

What We Teach

THE CHURCH

We teach that no one possesses the gift of healing today, but that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith and will answer in accordance with His own perfect will for the sick, suffering, and afflicted ([Luke 18:1-6](#); [John 5:7-9](#); [2 Corinthians 12:6-10](#); [James 5:13-16](#); [1 John 5:14-15](#)).

We teach that two ordinances have been committed to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper ([Acts 2:38-42](#)). Christian baptism by immersion ([Acts 8:36-39](#)) is the solemn and beautiful testimony of a believer showing forth his faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, and his union with Him in death to sin and resurrection to a new life ([Romans 6:1-11](#)). It is also a sign of fellowship and identification with the visible Body of Christ ([Acts 2:41-42](#)).

We teach that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration and proclamation of His death until He comes, and should be always preceded by solemn self-examination ([1 Corinthians 11:28-32](#)). We also teach that, whereas the elements of Communion are only representative of the flesh and blood of Christ, participation in the Lord's Supper is nevertheless an actual communion with the risen Christ, who indwells every believer, and so is present, fellowshiping with His people ([1 Corinthians 10:16](#)).