

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 each 2nd and 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.

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

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.

AS WE GATHER WE PRAY

Almighty God, heavenly Father, You have called us to be Your children and heirs of Your gracious promises in Christ Jesus. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may forsake all covetous desires and the inordinate love of riches. Deliver us from the pursuit of passing things that we may seek the kingdom of Your Son and trust in His righteousness and so find blessedness and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The paraments are white, symbolizing the glory of God as revealed in the birth of our Savior. White is also the color of purity and completeness and reinforces the joyous message that “though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.”

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (December 29 – January 4)

Isaiah 40:31: *Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. (NIV)*

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

✚ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE ✚

(Lutheran Service Book, Page 151)

OPENING HYMN *"Angels from the Realms of Glory" - LSB #367 (Rise for verse 5)*



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 △ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✚ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
[Matt.28:19b]

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [1 John 1:8-9]**

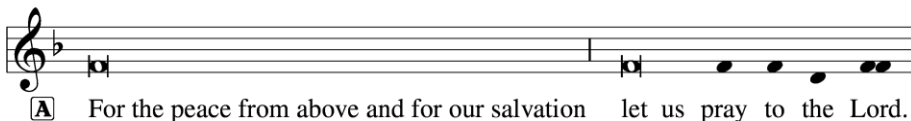
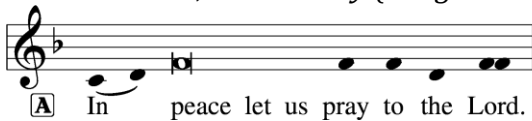
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. [John 20:19-23]

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE ≈ *Lord, Have Mercy (Sung – LSB 152)*





C Lord, have mer - cy.



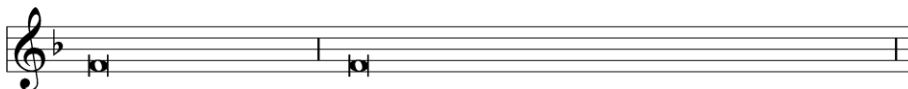
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



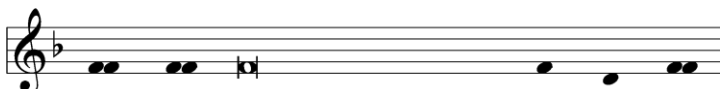
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



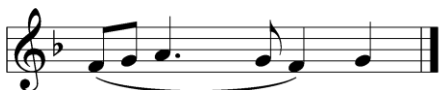
let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE *"Let Our Gladness Have No End" – LSB 381*



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, al - le - lu - ia!
 3 See, the love - liest bloom - ing rose, al - le - lu - ia!
 4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al - le - lu - ia!



For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
 God has sent Him as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia!
 From the branch of Jes - se grows, al - le - lu - ia!
 He, our ref - uge and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save



us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

Text and tune: Public domain

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit.

✦ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✦

OLD TESTAMENT: ISAIAH 63:7-9

I will tell of the LORD's unfailing love. I will praise the LORD for all he has done. I will rejoice in his great goodness to Israel, which he has granted according to his mercy and love.

⁸ He said, "They are my very own people. Surely they will not betray me again." And he became their Savior. ⁹ In all their suffering he also suffered, and he personally rescued them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them. He lifted them up and carried them through all the years. *(NLT)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. *(Responses are spoken)*

NEW TESTAMENT: HEBREWS 2:10-18

¹⁰ God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation.

¹¹ So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters. ¹² For he said to God, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters.

I will praise you among your assembled people."

¹³ He also said,

"I will put my trust in him," that is, "I and the children God has given me."

¹⁴ Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. ¹⁵ Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.

¹⁶ We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested. *(NLT)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA and VERSE – LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:13-23

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

¹³ After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother,” the angel said. “Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

¹⁴ That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother, ¹⁵ and they stayed there until Herod’s death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: “I called my Son out of Egypt.”

¹⁶ Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men’s report of the star’s first appearance. ¹⁷ Herod’s brutal action fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ “A cry was heard in Ramah—weeping and great mourning. Rachel weeps for her children, refusing to be comforted, for they are dead.”

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt.

²⁰ “Get up!” the angel said. “Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead.”

²¹ So Joseph got up and returned to the land of Israel with Jesus and his mother.

²² But when he learned that the new ruler of Judea was Herod’s son Archelaus, he was afraid to go there. Then, after being warned in a dream, he left for the region of

Galilee. ²³ So the family went and lived in a town called Nazareth. This fulfilled what the prophets had said: “He will be called a Nazarene.” (*NLT*)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sit.

THE HYMNS OF CHRISTMAS!

THE SERMON

Isaiah 40:31: “Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.” (*NIV*)

GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND:

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. (*Psalm 106:48*)

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).

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence as we trust the Holy Spirit to intercede for us “with groanings too deep for words” (Romans 8:26).

Sit.

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

In God’s hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. – Job 12:10

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

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE (*Sung – LSB 160*)

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalms 136*]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, ever-more praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ≈ "Holy, Holy, Holy" – LSB 161

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.

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*)

PAX DOMINI *≈ The Peace of the Lord*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always. [*John 20:19*]

People: Amen.



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

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION *(Please be seated)*

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 pastor as you proceed to Communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" - LSB 384



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 △ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

"A Great and Mighty Wonder" – LSB 383



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text and tune: Public domain



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!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: We pray together:

All: Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Stir up among us Your Holy Spirit that we may by faith be confident of Your grace and forever enjoy our unity with Him; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

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.

People: Amen.

*May you shine the
light of Christ in
the New Year!*

CLOSING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing" – LSB 643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,
The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.
The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,
The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.
The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.
His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing
To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Tune: Public domain

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POSTLUDE

