

Babies and Toddlers Worship, Too!

Your baby or toddler gets inspired in the church service too. Here are some suggestions of things they might be enjoying...

- Sitting with parent or parents during service and being close
- The sensation of a room full of people singing at the same time (Hymns)
- Watching the candles flicker
- Watching other people
- Receiving communion or a communion blessing
- Witness you worshipping, and hearing you sing
- Listening to the choir
- Passing of the peace
- Stained Glass "Creation window" at the top center of the sanctuary
- The posture of prayer
- Smells (of the building, people nearby, etc.)
- The sound of voices (laughter, song, spoken word, prayer)

The service is a long time for a baby or toddler to sit through (except for those lovely newborns, who are so tuckered out from crying all night that they sleep blissfully through the service), so you may have to take your little one out and let them run around in the space outside the church doors - just make sure you keep the noise level down if there are other people out there who may be trying to listen to the service. There are some chairs that you can sit/nurse/whatever on as well as an infant nursery if you want more privacy. There is also a big room full of toys and toddlers in the main nursery if you need a place for your little one to whoop it up. Don't get too frustrated - all babies and toddlers go through stages where they are great through the whole service. HSLC welcomes even the most fidgety of children to worship. The amount of worshipping you and your child can do together is completely up to your comfort level.