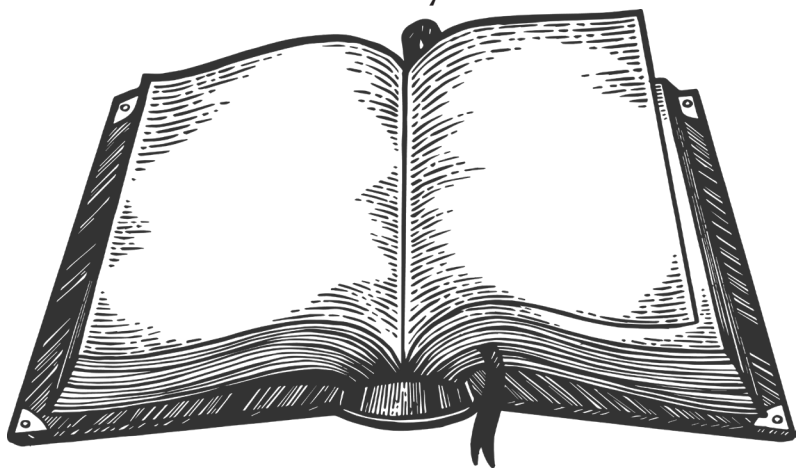


But now, this is what
the LORD says



Youth Confirmation

May 31, 2026

It is a joy to know we are not alone in the mission of God's church. Jesus gave his life as the ultimate demonstration of God's love. He still stands with us and all who know his voice in his Word. Jesus was clear and serious when he gave the church her mission: to **make disciples by baptizing** in the name of the Triune God and **teaching** them to obey all his commands. Today, we celebrate this mission and its joys in a special way.

Having completed two years of instruction in God's Word, **Charlie Saur, Caleb Seifert, and Gabriel Sutch** will demonstrate their knowledge of biblical teaching through a series of questions and answers. They will publicly profess their faith in Jesus and their agreement with the scriptural teaching of this church and thus join our communicant membership.

Today's service is split up into six parts, reflecting the six chief parts of the Small Catechism, to serve as an examination of the confirmands and as a refresher of the Catechism for the congregation.

Hymn #800

How Firm a Foundation

Please stand for verse 3.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow,
What more can he say than to you he has said,
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
for I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.

Text: A Selection of Hymns, London, 1787, ed. John Rippon, alt.
Tune: Genuine Church Music, Winchester, 1832, ed. Joseph Funk

In the name of the Father and ✠ of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for reflection on our lack of love and Jesus' love for us

Absolution

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Word

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you promised that you will confess before your Father in heaven those who confess you before others on earth. Grant those who confess their faith before your altar the grace and strength to avoid all things contrary to what they confess, that in humble faith they seek and do all things pleasing to you; you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

Introduction

Isaiah 43:1-3a

¹But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
²When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.
³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;

After the message, the congregation sings verses 4-5 of the hymn.

4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
I will not, I will not, de - sert to its foes;
the flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

Examination

Part 1

The Ten Commandments

When the Israelites made the golden calf in Exodus 32, they were still at the foot of Mount Sinai where they received the commandments. What does this account teach us about the First Commandment and the ongoing struggle to keep it?

The Third Commandment is “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.” What does Luther’s explanation say this means—and what are some ways people today “despise preaching and God’s Word”?

God attaches both a threat and a promise to his commandments. What is he urging us to understand and do by that combination?

What three functions does the law serve for us? For each one, give a brief example of how it works in a Christian’s life.

The congregation joins in confessing a portion of the Small Catechism.

The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, or give him a bad name, but defend him, speak well of him, and take his words and actions in the kindest possible way.

Hymn #758

Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds

God's law does not change with the times, and neither does our calling to teach it. Each generation receives the commandments as a gift — not to earn God's favor, but to know his will and trust the God who stands behind every word of it.



1 Let chil - dren hear the might - y deeds which God per -
 3 Our sons and daugh - ters we shall tell and they will
 4 O teach them with all dil - i - gence the truths of
 5 To learn that in our God a - lone their hope se -



formed of old, which in our young - er
 then tell theirs, that gen - er - a - tions
 God's own Word, to place in him their
 cure - lv stands. that they mav ne'er for -



years we saw, and which our par - ents told.
 yet un - born may teach them to their heirs.
 con - fi - dence, to fear and trust their Lord,
 get his works, but walk in his com - mands.

Text (sts. 1, 3, 5): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.; (St. 4): Bernhard Schumacher, 1886–1978

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text (st. 4): © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712325

Part 2

The Apostles' Creed

In Acts 14, a crowd witnessed a miracle from Paul and concluded that some higher power had appeared, but they had no idea who it really was. What can people know about God without the Bible — and what vital truth can they not know?

When Jesus cried out “It is finished” from the cross (*John 19:30*), what exactly had he finished? Why did Jesus have to die in order to accomplish it?

A Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas, ‘What must I do to be saved?’ (*Acts 16:30*). According to the Third Article, how does a person actually come to faith in Jesus?

“If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.” (*1 Corinthians 15:17*) Why is Jesus’ bodily resurrection so essential to our faith—what would be lost without it?

The Second Article (Redemption)

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn #940

We All Believe in One True God

The hymn of praise lays out the salvific work of God as Father, Son, and Spirit.



1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and
2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and
3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, who from both for -



Ho - ly Ghost, ev - er - pres - ent help in need,
Mar - y's Son, who de - scend - ed from his throne
e'er pro - ceeds, who up - holds and com - forts us



praised by all the heav'n - ly host, by whose might - y
and for us sal - va - tion won, by whose cross and
in all tri - als, fears, and needs. Bless - ed, ho - ly



pow'r a - lone all is made and wrought and done.
death are we res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Trin - i - ty, praise to you e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

Part 3

The Lord's Prayer

What is prayer? What makes Christian prayer different from simply talking to yourself or wishing something were true?

Jesus taught us to begin our prayer with the words “Our Father in heaven.” What is the significance of that address? What does it tell us about our standing before God?

Jonah ran from God, was swallowed by a great fish, and then prayed from inside it (Jonah 2). What does his prayer teach us about when God expects us to pray and for what?

The Fifth Petition

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

What does this mean?

God's good and gracious will certainly is done without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done?

God's will is done when he breaks and defeats every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh, which try to prevent us from keeping God's name holy and letting his kingdom come. And God's will is done.

Hymn #724

Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord

Prayer isn't a magical way to get everything we need from God. It's a privilege God gives us to rest our anxious souls in the promise that God's will is always done, and that we are loved in Jesus.



1 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord, for
2 You need not mul - ti - ply your words nor
3 Wait, then, in qui - et con - fi - dence, your
4 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord; on



God is al - ways near. Be - fore your mind is
pray with prac - ticed art. Be - yond all speech, God
anx - ious thoughts at rest. God knows your needs be -
God in pa - tience wait. God's love, un - seen, sur -



moved to pray, God lis - tens and will hear.
un - der - stands the hun - ger of your heart.
fore you ask and works for what is best.
rounds your life; God's help will not be late.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007
Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712325

Part 4

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is baptism, and what makes it a sacrament rather than simply a ritual or symbol?

What does God accomplish through baptism? List two blessings baptism gives, and explain why baptism is described as a “means of grace.”

Why do we encourage the baptism of infants early in life, rather than waiting until a person is old enough to decide for themselves?

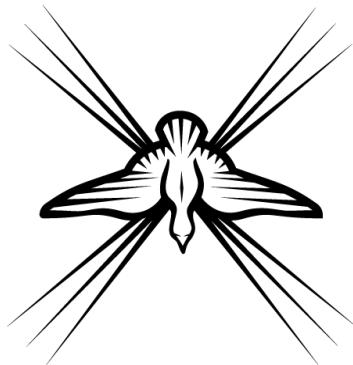
The Meaning of Baptism in Our Daily Life

Fourth: What does baptizing with water mean?

Baptism means that the old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise, to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul says in Romans, chapter 6, “We were buried with Christ through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”



Hymn #657

Baptismal Waters Cover Me

Though baptism's water dries, the promises God attaches endure: in Jesus we are cleansed, made heirs, freed, and forgiven as his children.



1 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me as I ap -
5 Bap - tis - mal wa - ters cov - er me; Christ's wound - ed



proach on bend - ed knee; my Fa - ther's mer - cy
hand has set me free. Held in my Fa - ther's



here I plead, for griev - ous sins of thought and deed.
strong em - brace, with joy I praise him for his grace.

Text: Kurt E. Reinhardt, b. 1969

Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742

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Part 5

The Use of the Keys and Confession

What are “the keys,” and where does the Church get the authority to use them? What gives a Christian the right to tell someone, “God has forgiven your sin?”

King David hid his sins for nearly a year before God sent Nathan to confront him. When Nathan did, David’s immediate response was “I have sinned against the Lord,” and Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin.” What does this exchange teach us about repentance and the power of God’s forgiveness?

What specific benefit is there in confessing your sins privately to a pastor or trusted Christian, rather than confessing to God alone?

The Public Use of the Keys

Second: How does a Christian congregation use the Keys?

A Christian congregation, with its called servant of Christ, uses the Keys in accordance with Christ's command, by forgiving those who repent of their sin and are willing to amend, and by excluding from the congregation those who are plainly impenitent, that they may repent. I believe that, when this is done, it is as valid and certain in heaven also, as if Christ, our dear Lord, dealt with us himself.

Where is this written?

