

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 9:30 am
and every 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.

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 23, 2018

9:00 AM

I O G D

in omnibus glorificetur Deus

that in all things God may be glorified

Romans 15:5-6

1 Peter 4:7-11

Giving Thanks to God Through Worship!

Welcome! We hope that your time in worship will encourage and strengthen your relationship with God. We share the greatest hope through the One who loves you most – Jesus Christ! We invite all worshipers today to fill out the Fellowship Pew Pad during the offering portion of worship. You are also invited to make a prayer request on the green card, which is in the pew rack and then place the card in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. We pray God’s blessings upon you and invite you to worship with us every Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday morning at 9:00 am.

The color for the Advent season is blue, the color of royalty. It is a reminder that Christ, for whose arrival we prepare, is truly our King – the King of kings and Lord of lords!

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (December 23 – December 29)

1 Timothy 2:5: *There is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus. (NIV)*

THE ADVENT WREATH

With each candle we light on the Advent wreath, we recall the promise of Jesus Christ and His advent comes closer. With each candle we light, we are proclaiming that the light shines in the darkness and the darkness will never overcome it. The promise is that wherever there is darkness and dread in our lives, wherever there is darkness and dread in the world around us, God is present to help endure. God is in charge and hope is alive!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

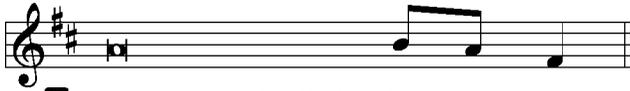
WELCOME

✚ MATINS ✚
(Lutheran Service Book, Page 219)

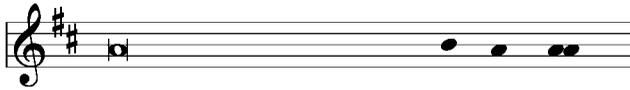
Please rise



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. King who comes to save us.



PSALMODY



L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.

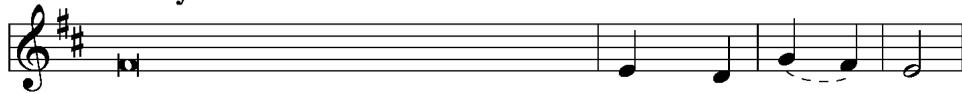


C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

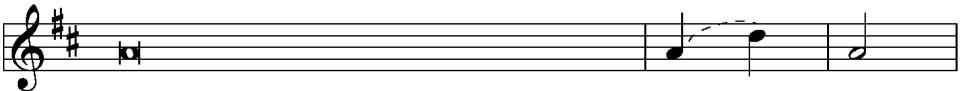
VENITE~O COME, LET US SING



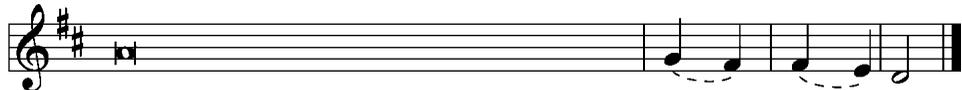
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 2 For the Lord is a great God
 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.
 2 and a great king a-bove all gods.
 3 and His hand formed the dry-land.
 5 and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks-giv-ing,
 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
 3 O come, let us worship and bow-down,
 4 For He is our God,
 5 as it was in the be-gin-ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
 2 the strength of the hills is His al-so.
 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak-er.
 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
 5 is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.

Antiphon



L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Please be seated

✦ A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE ✦

NEW TESTAMENT: HEBREWS 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said to the Father,
“You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But you have given me a body to offer. You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. Then I said, ‘Look, I have come to do your will, O God – as is written about me in the Scriptures.’”

First, Christ said, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were you pleased with them” (though they are required by the law of Moses). Then he said, “Look, I have come to do your will.” He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect. For God’s will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time. *(NLT)*

Pastor: The Word of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**



A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

John 1:29: “The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

After the message please rise and sing:

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND: *“My Soul Rejoices”* – LSB 933

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O God, hear the prayers and petitions of Your people. We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy (Daniel 9:18).

Please be seated

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

Honor the LORD with your wealth. – Proverbs 3:9

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

Please rise for prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.



COLLECT FOR GRACE

ALL: Almighty God, through the grace of Your Holy Spirit You pour the gifts of love into the hearts of Your faithful people. Grant us, Your servants health both of mind and body that we may love You with our whole heart and with our whole strength perform those things that are pleasing to You as we await the return of our Lord Jesus Christ; in His name we pray. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord 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. [*Numbers 6:24-26*]

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG "*Now Sing We, Now Rejoice*" – LSB 386

POSTLUDE