

SINGING IN THE CHURCH

It is important for children to understand each of the practices we engage in regularly as a church. Those things include (but are not limited to) reading the Bible, taking communion, baptism, and singing.

Q: WHAT DO WE SING IN THE CHURCH?

A: WE SING THE WORD.

The Bible tells us in Colossians 3:16, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing each other in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." This means that we should sing songs that help us learn and remember what the Bible says is true about all humans and what is true about Jesus.

Specifically, we sing songs that remind us:

- God is Holy
- We are sinners
- Jesus saves us
- Jesus sends us

Q: WHEN DO WE SING IN THE CHURCH?

A: WE SING BEFORE AND AFTER THE PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD.

Our whole church service is spent worshiping God. Singing - just like preaching or taking communion - is one way to worship God. Singing is different than the other ways we worship God because it captures the way we feel - our emotions - in a special way. We sing before the sermon because it prepares us to hear God's word. We sing after the sermon because it gives us an opportunity to respond to God's Word as a community.

Q: WHY DO WE SING IN THE CHURCH?

A: IT HELPS US LEARN MORE ABOUT JESUS, AND IT HELPS US KNOW HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS FOR OURSELVES AND AS A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS.

There are many reasons why we sing in the church. God actually commands us to sing together in the Bible over 400 times (i.e. Psalm 96:2, Colossians 3:16, Ephesians 5:18-20)! Singing helps us learn more about Jesus and learn how to live the way Jesus wants us to live because the melody and the rhythm make songs easier for us to remember than other things we read or hear.

Specifically, songs can help us:

- learn and remember what the Bible says throughout the week.
- remember that we are not alone in our faith; we are actually part of a local and global community of Christians.
- express to God how much we love Him
- show other believers what God has been teaching us through His Word
- remember God's covenant promise and his faithfulness to fulfill that promise through His son, Jesus