# 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 9:00 AM and each 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The paraments are purple. It is a somber color in keeping with the penitential nature of the Lenten Season yet it is also the color of royalty, reminding us that Jesus Christ, who struggled so hard to win our salvation, is none other than our heavenly King.

# THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (March 15 – March 21)

**Psalm 19:1:** The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. (NLT)

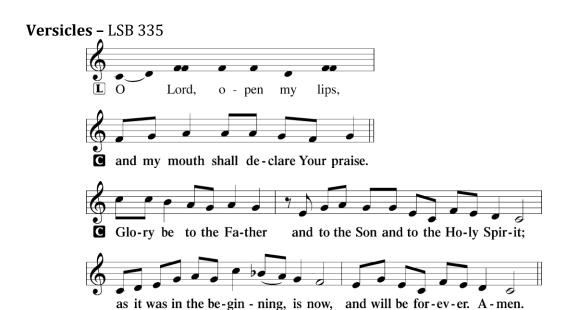
# **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

# WELCOME and ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

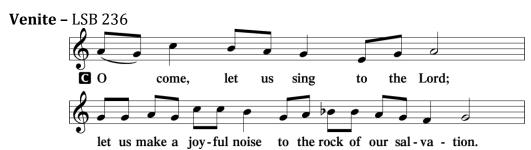
# **MORNING PRAYER**

(Lutheran Service Book, page 235)

(Please stand)













# READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

# **OLD TESTAMENT: PSALM 95:1-7**

Come, let us shout joyfully to the LORD, shout triumphantly to the rock of our salvation! <sup>2</sup> Let us enter his presence with thanksgiving; let us shout triumphantly to him in song. <sup>3</sup> For the LORD is a great God, a great King above all gods. <sup>4</sup> The depths of the earth are in his hand, and the mountain peaks are his. <sup>5</sup> The sea is his: he made it

<sup>5</sup>The sea is his; he made it. His hands formed the dry land. <sup>6</sup>Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. <sup>7</sup> For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the sheep under his care. *(CSB)* 

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

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

**NEW TESTAMENT: ROMANS 5:1-8** 

Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. <sup>2</sup> Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory.

<sup>3</sup>We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. <sup>4</sup>And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. <sup>5</sup>And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

<sup>6</sup>When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. <sup>7</sup>Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. <sup>8</sup>But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (*NLT*)

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to God.

Stand

"Sanctuary" - John W. Thompson, Randy Scruggs

Lord prepare me To be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, Tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.
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THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-26

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4th chapter.

Eventually Jesus came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. <sup>7</sup> Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Please give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food.

<sup>9</sup> The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?"

<sup>10</sup> Jesus replied, "If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water."

<sup>11</sup> "But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket," she said, "and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? <sup>12</sup> And besides, do you think you're greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?"

- <sup>13</sup> Jesus replied, "Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again.
- <sup>14</sup> But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life."
- <sup>15</sup> "Please, sir," the woman said, "give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water."
- <sup>16</sup> "Go and get your husband," Jesus told her.
- <sup>17</sup> "I don't have a husband," the woman replied.

Jesus said, "You're right! You don't have a husband— <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!"

- <sup>19</sup> "Sir," the woman said, "you must be a prophet. <sup>20</sup> So tell me, why is it that you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place of worship, while we Samaritans claim it is here at Mount Gerizim, where our ancestors worshiped?"
- <sup>21</sup> Jesus replied, "Believe me, dear woman, the time is coming when it will no longer matter whether you worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You Samaritans know very little about the one you worship, while we Jews know all about him, for salvation comes through the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. <sup>24</sup> For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

<sup>25</sup> The woman said, "I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

# <sup>26</sup> Then Jesus told her, "I AM the Messiah!" (NLT)

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: Thanks be to 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)

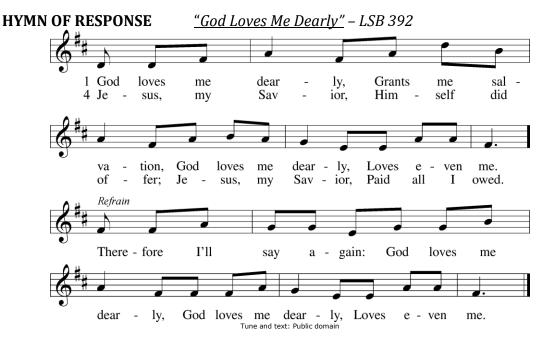
Sit



#### THE SERMON

**Psalm 19:1:** "The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship." (*NLT*)

After the sermon please rise to sing:



## 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).

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### SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

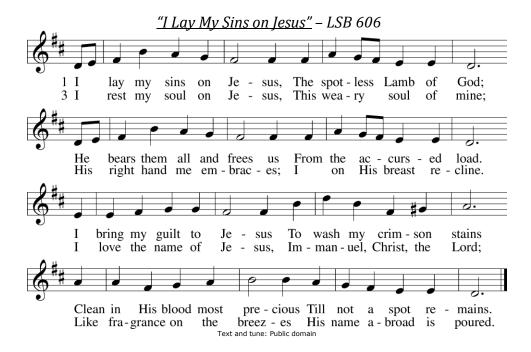
Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all you produce. – Proverbs 3:9

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**

### + THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION +

*Please stand to sing:* 



### **GREETING**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

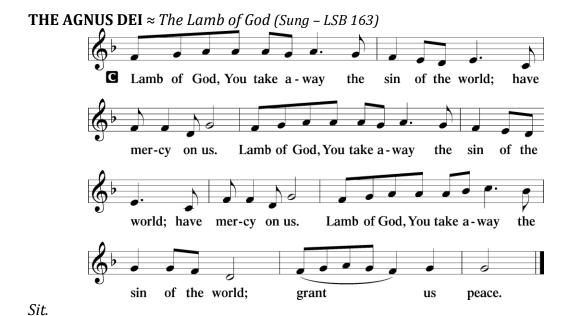
Taught by our Savior Jesus and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

# 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.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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]



# 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. If a gluten free wafer is needed, please inform the pastor as you proceed to Communion.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Amazing Love" - Chris Tomlin

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again

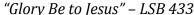
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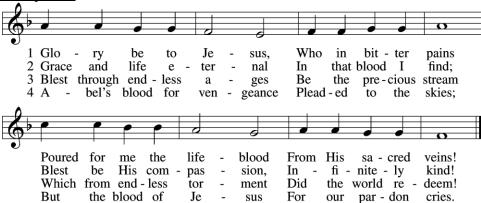
Amazing love, how can it be?
That you, my king. would die for me
Amazing love, I know it's true
It's my joy to honor you
Amazing love how can it be?
That my king would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor you
In all I do
I honor you

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, you were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again

Amazing love how can it be
That you, my king would die for me
Amazing love, I know its...
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- 5 Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high, Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood; Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood! 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: 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.



#### **POSTLUDE**