



## THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily, according to Holy Scripture, do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod, are asked to refrain from communing with us until such a time as they are properly instructed.

A short, more detailed explanation of our Confessional practice is available from our Ushers or Elders. If you would like to learn more about the Sacrament of the Altar and our confessional position, I would be happy to visit with you.

*-Rev. David Gruoner, Vacancy Pastor, St. John Ev. Lutheran Church*

In preparation for Holy Communion, you may use the following statements as part of your self-examination

- I admit that I am a sinner. (1 John 1:8-10)
- I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from all sin, from Satan and death. (Acts 4:10-12, John 14:6)
- I desire to live as God wants me to. (John 14:15, 1 John 2:6)
- I am sure of my eternal salvation because Jesus died for me and rose again. (John 3:16, Romans 8:14 & 1 John 5:11-12)
- I believe the Risen Christ is really present in Holy Communion and that with the bread and wine I receive His Body and Blood. (Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 4:22-24, 1 Cor. 10:16, 22:23ff, Luke 22:17-20)
- I forgive those who have wronged me.

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This week on KFYO.org, dig into curious theological topics on Cross Defense with Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller (1/20 at 2:00 p.m. CT), study in-depth questions about our Lutheran faith on Concord Matters (1/21 at 2:00 p.m. CT), and worship with us in daily chapel services from the LCMS International Center (weekdays at 10:00 a.m. CT).

For those of you who have Blue Valley Television, there are two programs that air Sunday evenings on Channel 3: "This is the Life" is at 6:00 p.m., followed by "Main Street Live," a worship service by the South Dakota LCMS. We thank BVTV for sponsoring these programs!



### Introit

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,\*

O Lord, my rock and my re- | deemer.

**The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*  
and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.**

**Day to day | pours out speech,\*  
and night to night reveals | knowledge.**

**There is no speech, nor | are there words,\*  
whose voice | is not heard.**

**Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end | of the world.\***

**In them he has set a tent | for the sun.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,\*

O Lord, my rock and my re- | deemer.

### Collect for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### *As We Gather...*

Today we see and behold, we find and we celebrate. The tasks of Epiphany become clearer as the Baptizer identifies for us Jesus as the Lamb of God. May our response be modeled for us by Andrew, who joyously proclaimed to his brother Simon Peter, "We have found the Christ!"

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

1 Listen to me, O coastlands,  
and give attention, you peoples from afar.  
The Lord called me from the womb,  
from the body of my mother he named my name.  
2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword;  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow;  
in his quiver he hid me away.  
3 And he said to me, “You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”  
4 But I said, “I have labored in vain;  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my right is with the Lord,  
and my recompense with my God.”  
5 And now the Lord says,  
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him;  
and that Israel might be gathered to him—  
for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord,  
and my God has become my strength—  
6 he says:  
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;  
I will make you as a light for the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”  
7 Thus says the Lord,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,  
the servant of rulers:  
“Kings shall see and arise;  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;  
because of the Lord, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

## Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

1 Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,  
2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:  
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, 5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Gospel Reading: John 1:29-42a

29 The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” 32 And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. 38 Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” 39 He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). 42 He brought him to Jesus.

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## From Martin Luther’s 1528 Confession of Faith

Above and greater than these three institutions and orders is the general order of Christian love, in which we serve, not only these three orders, but in general every one who is in need with all kinds of benefits, in that we give food to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, etc., forgive our enemies, pray for all men on earth, suffer all manner of evils in the world, etc. See now, all these are really good, holy works. Still no such order is a means for our salvation, but aside from all these there remains this one and only way, namely, faith in Jesus Christ. For there is a vast difference between being holy and being saved. Saved we are alone through Christ, but holy we become both through such faith and also through such divine institutions and orders. Even ungodly persons may have about them much that is holy, but they are not on this account in a saved condition; for God wants us to do such works to His praise and honor, and all those who are saved by their faith in Christ do such works and observe such orders. What has been said of matrimony holds good also with reference to widowhood and the state of virginity; for they belong to the family and the household arrangements. Now if these orders and institutions do not save us, what can the devil’s institutions and cloisters do, which have sprung up without God’s Word and, what is more, strive and rave against the one and only way of faith.

\* Martin Luther’s 1528 confession of faith is from *The Distinctive Doctrines of the Different Christian Confessions in the Light of the Word of God* by Karl Graul (1814-1864). The 1897 English translation by D. M. Martens is in the public domain. For information on Elements of Religion and other books available from Repristination Press, visit [www.scholia.net](http://www.scholia.net).

## CATECHETICAL REVIEW

### An Explanation of the Small Catechism The Ten Commandments

#### The Sixth Commandment

##### *[God's Gift of Marriage]*

You shall not commit adultery.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

#### **55. How do we lead a sexually pure and decent life?**

We lead a sexually pure and decent life when we

A. consider sexuality to be a good gift of God;

171 **Genesis 1:27, 31** - God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ... God saw all that He had made, and it was very good.

B. honor marriage as God's institution, the lifelong union of one man and one woman;

172 **Genesis 2:24-25** - For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

173 **Mark 10:6-9** - At the beginning of creation God "made them male and female." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.

C. reserve sexual intercourse for the marriage partner alone;

174 **Hebrews 13:4** - Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

D. control sexual urges in a God-pleasing way.

175 **Titus 2:11-12** - The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

*Note:* See also **1 Thessalonians 4:1-7**.

*"Behold, the Lamb of God!"*



*January 19, 2020*

*Second Sunday after the Epiphany*

*St. John Ev. Lutheran Church*

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*Rev. David Gruoner, Vacancy Pastor*