



[www.holyword.net](http://www.holyword.net)

*Today's Focus*

## **"CHRISTIANS LOVE"**

**APRIL 28, 2024**

**Welcome!** Holy Word is a community of Christians experiencing life together in the grace and peace of Jesus. Here you will find a family culture, easy access to Bible teaching at all levels, community connection, personable staff, and the unity of our belief and mission. Whether you are a first time guest, a seeker, skeptic or lost soul, or a long time Christian, we invite you to get to know us. Come as you are!

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**Connection Cards:** Welcome to all our guests and members this morning. We'd like to get to know you better. To help us, please fill out the connection card inside your worship folder. Prayer requests and feedback are also welcome. Place the card in the offering plates or hand it to an usher after the service. God bless your week!

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**Children in Worship:** We love kids in church and we love families worshipping together. To enhance the children's worship experience, we have a kids sermon during the service. We encourage parents to work through the service folder with their children to help them follow along. We have orange busy bags in the nursery available for the children. If your child needs a break from the service, feel free to use the Nursery (in the church lobby), hallways or fellowship hall, all are equipped with sound from the service.

# Hymn: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds | Blue Hymnal 471



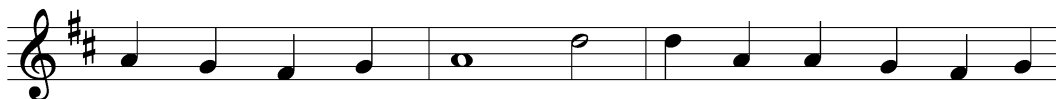
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds in  
 3 O fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love; set  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring and



praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 con - quer thro' your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623

Text: © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 735427

Tune: Public domain

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

**Leader:** Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Group: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

**Leader:** Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Group: Almighty and merciful Father,  
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed what we have devised and desired in  
our hearts.  
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.  
We have done those things that we should not have  
done, and we have not done those things that we  
should have done.  
Have mercy on us, Lord!  
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,  
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

**Leader:** God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Group: Amen.**

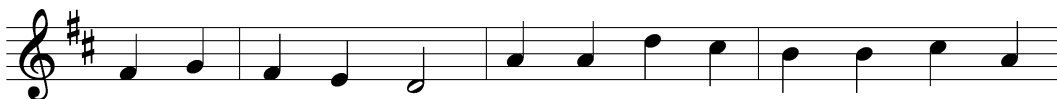
## Hymn: Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus | Blue Hymnal 704



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex -  
4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; since he's ris - en



am - ple pure, flee the world which would de - ceive us and to  
from the dead, death and grave must soon re - lease us. Je - sus,



sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his foot - steps tread - ing,  
thou art now our head. We are tru - ly thine own mem - bers,



bod - y here, yet soul a - bove, full of faith and  
where thou liv - est, there live we; take and own us



hope and love, let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
con - stant - ly, faith - ful Friend, as thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus,



Lord, a - bide with me; Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.  
here I live to thee, al - so there e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

## First Reading

*Acts 4:32-37*

<sup>32</sup>All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup>that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup>and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

<sup>36</sup>Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), <sup>37</sup>sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

