

Child Blessing Information Sheet

At Christ Community we believe that every child is precious to God, and that God longs to pour out His blessing upon them. One of the ways this is imparted is through the speaking of a blessing over a child. We encourage parents to regularly do this. In addition, we as a church set aside two times every year to bless children in our worship services, prayerfully entrusting them to the Lord and seeking God's favor on their lives.

Why do we bless children at Christ Community?

In Matthew 19:13-14, we read that Jesus placed his hand on each of the children brought to Him and spoke a blessing over them. We believe that we have this same privilege and responsibility as parents (Deuteronomy 6:5-9) and as a church. This practice is a form of "child dedication," giving parents the opportunity to present their children to the Lord and to impart a blessing to them.

Does Christ Community practice infant baptism?

We do not practice infant baptism. We believe that baptism is a public expression that is to happen *after* a person chooses to place their trust in Christ. When a person is old enough to understand the gospel and chooses to embrace the gospel, we encourage them to be baptized.

When and where are children blessed at Christ Community?

We bless children as a part of our regular worship services at least twice a year. During that time, parents, family members, and others from the congregation will gather around the child (ren) for a blessing.

As a parent, will I have to say anything or go up in front of a group of people?

You won't have to go up in front of the congregation. You can stay in the area where you're seated, with people coming to you to join with you in blessing your child (ren). In this setting you'll be prompted by the pastor leading the service to repeat the blessing declared by them.

I'd like to participate in the next Child Blessing . . . what do I do?

The dates of upcoming Child Blessings will be announced on the website and in the church newsletter. There's no need to sign up or participate in a class in advance. Simply show up and invite your friends and family. Since this blessing will be a part of our worship response time, parents will be instructed during the service when and how to pick up their kids from the children's ministry areas.

Questions? For the date of the next Child Blessing, or for additional information, please contact the church office at info@cccgreeley.org or 970.353.1159.