

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
ESTABLISHED BY CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

Our congregation believes that Holy Communion is a gift of Christ to His Church. The apostle Paul wrote, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). Out of loving concern for the communicants and from our understanding of the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions, we request that those who commune here:

1. **Be Baptized Christians**
2. **Have received special instruction on the essence and significance of the Lord's Supper.**
3. **Are mature enough to examine themselves, recognizing their sin and their need for God's grace through His special means.**
4. **Profess the "real presence" of Christ in this Sacrament, that is, confessing the true presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine.**
5. **Have faith in the Savior's words, "Given and shed for you."**
6. **Recognizing that participation at our table indicates public agreement with our understanding of this blessed Sacrament.**

Holy Communion is celebrated each 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday at 9:00 am
and every 2nd & 4th Saturday at 5:00 pm.

Uninstructed children are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS TO REVIEW

Q. Do you acknowledge your sins and are you willing to turn from them with the aid and assistance of the Holy Spirit?

A. Yes, I acknowledge my sin and seek the Lord's mercy. *1 John 1:8-9*

Q. Do you believe that God, for Jesus' sake, has forgiven you all your sins?

A. Yes, Christ died for me, and suffered the punishment that I deserve. *Isaiah 53:4-6; Romans 6:21, 23*

Q. Do you believe that the Lord offers Christians His body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the strengthening of faith and the forgiveness of sins?

A. Yes, I believe the Scripture which teaches, "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?" *1 Corinthians 10:16*

Q. Should Christians with weak faith receive the Sacrament?

A. The Sacrament is especially offered for those weak of faith. *Isaiah 42:3; John 6:37*

FOR WHERE THERE IS FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THERE IS ALSO LIFE AND SALVATION

Non-Alcoholic Fruit of the Vine

Persons who have a preference for no alcohol are invited to receive Holy Communion using non-alcoholic grape juice. The juice is located in the center circle of each individual tray and is lighter in color.

CHRISTMAS DAY 2018

9:00 AM

GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING!

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

Today a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.



Please rise to sing:

ENTRANCE HYMN "*O Come, All Ye Faithful*" – LSB 379

The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People **Amen.**

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
People **the Light no darkness can overcome.**

Pastor: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us;
People: **we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

As the Christ Candle is lit we sing:

HYMN "*Joy to the World*" – LSB 387

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be seated

✝ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✝

OLD TESTAMENT: ISAIAH 9:2-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this. *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!



NEW TESTAMENT: TITUS 3:4-7

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us

generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN *“Let All Together Praise Our God” (Verses 1 & 7) – LSB 389*

**Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.**

Please rise

**Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. *(NIV)*

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, *(Romans 10:10; Exodus 20:2-3; Deuteronomy 6:4)*
the Father Almighty, *(Matthew 6:9; Genesis 35:11; Exodus 6:3)*
maker of heaven and earth *(Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 44:24; John 1:1)*
and of all things visible and invisible. *(Colossians 1:16; Romans 1:20; Hebrews 11:3)*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *(Romans 10:9; 2 Corinthians 1:3)*
the only-begotten Son of God, *(John 3:16; Matthew 16:16; Hebrews 1:5-6)*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *(John 1:2; Revelation 1:8)*
God of God, Light of Light, *(John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1)*
very God of very God, *(Colossians 2:9; 1 John 5:20)*
begotten, not made, *(John 1:2)*
being of one substance with the Father, *(John 10:30; Colossians 2:9)*
by Whom all things were made; *(Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3; Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:15-17)*
Who for us men and for our salvation *(1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23; Acts 4:12)*
came down from heaven *(John 6:41; Luke 15:20; John 6:38, 41)*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *(Luke 1:34-35; Matthew 1:18)*
and was made man; *(John 1:14; Philippians 2:6-7)*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *(Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18; Acts 2:36)*
He suffered and was buried. *(John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53; Matthew 16:21)*
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures *(1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6)*
and ascended into heaven *(Acts 1:9; 1 Timothy 3:16)*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *(Mark 16:19; Acts 7:55; 1 Peter 3:21-22)*
And He will come again with glory *(Matthew 26:64; Acts 1:10-11; Revelation 1:7)*
to judge both the living and the dead, *(Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12)*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *(Luke 1:33; 2 Peter 1:11)*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (*John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*)
the Lord and giver of life, (*Genesis 1:2; John 3:5-6; Titus 3:5*)
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (*John 15:26; Luke 11:13*)
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (*Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*)
Who spoke by the prophets. (*Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21*)
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (*1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:1-6*)
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (*Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21*)
and I look for the resurrection of the dead (*1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*)
and the life + of the world to come. (*Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*)
Amen. (*Psalms 106:48*)

Please be seated

HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" – LSB 380



THE MESSAGE

John 3:16-17: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

After the sermon please rise to sing:

HYMN "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice" (Verses 1 & 4) – LSB 390

**Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.**

**Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us,
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH



LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

Because we value your presence in worship and desire to serve you as best as we can, please use this time to complete the Fellowship Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor. Prayer requests may be made by filling out the green card in the pew rack in front of you and placing it in the offering plate.

MUSICAL OFFERING

As the offering is brought forward please rise to sing:

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" – LSB 805

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

PREFACE AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: May our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Sing to the LORD a new song for He has done marvelous things.

People: **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

[Psalm 98:1]

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." *[Mark 14: 22-24]*

INVITATION

Pastor: The bread of life, broken for you.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The cup of eternal joy, poured out for you.

People: Praise be to God!



THE AGNUS DEI ≈ *The Lamb of God (Sung – LSB page 163)*

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace. [John 1:29]

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Our belief and practice concerning Holy Communion is written on page 2 of this worship folder. Reception of Communion indicates that you share our confession.

If a gluten free wafer is needed, please inform the usher as you proceed to Communion.

CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Angels from the Realms of Glory” – LSB 367

“What Child Is This” – LSB 370

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” – LSB 386

After the Distribution has been completed please rise to sing:

“Let Our Gladness Have No End” (verses 1 & 4) – LSB 381

**Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia!
On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.**

**Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia!
On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.**

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of the Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart with joy and with confidence in His peace.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: We pray together,

All: Gracious God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, we thank You for providing in this sacrament that peace which the world cannot give; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Pastor: The Lord Jesus Christ bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace on this Christmas Day always and in all ways.

People: Amen.

HYMN *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* – LSB 368

POSTLUDE

