

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 every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 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.

# THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, September 8, 2018

5:00 PM

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## *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, You gave Your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Himself. Grant that we, Your adopted children by grace, may daily be renewed by Your Holy Spirit; 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 (September 9 – September 15)**

**Psalm 146:6:** *“The LORD is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them—He remains faithful forever.” (NIV)*

### **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

### **WELCOME and ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP**

**+ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR +**  
*(Lutheran Service Book, Page 203)*

*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.8:19b]*

**People: Amen.**

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

**People: who made heaven and earth.** *[Psalm 124:8]*

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.**

*[Psalm 130:3-4]*

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. *[Luke 18:13]*

*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. *[John 20:19-23]*

**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 Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; 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 be seated*

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT: ISAIAH 35:4-7a**

Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

### **NEW TESTAMENT: JAMES 2:1-10, 14-18**

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. *(NIV)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

*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.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 7:31-37**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "*Ephphatha!*" (which means "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." (*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** *"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"* – LSB 849

**THE SERMON**

**Psalm 146:6:** *"The LORD is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them – He remains faithful forever."* (NIV)

*After the sermon please rise to sing:*

**GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND**

*"Take My Life and Let It Be"* (verses 1 & 5) – LSB 783

**Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my will and make it Thine,  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
It shall be Thy royal throne.**

**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).*

*Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs...*

*After the prayers, please be seated.*

**SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING**

*Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the Lord, He 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 ✝

#### GREETING *(Please rise)*

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.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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]

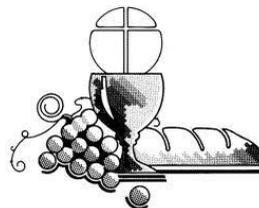
## INVITATION

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!**



## DISTRIBUTION

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

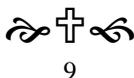
*Our belief and practice concerning Holy Communion is written on page 2 of this worship folder. Reception of Communion indicates that you share our confession.*

*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: Heavenly Father, we praise Your holy name for Your wondrous love shown to 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. Amen.**

## BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God. [Psalm 103:1]**

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.

**CLOSING SONG** *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"* – LSB 803

## POSTLUDE



*Spiritual formation and growth is not evolutionary.*

*It is revolutionary.*

*Therefore, it must be intentional.*