

LUTHER'S CATECHISM



The Lord's Supper
March 25, 2020

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy | CW 268

Please stand.

OPENING DIALOGUE

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. But I have also sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. I have often failed to examine myself before approaching your table. I have not fully cherished the miracle of the real presence. Time and time again, I have abused the forgiveness you offer through this sacrament. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

M: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER

M: Let us pray—Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

¹⁷ Now in giving you this next command, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse. ¹⁸ For in the first place, I hear that when you come together in an assembly, there are divisions among you. And to some extent I believe it, ¹⁹ for there also have to be factions among you so that those who are approved may become evident among you. ²⁰ So when you come together in the same place, it is not the Lord's Supper that you eat. ²¹ For when you eat, each one goes ahead and takes his own supper, and so one person goes hungry while another is drunk. ²² What, don't you have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise God's church and humiliate those who have nothing? What am I to say to you? Shall I praise you? In this matter I do not praise you!

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, after the meal, he also took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the Lord's body and blood. ²⁸ Instead, let a person examine himself and after doing so, let him eat of the bread and drink from the cup. ²⁹ For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy way because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰ Because of this, many among you are weak and sick, and quite a few have fallen asleep. ³¹ But if we judged ourselves, we would not be undergoing judgment. ³² However, when we undergo judgment, we are being disciplined by the Lord so that we may not be condemned with the world.

³³ Therefore, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. ³⁴ If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home so that your coming together may not result in judgment. The rest of my instructions I will give when I come. (EHV)

PSALM 25

Read responsively from the hymnal.

**All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul;
In you I trust, my God.**

M: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
In you I trust, O my God.

**C: Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love,
For they are from of old.**

M: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;
For you are good, O LORD.

**All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul;
In you I trust, my God.**

M: Turn to me and be gracious to me,
For I am lonely and afflicted.

**C: Look upon my affliction and my distress
And take away all my sins.**

M: Guard my life and rescue me,
For I take refuge in you.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul;
In you I trust, my God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 26:17-30

¹⁷ On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¹⁸ He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him the Teacher says, 'My time is near. I will observe the Passover with my disciples at your house.'"

¹⁹ The disciples did as Jesus commanded them and prepared the Passover. ²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve.

²¹ As they were eating, he said, "Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me."

²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I, Lord?"

²³ He replied, "The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man is going just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born."

²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, replied, "Surely, not I, Rabbi?"

He said to him, "Yes, you are the one."

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples. He said, "Take, eat, this is my body." ²⁷ Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰ After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (EHV)

SEASONAL RESPONSE

M: All we like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C: By his wounds we are healed.

HYMN

'Twas on that Dark, that Doleful Night | CW 136

SERMON

CATECHISM READING

M: First: What Is the Sacrament of Holy Communion?

C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ together with the bread and wine, instituted by Christ for us Christians to eat and drink.

M: Where is this written?

C: The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke and the Apostle Paul tell us: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them and said, "Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: Second: What blessing do we receive through this eating and drinking?

C: That is shown us by these words, "Given and poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." Through these words we receive forgiveness of sins, life and salvation in this sacrament. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

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

C: 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.

M: Fourth: Who, then, is properly prepared to receive this Sacrament?

C: Fasting and other outward preparations may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words, "Given and poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins." But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is not prepared, because the words "for you" require nothing but hearts that believe.

OFFERING

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in the offering. We're just happy you are with us to hear and take to heart the message of Jesus.

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

C: I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

HYMN

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood | CW 112



Private Communion

Pastor Proeber can meet with you privately to celebrate the sacrament.

Please contact him via text, email, or phone to schedule a time.

989-780-3184 or pastorproeber@stpaulswr.org



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