

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.

THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 6, 2019

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.

AS WE GATHER WE PRAY

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 white, symbolizing for us the glory of God revealed in the humanity of Jesus.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (January 6 – January 12)

2 Corinthians 1:22: *God anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts. (NIV)*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

✝ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR ✝

Lutheran Service Book, Page 203

HYMN *“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” – LSB 398 (Please rise for verse 5)*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

People: **Amen.** *[Matthew 28:19b]*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Silence is kept.

Pastor: We pray,

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ≈ *Glory to God in the Highest (Sung – LSB page 204)*

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth:
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high –**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 60:1-6

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises

upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

“Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.” *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

NEW TESTAMENT: EPHESIANS 3:1-12

When I think of all this, I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus for the benefit of you Gentiles . . . assuming, by the way, that you know God gave me the special responsibility of extending his grace to you Gentiles. As I briefly wrote earlier, God himself revealed his mysterious plan to me. As you read what I have written, you will understand my insight into this plan regarding Christ. God did not reveal it to previous generations, but now by his Spirit he has revealed it to his holy apostles and prophets.

And this is God’s plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God’s children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. By God’s grace and mighty power, I have been given the privilege of serving him by spreading this Good News.

Though I am the least deserving of all God’s people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning.

God’s purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come boldly and confidently into God’s presence. *(NLT)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise

ALLELUIA AND VERSE (*Sung – LSB page 205*)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
These things are written that you may believe that
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
[John 20:31]

THE HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

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

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The
Word
of God

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*)

Please be seated

HYMN "*Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*" – LSB 394

THE SERMON

2 Corinthians 1:22: *"God anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts."* (NIV)

After the sermon please rise to sing:

"Jesus, Draw Me Close" – BOB 131

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).

SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING (*Please be seated*)

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

✝ SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION ✝

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O God, Maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, that we might be for the world signs of Your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You invite all who are burdened with sin to come to You for rest. We now come at Your invitation to the heavenly feast, which You have provided for Your children on earth. Preserve us from impenitence and unbelief, cleanse us from our unrighteousness, and clothe us with the righteousness purchased with Your blood. Strengthen our faith, increase our love and hope, and assure us a place at Your heavenly table; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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. [Matthew 6:9-13]

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." [Matthew 26:26-28]

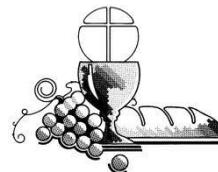
INVITATION

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!



AGNUS DEI ≈ *Lamb of God (Sung – LSB page 210) [John 1:29]*

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

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

“Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed” – LSB 560

“Beautiful Savior” – LSB 537

After the distribution has been completed please rise to sing:

NUNC DIMITTIS ≈ *Song of Simeon (Sung – LSB page 211)*

**O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav’nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding through all eternity.**

[Luke 2:29-32]

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 *"As with Gladness Men of Old"* - LSB 397

POSTLUDE