



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 of all sin, 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 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**, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or choose to abstain from communion at this time. You may still approach for a blessing, arms crossed at the altar.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13; 10:14-22; 11:17-34; 2 Cor. 13:5-8; 2 John 5-11.

His Faithful Promise is Ours

"From Heaven **He came and sought Her to be His Holy Bride;**

With His own blood He bought Her, and for Her life He died...

Her charter of salvation: One Lord, **One Faith**, One Birth!

One holy Name She blesses, **partakes one holy food,**
and **to one hope She presses with every grace endued"**

—from "The Church's One Foundation," LSB #644, v.1-2; see Eph. 5:21-33

From ancient times, Christians associated Holy Communion with **"the marriage feast** of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end." (LSB prayer p.161; p.212, no. 404) Also we call our communion with Christ **"a foretaste of the Feast** to

come." (Rev. 7:9, 14, 17) Often before participation we sing,

"This is the Feast of victory for our God! Alleluia!" (LSB, p.155, 171)

**Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you learned them from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?*

**Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?*

**Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, even to death?*

**Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?*

After prayerful study in Confirmation, we answer each: "I DO, by the grace of God."