Jesus says in Matthew, chapter 18, "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

The congregation sings stanzas 2-4 of the hymn



2 I look to Christ up - on the tree, his bod - y
3 Lord, may your wound - ed hand im - part your heal - ing
4 From your own mouth comes forth a word; your shep - herd



bro - ken there for me; I lay be - fore him
to my bro - ken heart; your love a - lone can
speaks, but you are heard; through him your hand now



all my sin, my dark - est se - crets from with - in.
form in me a heart that serves you joy - ful - ly.
stretch - es out, for - giv - ing sin, de - stroy - ing doubt.

Part 6 The Sacrament of Holy Communion

When and under what circumstances did Jesus institute the Lord's Supper? Explain the connection between the Passover meal his disciples were sharing and the new Sacrament he was establishing.

Some people say the bread and wine in Communion only “represent” or “symbolize” Jesus' body and blood. How do Jesus' own words of institution give us confidence that he is truly present—body and blood—in the Supper?

What blessings does God give the Christian who receives Holy Communion worthily? How do those blessings connect to what Jesus accomplished on Good Friday and Easter?

In 1 Corinthians 11:27–29, Paul warns that receiving Communion “in an unworthy manner” brings serious consequences. What does Paul mean, and why do we require thorough instruction—like confirmation class—before welcoming someone to the Lord's Table?

The Power of Holy Communion

Third: How can eating and drinking do such great things?

It is certainly not the eating and drinking that does such things, but the words, “Given and poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. “These words are the main thing in this sacrament, along with the eating and drinking. And whoever believes these words has what they plainly say, the forgiveness of sins.



Hymn #663

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

In poetic language, the hymn highlights Jesus' real presence in this Supper and the joy of having Jesus so near us.

The three singers are first-year Catechism students who studied alongside this year's confirmands. More verses of the hymn will be sung during the Distribution.



Trio 1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness; leave be -
 All 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, and with
 All 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure nei - ther



hind all gloom and sad - ness. Come in - to the day-light's
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet him, for with words of life im -
 cost nor pain will mea - sure, but the price - less gifts of



splen - dor; there with joy your prais - es ren - der
 mor - tal he is knock - ing at your por - tal.
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed has this won - drous
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore him, say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, naught would buy the



sup - per found - ed. He, though reign - ing high and
 there a - dore him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you



ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive you, that I nev - er - more will leave you.
 riv - en, and his blood, for you once giv - en.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1–2): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 3): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Rite of Confirmation

Having completed a course of instruction in the Word of God, Charlie, Caleb, and Gabriel profess their faith in the Triune God and their agreement with the scriptural teaching of this church.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord Jesus said to his disciples: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Charlie, Caleb, and Gabriel, you have been baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. You have studied the precious truths of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. You know what God has given you by his grace and what he expects of you as his dear children.

You are here to make a public profession of your Christian faith. The apostle Paul, writing to the Romans, said: “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Therefore, lift up your hearts to the God of all grace and joyfully answer these questions.

Do you this day, in the presence of God and of this congregation, acknowledge that in Baptism, God gave you forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation?

I do.

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

I do.

Do you believe in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit?

(The congregation joins in confessing the Apostles’ Creed.)

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.

Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?

I do.

Do you believe that the teaching of the Evangelical Lutheran Church is faithful and true to the Word of God?

I do.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?

I do, and I ask God to help me.

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?

I do, and I ask God to help me.

The minister addresses the congregation.

Since it is God alone who enables us both to will and to do his good pleasure, it is right for us, dear friends in Christ, to call on him for Charlie, Caleb, and Gabriel, that he would graciously complete the good work which he has begun in them. Let us pray.

Gracious Father, you have adopted Charlie, Caleb, and Gabriel in Baptism and anointed them with your Holy Spirit. Renew and strengthen them by that same Spirit so that they may continue to grow in faith and boldly confess you before others. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Move them to faithfully hear your Holy Word and joyfully receive your Sacrament that they may again and again be assured of your gracious love and forgiveness. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Give them the sincere desire to die each day to sin and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Clothe them with the kindness, humility, and patience of Christ so that they may live at peace with all the members of Christ's body. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Protect them from the powers of evil, and give them your strength to fight against the devil. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Special prayers may follow.

Finally, gracious, God, preserve all of us in faith so that we may ever walk with you and inherit eternal life, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

A Confirmation verse is spoken over each confirmand.

Gabriel Sutch, **"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."** (Galatians 2:20)

Caleb Seifert, **"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, 15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."** (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

Charlie Saur, **"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."** (John 15:5)

Go now and serve God thankfully with your whole life. Join with your fellow members here at Living Hope in the study of the gospel of Jesus Christ, in loving fellowship, in prayer, and in acts of love. Regard your communing at the Lord's Table with deep reverence and holy joy. We welcome you most sincerely and pray that, under God, we will continue to be a blessing to you and you to us.

