

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

January 29, 2023

10:00 a.m.



Chosen

AS WE GATHER

Why do the Beatitudes resonate with us? Yes, we who follow Christ are poor in spirit, we hunger for righteousness, and we know some persecution; but so do others, those who follow other gods. The difference is that, at the deepest level, God has promised blessings while we experience all those human emotions and take what action we think best. Those blessings come to us by grace, simply because God has chosen us, without any merit or worthiness in us. We are not worthy, just as God's Old Testament people did not merit His attention, but we and they received it nonetheless. God has chosen to make us worthy by sending His Son in our place. In today's Readings, He explains what pleases Him. Only Christ lived the perfect life, but the Gospel certainly moves us to respond to God's choosing us, as best we can, in love and service.

PRELUDE

"Pastorale" -Mieczysław Surzyński

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty and most merciful God, you speak words of blessing and in the Beatitudes, we praise you because you speak in plural. Blessed are the poor in spirit, the mourning, the meek, those hungering, those who are merciful, those who are peacemakers, and those who are persecuted. Only in that persecution does your word become singular, and you address us. You do this because it is easy to forget: those who are hurting, grieving, sick, homeless, destitute, isolated, and all who have no one to care for them. But they are not alone and neither are we. We live in the community that is the body of Christ, and we grieve and rejoice together. May we bring help and healing to those who are broken in body or spirit, that they may have comfort in sorrow, company in loneliness, and a place of safety and warmth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision" WOV #776, St 1-4

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought...by day or the night,
wak-ing or sleep-ing, thy pre-sence my light.**
- 2 Be thou my wis-dom, and thou my true word;
I ev-er with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shel-ter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**
- 3 Rich-es I heed not, nor vain emp-ty praise;
thou mine in-her-i-tance, now and al-ways:**

thou, and thou on-ly, first in my heart,
great God of heav-en, my trea-sure thou art.

4 Light of my soul, af-ter vic-to-ry won,
may I reach heav-en's joys, O heav-en's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, what-ev-er be - fall,
still be my vi-sion, O Rul-er of all.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (*Stand*)

Page 184-185

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P 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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

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

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P 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 Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT (*Read responsively*)

Ps. 1:1–5; Antiphon: Ps. 1:6

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
**nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of
scoffers;**

but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in
its season, and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

GLORIA PATRI (*Sing*)

Page 186

**C 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-out
A-men.**

KYRIE (*Sing*)

Page 186

**C Lord, have Mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord,
have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *(Sing)*

Page 187-189

P Glory be to God on High,

C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Page 189

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen. *(Be seated)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 6:1–8

¹Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you?

How have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and

folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Way Maker"

-Words and Music by Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu, ©2016 Integrity Music.

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ALLELUIA AND VERSE *(Stand & Sing)*

Page 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED (*Spoken*)

Page 191

C 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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who

spoke 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. (*Be seated*)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Blest are They” LSB #982, from organist’s edition

- 1** Blest are they, the poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow; They shall be consoled. Refrain

Refrain

Rejoice and be glad! Blessèd are you, holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God.

- 2** Blest are they, the lowly ones; They shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; They shall have their fill.
Refrain

- 3** Blest are they who show mercy; Mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; They shall see God! Refrain

- 4** Blest are they who seek peace; They are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; The glory of God is theirs.
Refrain

- 5** Blest are you who suffer hate, All because of Me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; Shine for all to see.
Refrain

SERMON

BLESSING OF PEACE.

Matthew 5:1–12

OFFERTORY (*Stand & Sing*)

Pages 192-193

- C** 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Congregation response to petitions:
Hear our prayer*)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE **Page 194**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS (*Sing*) **Page 195**

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER (*Spoken*) **Page 196**

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI (*Spoken*)

Page 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI (*Sing*)

Page 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen. (*Be seated*)

DISTRIBUTION

1 (Piano solo) "Here Is Bread" -Graham Kendrick

2 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" **LSB #610, St. 1-5**

- 1 Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;
From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.
- 2 Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;
Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.
- 3 Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!
- 4 Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.
- 5 Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past,
I may the eternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.

Refrain

Eat this bread, drink this cup, Come to Him and never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, Trust in Him and you will not thirst.

- 1 This is His body given for you; this is His blood that was shed for you. Refrain**
- 2 As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show His death until He comes again. Refrain**
- 3 Eat His flesh and drink His blood, and Christ will raise you up on the Last Day. Refrain**
- 4 Anyone who eats this bread will live forever. Refrain**
- 5 If we believe and eat this bread, we will have eternal life. Refrain**

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Stand & Sing*)

Pages 199-200

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. 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.

THANKSGIVING

Pages 200-201

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray.

