

Opening Prayer and Invocation

P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn – CW473

“Savior, I Follow On”

A Psalm of Confession (Psalm 51)

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;

C: According to your great compassion blot out all my transgressions.

P: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

C: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

P: Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

C: Surely I have been a sinner from birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

P: Hide your face from my sins.

C: And blot out all my iniquity.

Sing: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation; and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Amen.

P: Dear Father, as you said to King David so you say to us, “Be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven!” You grant us cleansing from all our sins and restore to us the joy of your salvation through our Savior Jesus Christ. Go now and live in that forgiveness! Serve God faithfully, rejoicing that his peace is your peace. Amen.

Prayer for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: (sing) “And also with you.”

P: Let us pray.

C: (sing) “Amen.”

Old Testament – Exodus 16:2-3, 11-15 “Grumbling or Gratitude”

²In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the LORD's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

¹¹The LORD said to Moses, ¹²"I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, `At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.'" ¹³That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat."



Gospel – John 6:24-35 – “Jesus Is the Bread of Life”

²⁴Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus. ²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they

asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" ²⁶Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." ²⁸Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?" ²⁹Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." ³⁰So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?" ³¹Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: `He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " ³²Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴"Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." ³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

The Confession of Faith

I believe in God our Lord and Father in heaven, who made us the crown of his creation, and preserves us with every good thing, that we may live before him in peace and joy.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God's only Son from eternity, who became a man for us sinners. Who redeemed us from Satan's power with his holy precious blood, rose from death, and made us his own to live with him now and forever.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who draws us to our Savior by the Gospel, who keeps us united in the true faith, forgives our sin, and at the end of the world will raise us from death to eternal life. I believe in the Triune God. Amen.

Sermon “Improving from the Inside Out” Ephesians 4:17-24

¹⁷So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. ¹⁸They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. ¹⁹Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. ²⁰You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. ²¹Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Offering and Prayers

Order of Lord’s Supper God’s word requires proper preparation and understanding for receiving the Lord’s Supper. We practice membership communion, and ask that those who partake first become members or belong to a congregation of our church body, the Wisconsin Synod. Please ask for an informational sheet from one of the ushers for a fuller explanation from the scriptures. Thank you!

Reception (From Luther’s Catechism)

P: What is the sacrament of Holy Communion?

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

P: Who is properly prepared to receive this sacrament?

C: Fasting and other outward preparation may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words, “Given and shed 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.

**Sing: Come to the table of mercy, Prepared with the wine and the bread;
All who are hungry and thirsty, Come and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord’s invitation; Receive from His nail-scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation; Drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

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Lord’s Prayer: 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.

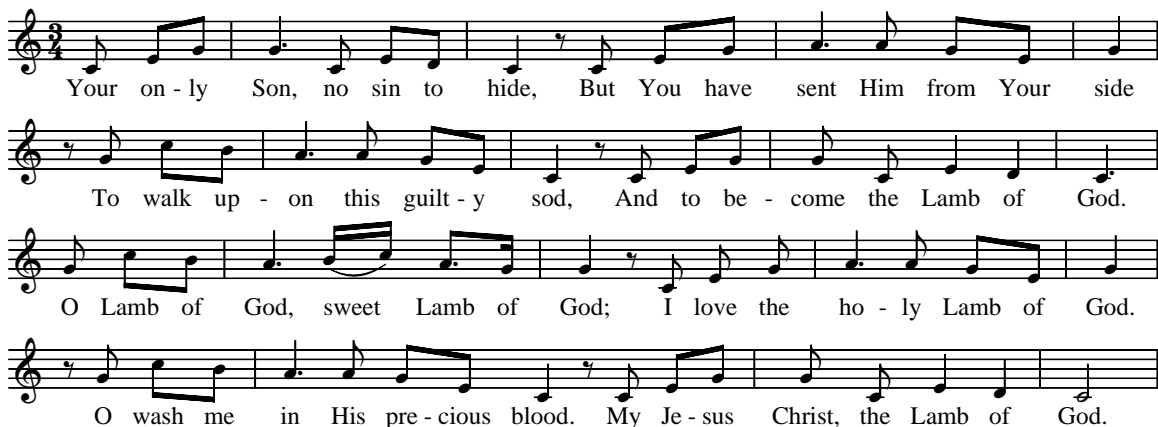
Words of Institution

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen

Lamb of God

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Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk up - on this guilt - y sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God; I love the ho - ly Lamb of God.
O wash me in His pre - cious blood. My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Distribution and Meditation – to prepare for communion use the personal preparation on page 156 in Christian Worship

Thanksgiving

All: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn 470

“Praise to You and Adoration”

Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**Praise to you and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God,
Who, to serve your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may From your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where your steps are leading.**

**Hold me ever in your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for you, And my faith and hope renew
In your birth, your life, and passion, In your death and resurrection.**

Silent Prayer