The almighty and most merciful God—Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit—bless and keep you.

The confirmands return to their seats

The Sacrament

Please stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

Amen.

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Please be seated

Distribution

A personal preparation for Holy Communion is on page 23.

*In order to preserve our spiritual unity (1 Corinthians 10:17) and protect against anyone's spiritual harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), our congregation and synod follow the historic Christian practice of Close Communion. **Confirmed members of Living Hope and those in fellowship with our Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod are invited to celebrate the Lord's Supper with us.** We ask all visitors to speak with one of the pastors or ushers before joining us at the altar so that all may have a clear understanding of our faith and practice.*

*During the distribution, the trio reintroduces the hymn.
The congregation is invited to join in singing verses 6-8.*

Hymn #663

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



Trio 4 Now I kneel be - fore you low - ly, filled with
All 6 Lord, by love and mer - cy driv - en, you have
All 7 Je - sus, sun of life, my splen - dor, Je - sus,
All 8 Je - sus, Lord of life in heav - en, help me



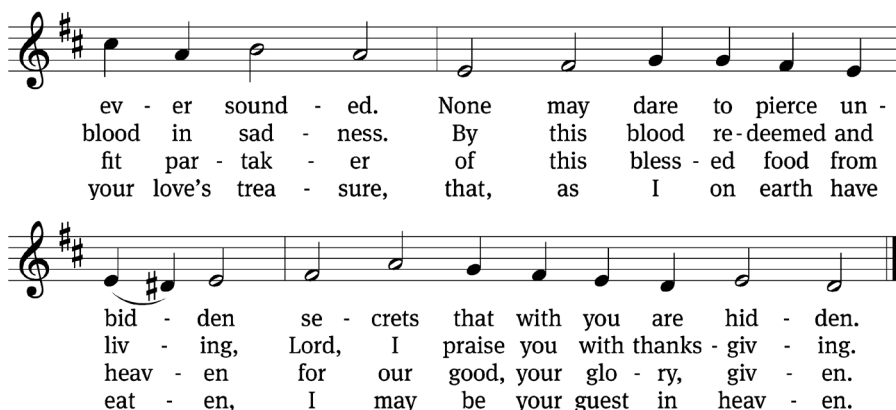
joy most deep and ho - ly, as with trem - bling awe and
left your throne in heav - en on the cross for me to
friend of friends most ten - der, Je - sus, joy of my de -
when this meal is giv - en to re - ceive it for my



won - der on your might - y work I pon - der,
lan - guish and to die in bit - ter an - guish,
sir - ing, fount of life, my soul in - spir - ing:
bless - ing as I come, my sins con - fess - ing.



by such mys - ter - y sur - round - ed, depths that no one
to for - go all joy and glad - ness and to shed your
at your feet I cry, my mak - er, let me be a
In this sup - per let me mea - sure, Lord, how deep is



ev - er sound - ed. None may dare to pierce un -
 blood in sad - ness. By this blood re - deemed and
 fit par - tak - er of this bless - ed food from
 your love's trea - sure, that, as I on earth have

bid - den se - crets that with you are hid - den.
 liv - ing, Lord, I praise you with thanks - giv - ing.
 heav - en for our good, your glo - ry, giv - en.
 eat - en, I may be your guest in heav - en.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 4, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 6): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 8): tr. Peter M. Prange, b. 1972; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
 Text (st. 8): © 2021 Peter M. Prange, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712325

Following the distribution, please stand.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor ☩ and give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn #640

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

The enduring Word is our reason for joy today, and our comfort and guidance for generations to come.

God's Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -

ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our

chief en - deav - or. Thro' life it guides our way, in death it

is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its

teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, alt.
Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Preparation for Holy Communion

What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.

What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?

When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.

How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.

What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.

How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

I have his own words spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

I will daily thank and praise him for his love for me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

Serving in worship today & next Sunday

Musicians

Alex Rathje
Dave MacDonald

Ushers

Greg Six & Josh Clark
Mike Saur & Greg Six

Acolyte

Tishann Charles
Jaxson Saur

Church Cleaning

still needed
Seifert

After-worship Snacks

Women of Hope - Confirmation
still needed

Livestream

Lacey
Seifert

Offering Caretakers

Beverley Henley & Barbara Byrd
Donna Bosma & Morris Hayes

Mowing

Brian Lacey & Kyle Rathje
Curt Roby & Morris Hayes

Assisted-living Leader

Ken Dunaway
Livestreamed

Bulletin Assistance

Kristine Gill
Kathryn Haddon

Please join us for refreshments after the service. We would love to get to know you better!

To our guests: Thank you for worshiping with us! We would appreciate the opportunity to connect with you. Please share your contact information with us by scanning the code with your phone or speaking with an usher in the back.



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God has given us new
birth into a *Living Hope*.
- 1 Peter 1:3

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