## Gospel Reading

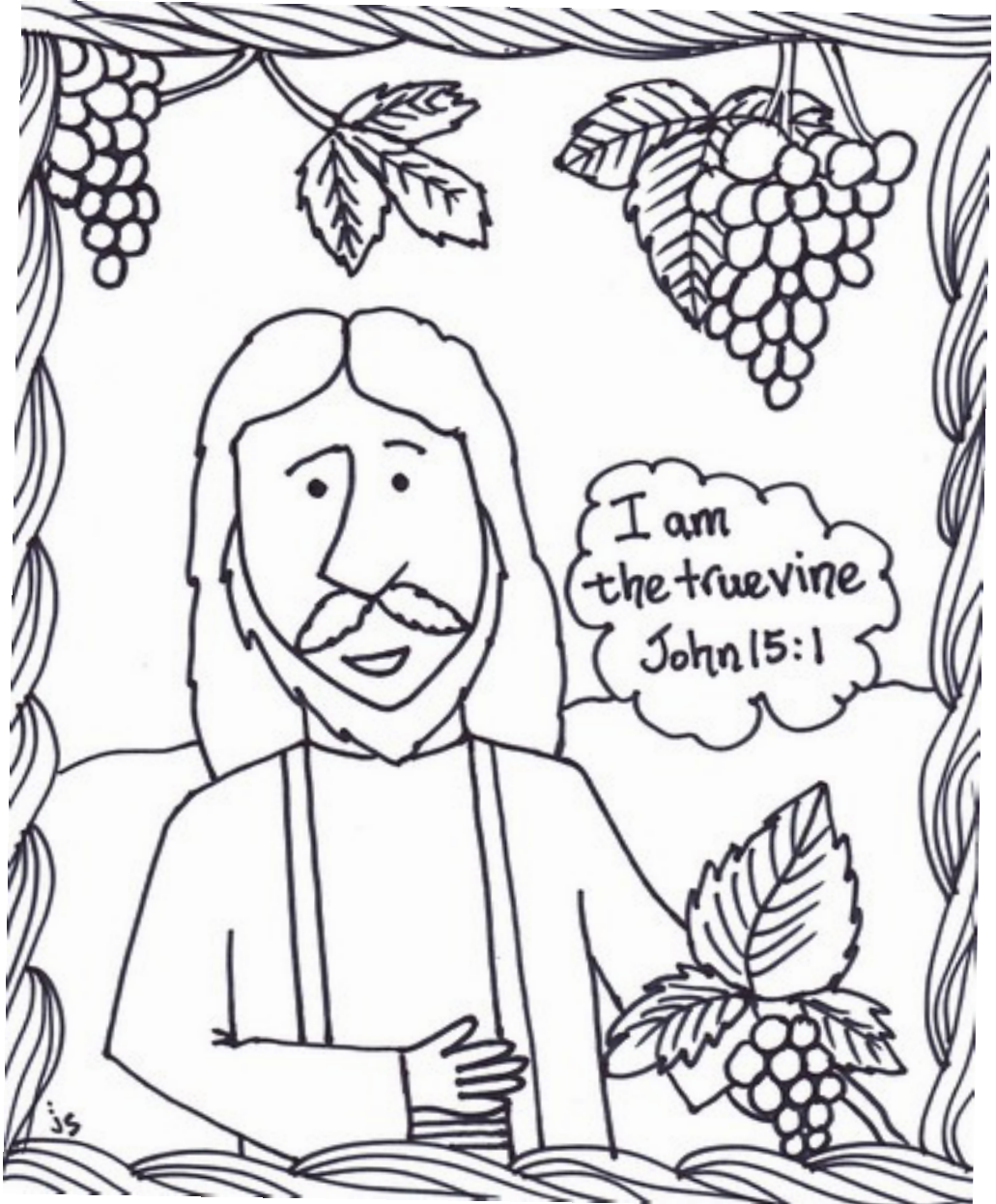
*John 15:1-8*

<sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## Children's Message

*Young worshipers are invited to the front of the church for a Bible message just for them*



# Hymn: Love in Christ Is Strong and Living | Blue Hymnal 726



1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing, bind - ing faith - ful  
2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing, clothed in Christ's hu -  
3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er, faint - ing not when



hearts in one; love in Christ is true and giv - ing,  
mil - i - ty, gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,  
ills at - tend; love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



may his will in us be done.  
reach - ing out in char - i - ty.  
shall en - dure un - til life's end.

Text: Dorothy R. Schultz, b. 1934

Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, b. 1932

Text and tune: © 1979 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 735427



**<sup>16</sup>This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.**

<sup>17</sup>If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be that person?

<sup>18</sup>Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup>This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup>If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup>and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>**And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.**

**Theme: Jesus is the Change Agent.**

**I. Changing our identity.**

**II. Changing our purpose.**

## **Song: Go Light Your World**

*Led by Cantor. Congregation sings 2nd & 3rd refrains.*

### **Cantor:**

*There is a candle in ev'ry soul  
Some brightly burning some dark and cold  
There is a Spirit who brings a fire  
Ignites a candle and makes His home*

### **Cantor Refrain:**

*Carry your candle run to the darkness  
Seek out the hopeless confused and torn  
Hold out your candle for all to see it  
Take your candle and go light your world  
Take your candle and go light your world*

### **Cantor:**

*Frustrated brother see how he's tried to  
Light his own candle some other way  
See now your sister she's been robbed and lied to  
Still holds a candle without a flame*

### **All sing refrain**

### **Cantor:**

*We are a fam'ly whose hearts are blazing  
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky  
Praying to our Father in the name of Jesus  
Make us a beacon in darkest times*

### **All sing refrain**

## **Profession of Faith — Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church and 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.

