.*

Confirm this by a holy covenant.

Instructions: Look at yourself and ask God to reveal how he would like you to be his servant. Read the prayer again. Then, writing on top of your image on the mirror – list your place(s) of service for the coming year – sit back and look at yourself again. Pray that God will give you the strength to follow through with this act of service. When you're finished, use the eraser to wipe the mirror clean for the next person.

STATION 3: PLANS

At any seat

Instructions: Wherever you are in the sanctuary, find a seat. Pull out your calendar or something that represents your schedule, and reflect on practices, disciplines, and habits that can help you grow in grace and stay in love with God this year. Think about the means of grace [prayer, study, worship, fasting, service] and write down to the side of these admonitions commitments you can make to stay in love with God.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

*First, set apart some time, more than once,
to be spent alone before the Lord;
in seeking earnestly God's special assistance
and gracious acceptance of you;
in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant;
in searching your hearts
whether you have already freely given your life to Christ.
Consider what your sins are.
Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are,
and whether you, after having carefully considered them,
are willing to choose them all.
Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.*

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

*Third, claim God's covenant,
rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength,
so you can keep your promise.
Trust not your own strength and power.*

*Fourth, resolve to be faithful.
You have given to the Lord your hearts,
you have opened your mouths to the Lord,
and you have dedicated yourself to God.
With God's power, never go back.*

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord.

STATION 4: CONFESSION

At the back wall by the kitchen

Instructions: Pick up a stone – hold it in your hand tightly and name it – let it represent one of the idols, or sins in your life, that distract you from living fully in God. Ask God to forgive you for that thing and then drop the stone in the water. As you watch it drop to the bottom, know that it is gone and forgotten. Then, do all in God’s power not to pick it back up again.

Then kneel before God using the pillows, kneeling rail, or wherever you feel most comfortable and pray:

**O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
see me as I fall down before you.
Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will,
for you have promised mercy to me
if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

**God, you require that I shall put away all idols that distract me from you.
I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all,
covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life.
Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world.
In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you.
For my own righteousness is riddled with sin,
I am unable to stand before you.**

**Through Christ, you have offered to be my God again.
Before all heaven and earth,
I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God.
I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion,
and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant,
to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

**Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ
as the only new and living Way,
and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him.**

STATION 5: COMMUNION

At the table

Instructions: We remember the night that Jesus gathered with his disciples to share a meal. After the meal he took bread and wine and used them as symbols of the sacrifice he was to make for us all. The body of Christ, broken for you. The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. Do this in remembrance of me, he said.

Christ invites us to partake in this meal, knowing that following him on our path of discipleship at times will require confession, humility, sacrifice, and suffering. But the grace of Jesus Christ is sufficient for it all, empowering us to become more like Christ as we grow in holiness and love.

Pray the prayer below and then receive communion, the body and blood of Christ given for the forgiveness of your sins.

**O blessed Jesus, I come to you,
hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked,
unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants.
I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head.
I renounce my own worthiness,
and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness.
I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide.
I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.**

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**I do here covenant with you, O Christ,
to take my lot with you as it may fall.
Through your grace I promise
that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden.
All your laws are holy, just, and good.
I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions,
promising that I will strive
to order my whole life according to your direction,
and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

STATION 6: THANKSGIVING

At the front prayer corner with candles

Instructions: Our response to God should always include thanksgiving. Read through the prayer from the Covenant below and then add any additional thanksgivings. Light a candle for them as you lift them up. Dare to whisper them out loud as you do so – as a public display of your grateful heart.

**O God, our Covenant Friend,
you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives.
We thank you for your loving care,
which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.
We praise your holy name, O God.**

**You have given us life and reason,
and set us in a world filled with your glory.
You have comforted us with family and friends,
and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers.**

**You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you,
and have given us your peace.
You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus.
You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit
and the witness of your Church.**

**You have been our light in darkness
and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation.
You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys
and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors.**

**You remembered us when we forgot you.
You followed us even when we tried to flee from you.
You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you.
We thank you for all your patience and overflowing grace.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Instructions: After completing the 6 prayer stations, please return to your seat in silent reflection and wait to pray the closing prayer together as a church community.

The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today
without guile or reservation.
If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright.
And now, glory be to you, O God the Father,
whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father.
Glory be to you, O God the Son,
who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood,
and now is my Savior and Redeemer.
Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit,
who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.**

**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you have now become my Covenant Friend.
And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant.
So be it.
And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven.
Amen.**

You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this, sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.