

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (LC-MS)

Pekin, Illinois
December 29, 2019

THE ORDER OF SERVICE WITH HOLY COMMUNION

HOLY COMMUNION

TO OUR GUESTS AND MEMBERS: We receive the Lord's Supper, believing the Word of Jesus, that He gives into our mouths His true body and blood, miraculously united to the bread and wine, 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 Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love one another, even as He forgives and loves us.

God's Word teaches us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great harm, and that this Holy Communion is a confession of the faith that is confessed in this church. Therefore any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or are members of a congregation not in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to commune, are asked to kindly speak with the pastor ahead of time. (*Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-21; 11:17-34*)

HYMN LSB #546 "O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild" (*in folder*)

INVOCATION AND VERSES

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Amen.

Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee

and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

Amen.

INTROIT *Jer. 31:15–17; antiphon: Hos. 11:1*

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

**Thus says the LORD: “A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.**

Rachel is weeping for her children;

she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.”

**Thus says the LORD: “Keep your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears,**

for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD,
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

**There is hope for your future, declares the LORD,
and your children shall come back to their own country.”**

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I | called my son.

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.

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 63:7–14

- ⁷ I will recount the steadfast love of the
LORD,
the praises of the LORD,
according to all that the LORD has granted
us,
and the great goodness to the house of
Israel
that he has granted them according to his
compassion,
according to the abundance of his
steadfast love.
- ⁸ For he said, “Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely.”
And he became their Savior.
- ⁹ In all their affliction he was afflicted,
and the angel of his presence saved
them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the
days of old.
- ¹⁰ But they rebelled
and grieved his Holy Spirit;
therefore he turned to be their enemy,
and himself fought against them.
- ¹¹ Then he remembered the days of old,
of Moses and his people.
Where is he who brought them up out of
the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?
Where is he who put in the midst of them
his Holy Spirit,
- ¹² who caused his glorious arm
to go at the right hand of Moses,
who divided the waters before them
to make for himself an everlasting name,
who led them through the depths?
- ¹³ Like a horse in the desert,
they did not stumble.
- ¹⁴ Like livestock that go down into the valley,
the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest.
So you led your people,

to make for yourself a glorious name.

Epistle: Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:13–23

¹³Now when [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” ¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because
they are no more.”

¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came

down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN LSB #392 “God Loves Me Dearly” *(in folder)*

**SERMON “When the Fullness of Time Had Come”
Galatians 4:4-5**

- I. God sent forth His Son in the fullness of time.**
- II. God has more gracious works to do in the fullness of time.**

THE OFFERTORY

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 OFFERING

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION

Hymn #76 “A Great and Mighty Wonder”

Hymn #80 “All Praise to Thee, Eternal God”

Hymn #98 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

THE COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

And His mercy endureth forever.

We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us Through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #80 - All Praise to Thee, Eternal God” (7:00 p.m. only)

DAILY READINGS

December 29: Is. 55:1–13; Luke 1:1–25; **30:** Is. 58:1–59:3, 14–21; Luke 1:26–38; **31:** Is. 60:1–22; Luke 1:39–56; **January 1:** Is. 61:1–11; Luke 1:57–80; **2:** Is. 62:1–12; Luke 2:1–20; **3:** Is. 63:1–14; Luke 2:21–40; **4:** Is. 63:15–65:7; Luke 2:41–52.

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