

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 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, July 14, 2018

5:00 PM

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, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

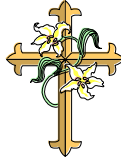
The paraments are green, which is the symbolic color of life in nature and so represents our spiritual life in God’s kingdom of Grace.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (July 15 – July 21)

Ephesians 1:7: *“In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace.” (NIV)*

WELCOME

✠ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE ✠
(Lutheran Service Book, Page 151)



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

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE *“This is the Feast”* (Sung – LSB page 155)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

[Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9]

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

People: And also with you.

Pastor: O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; 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: AMOS 7:7-15

This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD asked me, “What do you see, Amos?”

“A plumb line,” I replied.

Then the Lord said, “Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.

“The high places of Isaac will be destroyed and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined; with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam.”

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: “Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. For this is what Amos is saying:

“Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.”

Then Amaziah said to Amos, “Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. Don’t prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king’s sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom.”

Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’” *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

NEW TESTAMENT: EPHESIANS 1:3-14

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession – to the praise of his glory. *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise

ALLELUIA (*Sung – LSB page 156*)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

[John 6:68]

THE HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 6:14-29

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 6th chapter.

King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him."

Others said, "He is Elijah."

And still others claimed, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago." But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!"

For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom."

She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"

"The head of John the Baptist," she answered.

At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, and brought back his head on a platter.

He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb. (NIV)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN "*O Savior, Precious Savior*" – LSB 527

THE SERMON

Ephesians 1:7: "*In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.*" (NIV)

Please rise

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer" – LSB 780

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer; When I call answer me.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer; Come and listen to me.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer; When I call answer me.

O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer; Come and listen to me.

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 people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

(Silent reflection)

Pastor: For the Church, that we may ever stand faithful to the Word of God and confess that Christ lived, suffered, and died to reveal His glory to all nations, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the Rev. Matthew Harrison, the President of our Synod, the Rev. Allan Buss, the President of our District, the ministers, deaconesses, chaplains, teachers, missionaries and staff of the Northern Illinois District, our Circuit Visitor and for all servants of the Church, that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit as they do the work of ministry and missions You have given them to do with excellence and faithfulness, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the leaders of these United States, for the President of our nation, our representatives and senators, and all public servants who strive to advocate for vulnerable neighbors, that the plight of the unborn, the poor, widows, orphans, strangers, immigrants, the lonely, and other needy and suffering persons be present in their every thought, word, and deed, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the sick, the suffering, the grieving, and the dying, especially those whom we name in our hearts (*silence for intercession*) that they would be healed, comforted, consoled, and delivered, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who eat and drink the Lord's precious body and blood, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins, strengthening of faith, life, and salvation, and be filled with the love of Christ to offer their lives in service to all neighbors who crave for belonging, friendship, compassion, and justice, especially those who are marginalized, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: We submit these prayers, those spoken and those pondered in the silence of our hearts, along with these offerings, for the praise of Your glory. For all these and whatever other things You would have us ask, Heavenly Father, we pray for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please be seated

SHARING GOD’S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. – Ephesians 1:3

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 ✝

GREETING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation, we give You thanks and praise Your holy name. We especially give thanks for Your abundant love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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." [Mark 14: 22-24]

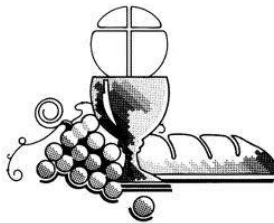
INVITATION

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!

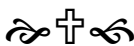


DISTRIBUTION

Following the Words of Institution you are invited to come forward to receive the sacrament.

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.



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING *(Please rise)*

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: Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. 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 "*O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee*" – LSB 632

POSTLUDE



*Spiritual formation and growth is not evolutionary.
It is revolutionary.
Therefore, it must be intentional.*