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.

IOGD

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.

AS WE GATHER WE PRAY

Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The paraments are green. Epiphany's message of Christ's revelation to the Gentiles along with the season's traditional emphasis on extending Christ's kingdom through missions, calls for the use of green, which is the color symbolic of growth.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (February 16 - February 22)

Nahum 1:7: The LORD is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him. (NLT)

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

+ DIVINE SERVICE +

Divine Service, Setting One Lutheran Service Book, Page 151



INVOCATION & GREETING

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

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. [Matthew

28:19b]

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sit.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM Georgia Suzanne Sanew

CHOIR ANTHEM "This Child of Ours" – Jaroslav Vajda/Richard Jeffrey

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be

Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our

prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT: DEUTERONOMY 29:2; 30:15-20

Moses summoned all the Israelites and said to them,

"Now listen! Today I am giving you a choice between life and death, between prosperity and disaster. ¹⁶ For I command you this day to love the LORD your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by walking in his ways. If you do this, you will live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you and the land you are about to enter and occupy.

¹⁷ "But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and if you are drawn away to serve and worship other gods, ¹⁸ then I warn you now that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live a long, good life in the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy.

¹⁹ "Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! ²⁰ You can make this choice by loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the LORD, you will live long in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." (*NLT*)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

NEW TESTAMENT: 1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ. ² I had to feed you with milk, not with solid food, because you weren't ready for anything stronger. And you still aren't ready, ³ for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren't you living like people of the world? ⁴ When one of you says, "I am a follower of Paul," and another says, "I follow Apollos," aren't you acting just like people of the world? ⁵ After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. ⁶ I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. ⁷ It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded for their own hard work. ⁹ For we are both God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building. *(NLT)*

Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Please stand and sing:



THE HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:1-2, 33-42

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, ² and he began to teach them.

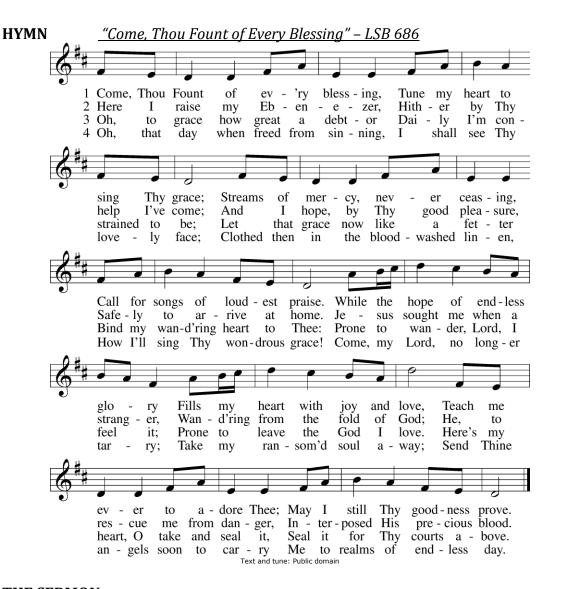
³³ "You have also heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.' ³⁴ But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, 'By heaven!' because heaven is God's throne. ³⁵ And do not say, 'By the earth!' because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. ³⁶ Do not even say, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. ³⁷ Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one.

³⁸ "You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. ⁴¹ If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles. ⁴² Give to those who ask, and don't turn away from those who want to borrow." (*NLT*)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sit



THE SERMON

Nahum 1:7: "The LORD is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him." (*NLT*)

After the sermon please rise to sing:

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND:



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)

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other. – Deuteronomy 4:39

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 HOLY COMMUNION +

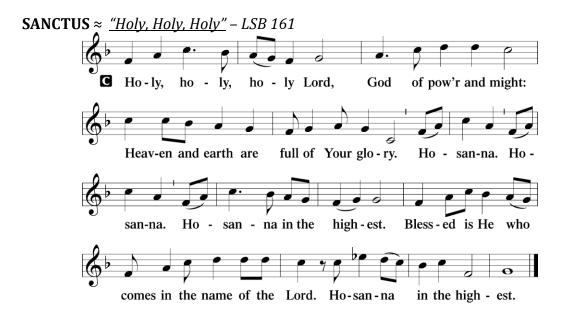
PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

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 what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



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. [John 20:19]

People: Amen.

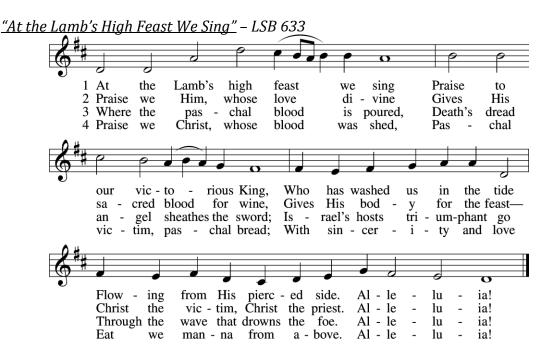


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DISTRIBUTION (Please be seated)

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



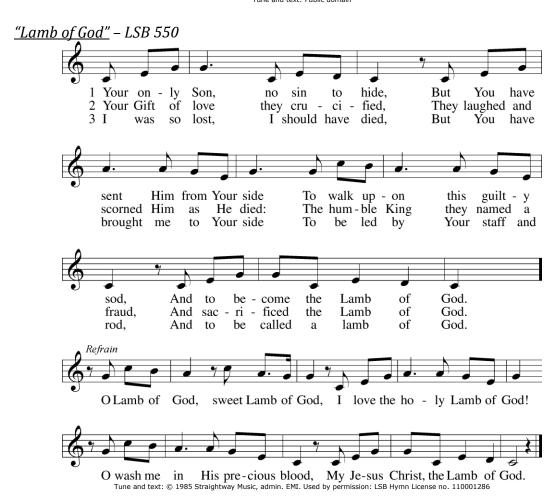
- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

- Easter triumph, Easter joy!
 This alone can sin destroy;

 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
 Newborn souls in You to be.

 Alleluia!
- D 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
 Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days:
 Three in One, Your name we praise.
 Alleluia!

Tune and text: 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: 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 BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God!

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.

HYMN "Blessed Assurance – My King Is Coming"

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine O what a foretaste, of glory divine Heir of salvation, purchase of God Born of His spirit, washed in His blood

And this is my story, oh this is my song Praising my Savior, all the day long This is my story, this is my song Praising my Savior, all the day long

Perfect submission, all is at rest I in my Savior, am happy and blessed Watching and waiting, looking above Filled with His goodness And lost in His love

And this is my story, oh this is my song Praising my Savior, all the day long This is my story, this is my song Praising my Savior, all the day long

My King is coming soon, He will roll the clouds away
Light of heaven bursting through
Oh, what a glorious day
My King is coming soon, He will roll the clouds away
Light of heaven bursting through
Oh, what a glorious day

And this is my story, oh this is my song Praising my Savior, all the day long This is my story, this is my song Praising my Savior, all the day long

My King is coming soon, He will roll the clouds away
Light of heaven bursting through
And until that glorious day
This is my story