

Regarding Membership and the Holy Communion

We believe that, in the Holy Communion, the bread is truly Christ’s Body and the wine is truly His Blood, given to us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this gift individually, we profess that we are truly one body in Christ—that we are united in one faith and teaching (doctrine). Ordinarily, full participation in this Holy Communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. *Any visitors or guests who desire to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ are asked to please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.*

Opening Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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Invocation, Confession & Absolution

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **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.**

P ... in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Entrance Psalm

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6



For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.
 The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*
 he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.
 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of |
 Israel.*
 All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.
 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*
 break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

Gloria Patri

LSB pg. 186

C *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with-
 out end. Amen.*

Kyrie

LSB pg. 186

C *Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord,
 have mercy upon us.*

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB pgs. 186-189

P *Glory be to God on high:*

C *and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.*

*We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.*

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

*Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
 upon us.*

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in
 the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus
 Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the
 Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 2

¹Why do the | nations rage*
and the peoples | plot in vain?

²**The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel to- | gether,*
against the LORD and against his anointed, | saying,**

³“Let us burst their | bonds apart*
and cast away their | cords from us.”

⁴**He who sits in the | heavens laughs;*
the Lord holds them in de- | rision.**

⁵Then he will speak to them | in his wrath,*
and terrify them in his fury, | saying,

⁶**“As for me, I have | set my King*
on Zion, my | holy hill.”**

⁷I will tell of | the decree:*
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have be- | gotten you.

⁸**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,*
and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.**

⁹You shall break them with a | rod of iron*
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s | vessel.”

¹⁰**Now therefore, O | kings, be wise;*
be warned, O rulers | of the earth.**

¹¹Serve the |LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with | trembling.

¹²**Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly | kindled.***

Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.

Second Lesson*Titus 3:4–7*

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day*John 1:14***Alleluia***LSB pg. 190*

C *Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Holy Gospel*Matthew 1:18–25*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day*What Child Is This***370**

Sermon

Nicene Creed *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Prayers

Offering

Offertory *LSB pgs. 192-193*

- C** *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

The Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And with your spirit.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
P It is truly good, right, and salutary [...] evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB pg. 195*

- C** *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

The Lord's Prayer *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Consecration

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB pg. 198

- C** *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

Our Father, Who from Heaven Above 766
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing 380

Nunc Dimittis

LSB pgs. 199-200

- C** *Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,*
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving & Benediction

- P** Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with your spirit.
- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn

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