## Communion Liturgy

**Leader:** Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption. We bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth. We proclaim his death until he returns. We are brought into unity with God.

Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise God's holy name and join their glorious song.

### **Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Words of Institution

*The power of forgiveness in the Lord's Supper is in the promises of God's word. Therefore, the worship leader speaks the words that Jesus did when he first instituted the Lord's Supper.*

**Leader:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Group: Amen.**

## **O Christ, Lamb of God**

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

## **The Sacrament**

*In Holy Communion, we receive the forgiveness of our sins by eating and drinking the body and blood of Jesus Christ that has a holy union with the bread and wine.*

*By participating in Holy Communion, we also give a statement that we share a common faith with everyone at the Lord's table with us. For this reason, if you are not a member of Holy Word Lutheran Church or another WELS church or an ELS church, we ask that you would speak with one of our pastors or staff minister before you join with us in the sacrament. Please see our Scriptural explanation of our practice of Holy Communion on the page 23 for more information.*

## **Distribution**

*Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.*

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **Our Gift of Thanks**

*"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

*During this time we collect financial offerings as gifts for the work of God at Holy Word. We will pass around the offering plates at this time. Anyone may also give online at [www.holyword.net](http://www.holyword.net).*

*For your convenience, you may also scan the image printed here with your phone. This QR code will take you directly to the church offering website.*



## **Blessing**

## Hymn: By Faith | Blue Hymnal 868



1 By faith we see the hand of God  
2 By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth  
3 By faith the proph - ets saw a day



in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign,  
with the pow'r of his prom - ise in their hearts,  
when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear



in the lives of those who prove his faith - ful - ness,  
of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,  
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death



who walk by faith and not by sight. v. 2  
a place where peace and jus - tice reign. *Refrain*  
and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. v. 4



*Refrain*  
We will stand as chil - dren of the prom - ise; we will fix our



eyes on him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.



By faith the church was called to go  
in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost  
to deliver captives and to preach good news  
in ev'ry corner of the earth. (Refrain)

By faith this mountain shall be moved  
and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,  
for we know in Christ all things are possible  
for all who call upon his name. (Refrain)

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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Tune: © 2009 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 735427

## Holy Word Happenings

**Congregation Update Meeting:** All are invited to join us for our Congregation Update meeting TODAY, April 28, in the Fellowship hall immediately following the worship service (no Adult Bible study that day). Light refreshments will be served.

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**Confirmation at Holy Word:** Share in the joy of maturing faith as Ian Gould, Isaac Khamrang and Timothy Steinke are confirmed in the Lutheran faith. The examination of our confirmands will be this Saturday, May 4, at 4pm in the fellowship hall. Attend this excellent opportunity to support these young men. The Rite of Confirmation will be Sunday, May 5, during the church service. During Adult Bible class, cake will be served and the congregation can meet the confirmands. There will also be personal displays set up in the fellowship hall to browse and perhaps leave a card of encouragement for the confirmands.



**HWCA Happenings:** Enjoy some Holy Word Christian Academy updates by checking out our weekly newsletter by scanning this QR code.



April 15 - April 19

## Connect Groups



**Youth in the Middle:** All 5th thru 8th graders are invited to our Youth in the Middle outing to Typhoon Texas in Pflugerville on Saturday, May 18, from 11am-2:30pm. Please bring swimsuits, towels and sunscreen. Cost of tickets: FREE — compliments of HolyWord. **Please RSVP by text to Sallie Pannenbacker 512-709-7904 by next Sunday, May 5, so that we may purchase the tickets in time.**

**Forever Young:** Our senior connect group will be meeting Thursday, May 9 in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. Robert Timmerman will be our guest speaker. ***Make plans now to come and enjoy a morning and lunch with friends and friends you may not have met yet.*** Contact Myrna Mahnke for more information at 512-586-0383.

**Save the Date - Freshman Night:** All in-coming (Fall 2024) high school freshmen are invited to come see what Holy Word's Youth in Christ is all about on Wednesday, May 15, 7pm at Chad & Cindy White's house (2100 Mimosa Trail in Round Rock). For more information, and to RSVP please contact Mrs. Cindy White at 512-925-5583.



