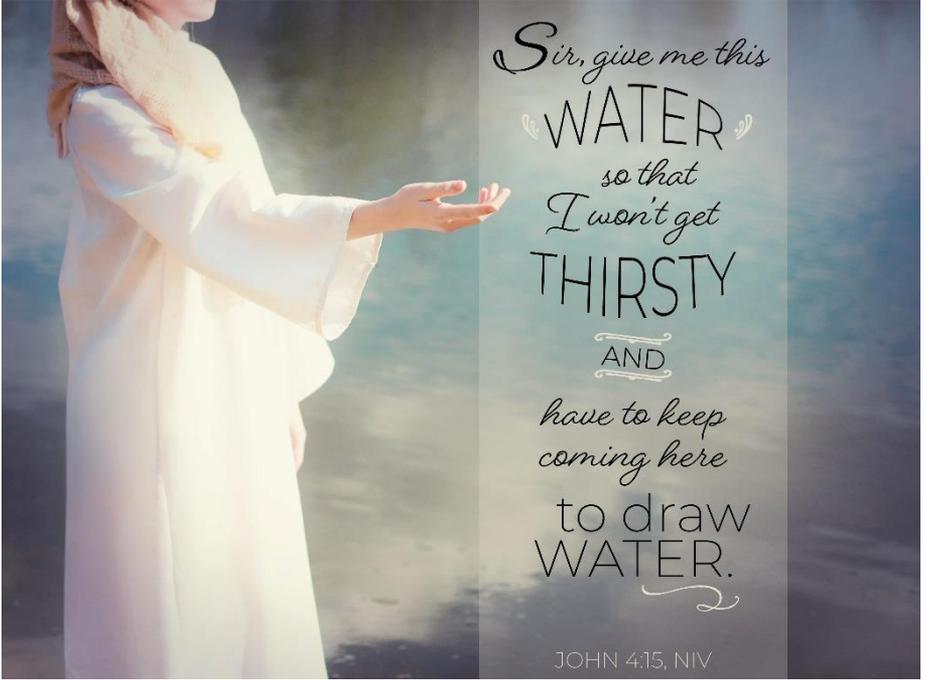


Third Sunday of Lent
March 8, 2026
10:30 AM



"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778

www.martinlutherchapel.org

Today's gospel is the story of the Samaritan woman asking Jesus for water. It is an image of our great thirst for God's mercy, grace, and forgiveness. It is an image of God's grace freely given to us in scripture, baptism, the holy supper, and the faith of our brothers and sisters. The church invites all who seek God to come to these good things where we encounter the one who gives us life-giving water.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

P Most merciful God,

C We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE *Share a greeting of peace with those around you.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN "Glorious Things of You are Spoken" LSB 648



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing
mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will

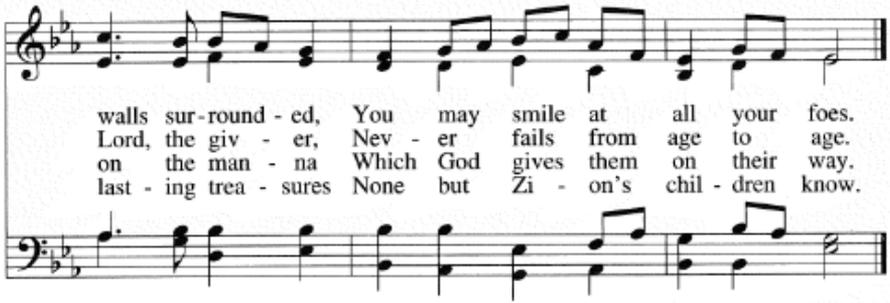


for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,
fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner
glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,



What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -
All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and





walls sur-round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.
 Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
 on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.
 last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
 Tune: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809; setting: *The Hymnal* 1982, alt.

AUSTRIA
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KYRIE

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all **C** **And also with you.**

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - - - - - men.

The HYMN OF PRAISE is traditionally omitted during Lent.

