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.

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!

AS WE GATHER

Almighty God, stir up Your Holy Spirit in and among us that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, comfort us in all temptations and afflictions, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth that we, being steadfast in faith, may increase in all good works; 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 26 - August 1)

Romans 8:37: "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (CSB)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.
Romans 11:33, 36

+ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE +

(Lutheran Service Book page 151)

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. [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.

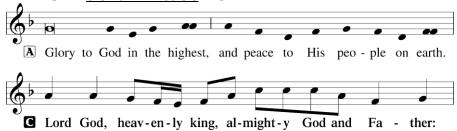
Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake

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.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE Gloria in Excelsis - LSB 154





Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Please remain standing for the Scripture readings.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

NEW TESTAMENT: ROMANS 8:33-35, 37-39

³³ Who can bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies. ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is the one who died, but even more, has been raised; he also is at the right hand of God and intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*CSB*)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:44-52

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

Jesus presented another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure, buried in a field, that a man found and reburied. Then in his joy he goes and sells everything he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one priceless pearl, he went and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a large net thrown into the sea. It collected every kind of fish, ⁴⁸ and when it was full, they dragged it ashore, sat down, and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw out the worthless ones. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out, separate the evil people from the righteous, ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?"

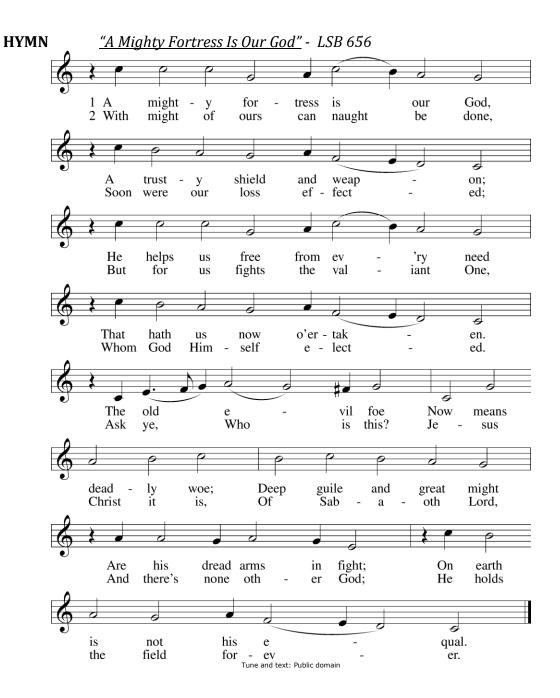
They answered him, "Yes."

⁵² "Therefore," he said to them, "every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom treasures new and old." (CSB)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sit.



THE SERMON

Romans 8:37: "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (CSB)

Stand.

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.

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 remain standing while the Altar is prepared.

+ SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION +

GREETING

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

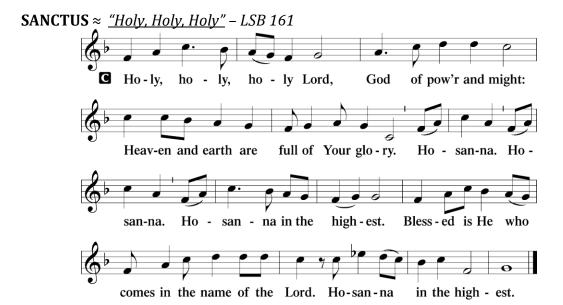
People: And also with you.

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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.. 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:



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.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION

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.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (Stand.)

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: Heavenly Father, we praise Your holy name for Your wondrous love

shown to us in this Holy Supper and we give You thanks for the Means of Grace and for the hope of glory. Stir up Your Spirit among us that He may grow us in the right understanding of all Your mercies; through Jesus

Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

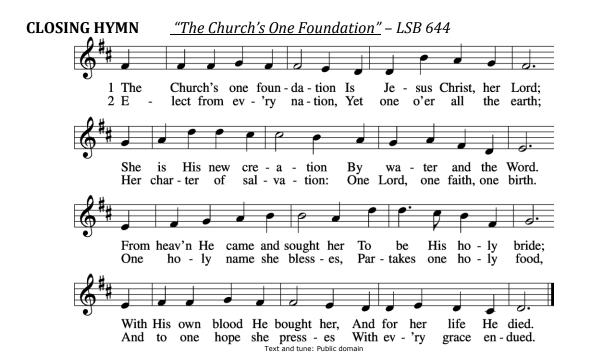
BENEDICTION

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.



Following the hymn, please dismiss yourself row by row beginning in the rear of the church. And as you do, please remember to practice social distancing.

The Offering Plate is located on a lectern as you exit the sanctuary.

Fellowship gathering and meet & greet will resume at a later date.

POSTLUDE



CHRIST IS RISEN!

CHRIST HAS ASCENDED!

CHRIST WILL RETURN IN GLORY