**Women's Book Club:** Our next meeting will be on Friday, May 17 at 7pm to discuss the book *Surviving Savannah* by Patti Callahan Henry. (Location TBD). New members are always welcome. Contact Julie Wietzke at [juliewtx@outlook.com](mailto:juliewtx@outlook.com) to RSVP or for additional information.

**Teen & Youth 2024 Summer Camps:** Hey Holy Word teens & youth! Take a week away from screens and schedules to enjoy a week long Sabbath rest in Scripture surrounded by Christians your own age at the Camp Shiloh Summer Camps in east Texas.

**Dates:**

**Teen Camp** (entering 9th grade - entering 12th grade) - June 16-21

**Youth Camp** (entering 4th grade - entering 8th grade) - June 23-28

**Registration is now open: [www.campshilohretreat.org/about](http://www.campshilohretreat.org/about)**



Camp Shiloh

**May Graduates' Info Requested:** Do you have a high school or college senior graduating this spring? Please email their name, photo, graduation date, school name and where they will be continuing their education or degree received to [jen@holyword.net](mailto:jen@holyword.net) **by May 5th** to have their information included in the May 12th church bulletin announcement and slides. Thank you!

**Meditations:** Get your daily dose of God's Word with *Meditations*, a personal and inspiring devotional booklet offering a brief yet thought-provoking Bible study every day. Each quarterly issue is clearly written with daily Bible verses, devotions, and prayers. Pick up your free copy of the June 2—Aug. 31 edition today on the table in the hallway.

**Forward in Christ:** The May issue of *Forward in Christ* is now available. A few articles you may want to explore: (p.6) God's church continues to grow — learn more about WELS' connection with sister churches around the world. "Free in Christ" examines how parents and the church can work together to equip young adults (p.10). Read about young people serving their congregations, schools, and communities (p.18). Enjoy all the enriching and encouraging articles - pick up your free copy in the church hallway today.



### HOLY WORD BIRTHDAYS:

<b>Leah Leerssen</b>	<b>04/28</b>
<b>Noah Khamrang</b>	<b>04/30</b>
<b>Ron McDavid</b>	<b>05/02</b>
<b>Braxton Perry</b>	<b>05/02</b>

OPTIMIZING HOLY WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
VISIBILITY ON GOOGLE SEARCH



**LEAVE A REVIEW**  
ON GOOGLE MAPS



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## **THIS WEEK AT HOLY WORD**

### **TUESDAY**

- 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Gebert)
- 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study (Rorstrom)

### **WEDNESDAY**

- 6:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast (Jim's Restaurant)
- 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 pm Hymn Sing (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 pm Youth in Christ (White's house)

### **FRIDAY**

- 10:30 am Friday South Austin Bible Study (Siirila's house)

### **SATURDAY**

- 4:00 pm Confirmation Examination (Fellowship Hall)

### **SUNDAY**

- 9:30 am Worship & Rite of Confirmation
  - 10:45 am Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
  - Young Professionals Bible Study (Conference Room)
  - Teen Bible Study (Childcare Center)
  - Kids Bible Study (Childcare Center)
  - 4:00 pm Hope & Healing Families (Online)
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**About the Lord's Supper:** Whenever we receive the Lord's Supper, we want to remember three important Scriptural truths:



- 1) **The body and blood of Christ are really present** with the bread and wine. This is not a mere representation but the actual body and blood of Christ. (1 Corinthians 11:27)
- 2) In the Lord's Supper Jesus gives each of us the **forgiveness** of all our sins. The supper is not merely a symbol of forgiveness but in the supper, Jesus actually gives his forgiveness to us. (Matthew 26:28)
- 3) When we take the Lord's Supper **we are united** in a special way to everyone else taking it because we all partake of the one body and blood of Christ together. (1 Corinthians 10:17)

These three teachings are very dear to us. We know that not all Christians believe these truths about the Lord's Supper. If you are a member of another Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS) or an Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) church, we assume that you believe these truths. If you are a member of another Christian church body, please talk to our pastors about your faith regarding these truths **before** you take the Sacrament.

Also, if you do not yet have faith in Jesus as your Savior, our Lord wants you to come to faith in him before taking his Sacrament.

We are careful about the Lord's Supper because we want to humbly accept his gift in the way God intended. Thank you for patiently respecting our Scriptural practice.

#### **Acknowledgments**

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