

# Christ Alone Church

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Dear Parents:

At Christ Alone Church, we take seriously the vitally important role that parents play in the spiritual development of their children. We also take seriously our responsibilities to ensure that the sacrament of the Lord's Supper is celebrated and received in a way that honors our Lord and draws us closer to Him.

In dealing with the issue of the participation of baptized children in the Lord's Supper, our denomination, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC), provides the following guidance:

Baptized children may be admitted to the Lord's table provided they have appeared before the Church Session and professed their faith in a manner acceptable to the Church Session. (EPC *Book of Worship* § 3-3-I)

Although a local Session is not required to admit young children to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, it may permit them if the following criteria are met:

1. The child had been administered the sacrament of Christian baptism.
2. The child presents a credible profession of faith as determined initially by his or her parents, and determined ultimately by the Session of the church.
3. The child is able to evidence to the Session a basic understanding of the nature of the sacrament as it is set forth in the Scriptures and in the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. (EPC Pastoral Letter, 13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, June 1993)

The Session at Christ Alone Church has prayerfully studied and discussed this issue and now offers these guidelines:

- We will offer a Lord's Supper preparation class, recommended for children in grades 5 and up. Although we do recognize that there are differences in the maturity levels of children, we believe that younger children are not yet able to understand the full import of worthily receiving the Lord's Supper.  
This class will cover the meaning of the sacrament, the significance of the elements, and how we are to prepare our hearts, including making a profession of faith. We ask that this class be attended by the child and at least one parent.
- After the class, we ask that you and your child go home and discuss what was presented. Then we ask that you pray together and determine if your child is able to understand the meaning of the sacrament and is ready to make a public profession of faith. You, as parents, are best able to make this decision as to readiness.
- When you and your child are ready, please call Ruling Elders Caroline Tromble or Jodi Buntin and a time will be arranged for your family to meet with Session.

Until this process is completed, we ask that you have your baptized child(ren) refrain from partaking in the Lord's Supper. Youth who have completed a Confirmation or New Members process, at this or another church, are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper, as are all true believers.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Ruling Elders Caroline Tromble or Jodi Buntin.

Sincerely,  
Christ Alone Church Session

(Revised January 2013)

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Sunday School (Ages 4 – Adult): 8:30 a.m. ✦ Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Childcare is available during Sunday School and Worship.

*Introducing people to the life transforming Jesus!*