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Children are invited to meet by the Cross for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON Exodus 17:1-7

Today's reading is one of several that tell of experiences during the wilderness wandering. In this case, the people complain because they have a legitimate need and God responds by providing for them. Later in their wanderings, when the people complain because of their wants, God responds with anger.

R From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON Romans 5:1-11

Through Jesus' death on the cross, sinners have been put right with God through faith. But being made right with God produces results--ultimately, sure hope for the future produced by God's Spirit.

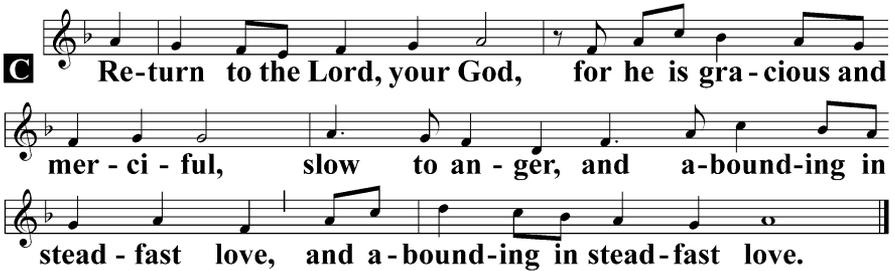
R Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person--though perhaps for a

good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

C  **Re-turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.**

GOSPEL **P** The Gospel is written in John chapter 4, beginning at verse 5. **C**
Glory to You, O Lord.

In the culture of Jesus' time, Jews tended to avoid dealings with Samaritans, and men did not converse with women in public. When Jesus crosses these boundaries to speak with a Samaritan woman, he makes himself known as the agent of God who knows all.

P Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

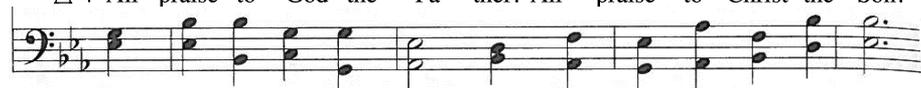
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

MESSAGE

HYMN "For All The Faithful Women" LSB 855



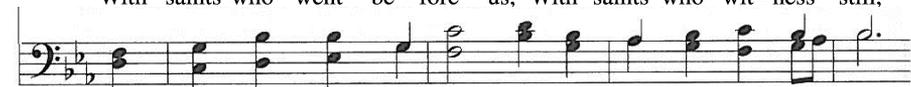
1 For all the faith-ful wom - en Who served in days of old,
 2 Re - call the out - cast wom - an With whom the Lord con-versed;
 3 O God, for saints and ser - vants, Those named and those un - known
 △ 4 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



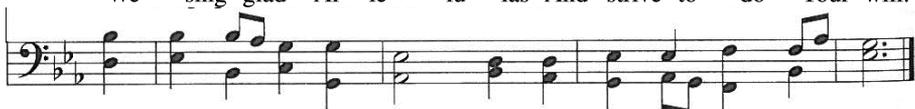
To You shall thanks be giv - en; To all, their sto - ry told.
 Christ gave her liv - ing wa - ter To quench her deep - est thirst.
 In whom through all the a - ges Your light of glo - ry shone,
 All praise the Ho - ly Spir - it, Who binds the Church in one!



They served with strength and glad - ness In tasks Your wis - dom gave.
 Like hers, our hearts are yearn - ing; Christ of - fers us His Word.
 We of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing And fer - vent prayer we raise
 With saints who went be - fore us, With saints who wit - ness still,



To You their lives bore wit - ness, Pro - claimed Your pow'r to save.
 Then may our lips be burn - ing To wit - ness to our Lord.
 That, faith - ful in Your ser - vice, Our lives may sing Your praise.
 We sing glad Al - le - lu - ias And strive to do Your will.



