

Protocol for administering baptism through Phase III

- 1. For baptism, only one Presider is allowed for all manual acts, blessing the water, baptizing, anointing, etc.*
- 2. Water should not be put into the font until the actual blessing of the water.*
- 3. Only the Presider may touch the water.*
- 4. Presider will vigorously wash their hands and sanitize before the Blessing of the Water, and will repeat this action before and after each baptism.*
- 5. If aspersions are planned for the congregation, that water should be extracted from the font, in a dedicated bowl, by the Presider, before any baptisms take place and set aside for use for this.*
- 6. If there are multiple baptisms, you have several options when baptizing. You may take water in your hands and move away from over the font, and pour the water over the candidates head. Or you could use a separate bowl and walk to the candidate to baptize, trying not to let water fall off the head of the person, back into the bowl. If this does happen, please use a new bowl. In fact, it would be best to have a new bowl for each candidate.*
- 7. Presider only anoints. Wearing mask.*
- 8. Candles should either be not used during this time, OR, you may light the candle, show it to the person, then blow it out and keep this to be sanitized after the service and given to the candidate. You could do all of this after the service if you wish.*
- 9. During this time there is to be no sprinkling of the congregation with the water in font or bowls used for baptisms. Only use the water set aside in the beginning.*
- 10. All water, in all bowls and the font should be discarded BEFORE the ending of the service*
- 11. Prior to the baptism you could send a link to the congregants with a card whereby people could download and print that includes the line, "Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ? We will." and ask people to write a message and mail it to the baptismal candidate, affirming their participation in the liturgy and the covenant and whatever other message of welcome and support they want to give.*