"For All the Faithful Women" Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. © 2003 GIA Publications. Music: Public Domain.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[P] Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "hear our prayer." The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** **Amen.**

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

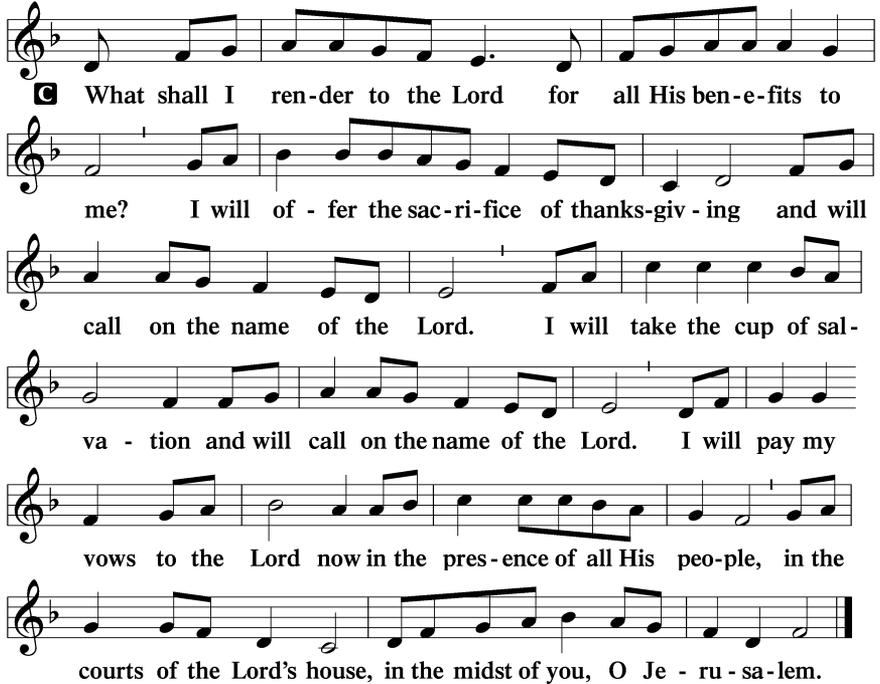
You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



OFFERTORY MUSIC

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

P Let us pray. God of mercy,

C **you bless us with gifts that sustain our lives;
you transform us with the priceless gift of grace.**

**Receive us and these signs of your blessings, and may our fasting,
prayer, and works of love be an offering of thanksgiving for all that
you have done for us in Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And — al - so — with — you.**

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 indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

intro: one chord

C **Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord**

God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full —

of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes — in the name —

of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

C 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.

LAMB OF GOD

introduction

C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
 have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
 Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
 world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit
THE DISTRIBUTION *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

HYMN "O Living Bread From Heaven" LBW 197

1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well you feed your guest!
 2 My Lord, you here have led me With - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can death de - stroy.
 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly food, while here

The gifts that you have giv - en Have filled my heart with rest.
 And here your - self have fed me With trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed The cup of end - less joy.
 My course on earth is length - ened, To serve with ho - ly fear.

Oh, won - drous food of bless - ing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
 For you have free - ly giv - en What earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it The fa - vor you have shown,
 And when you call my spir - it To leave this world be - low,

My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows!
 The bread of life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.
 And all my soul and spir - it Bow down be - fore your throne.
 I en - ter, through your mer - it, Where joys un - min - gled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1606–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.
 Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

AURELIA
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The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace” LSB 937

1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
△ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,

Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and

va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

Text (sts. 1–2): James Quinn, 1919–2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948–2025; Tune: American; Text (sts. 1–2): © 1969, 1989 OCP Publications; (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002511 Tune: Public domain

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called Your church to worship Your Son in spirit and truth and fed and nourished us upon the Word of life and the body and blood of our Savior. By Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Him who is the way, the truth, and the life, so that we may be partakers of His divine life and inherit the Kingdom promised for those who drink from the water of life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” #115

- 1) Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;
- 2) Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;
- 3) Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;
- 4) Near the cross I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 There the bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.
 Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.
 Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;

Till my ran - somed soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

Meter: 76.76 with Refrain
 Fanny Crosby, 1869

Source:
 TFBF 68

Tune: Near the Cross
 Wm. H. Doane, 1869

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine, we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. has been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord and concur in our confession.

b. is not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.