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son,

our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

Page 201-202

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *(Sing)*

Page 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN *(Be seated)*

"When Peace Like a River" **LSB #763, St. 1-4**

1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain

3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain

**4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Bible Study: Our Sunday Bible Study on the Gospel of John on Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Monday, January 30th at 10 a.m. we will be having a GLORIA Worship Team planning session.

Brunch and Bibles: Our midweek bible study resume on January 25th at 12:30 a.m. We will meet at Netta Cheta's at 3224 S. Mill Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282. Please let Kathryn know if you will be attending by noon on Monday (she needs to know, so she can give them a count)at 602-510-2885 or email: Kathryn.odle@asu.edu

Best Practices For Ministry Conference: Happening Feb. 16th-18th at Christ Church Lutheran on Indian School Rd. Join Pastor Tim and Annie at this FREE Annual Conference for church workers and church lay leaders. Come for the whole event, come for a day, or come for an hour. Registration is FREE. For more information, ask Pastor or go to <https://cclphoenix.org/bpm/>

Ash Wednesday, Wed Feb. 22nd. We will have worship services at 12:00pm and 7:00pm. No meal will be served before the 7:00pm service.

Midweek Lenten Services: Services begin each Wednesday on March 1st at 12:00pm and 7:00pm. We will have dinner at 6:00pm before each 7:00pm service in March. More information is coming soon.

Fellowship Hour: If you would like to bring something in to share during fellowship, please sign your name on the date you would like. The calendar is on the fellowship board. Questions, talk to Debbie O'Neill.

Church Members and others who wish to “give electronically” can now do so by going to: easytithe.com/BSLCTempe.

On the giving page, click on "Fund" and select the appropriate fund from the drop-down list.

The funds are: General, LWML, Missions, Air Conditioners, Memorials for Lucy Durham.

Then follow the directions to complete your transaction.

POSTLUDE

“Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken” -J. Haydn/Arr. Don Hustad

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

1337 W. 11th St, Tempe, AZ 85281-5398

Office 480-967-2660 Second Line 480-967-2686

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m-12:30 p.m.

WEB: www.beautifulsaviortempe.org

Email for BSLC: office@beautifulsaviortempe.org

SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher:	Rev. Albert Zoller
Organist/Director of Music:	Ellen Brown
Song Leader:	Donna Evans
Special Music:	Donna Evans, Charles Haynes, Debbie Bergman
Lector:	Donna Evans
Assisting Elder:	Skip McFadden
Greeter:	Kathy Held
Acolyte:	Connor Garrett

Visitors, please sign (with a complete address) our **Guest Book** on the podium in the entryway before you leave and/or complete a **grey/cream “Worship Information” card** found in the pew in front of you. **Members** are also encouraged to complete a “Worship Information” card (you can update address and phone number, request a pastoral visit)

Pastor Tim Anderson is available to you for pastoral and spiritual needs (prayer support, hospital calls, counseling, private communion, etc). He can be reached at the office Monday & Wednesday, 9 AM – 2 PM. Cell phone #480-536-2256.

WE CAN ASSIST THOSE UNABLE TO HEAR WELL...We have 3 cordless headsets available to use in the pews. Just let an usher know and they will be happy to bring you one.

Attendance for week: 1-22-23 Bible Study—9; Worship Service—43; 1-11-23 Brunch & Bibles Midweek Bible Study—14; Income report for 1-22-23: Loose Plate \$118; Weekly Envelopes \$1050; Designated Gifts \$16583; Other \$; Total \$17,751.

THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

January 29, Sunday

8:30 am Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Music Rehearsal

10 AM The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship w/Holy Communion

(Also, being streamed on Facebook online)

January 30, Monday

9 AM-3 PM Pastor Anderson in office

February 1, Wednesday

9AM-3 PM Pastor Tim in the office

February 2, Thursday

4-5 PM Set up and La Mesa is from 6-7:30 PM

February 3, Friday

9AM-11 AM Church Offices Cleaned

February 5, Sunday

10 AM The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Worship w/Holy Communion

After the service: Congregation Voters Assembly Meeting

Prayer List:

We pray for strength, comfort and healing for:

- Sandra (from her Zumba Gold class) requests prayers for Anne who had knee replacement surgery this past Tuesday & Peggy who had colon cancer surgery on Wed.
- **Glenn Brown** recovering after a fall.
- **Rhett Davis**, who is suffering from headaches and tunnel vision.
- **Jacqueline Kirsch** is being placed on palliative care. We continue to pray for **Jackie, her daughter Jeannette, her niece Sherry Ellis & her entire family..**
- **Prayers for the family of Stan Carlson**, who passed away on Friday, Jan. 20th.
- **Pat Carlin**- now at home healing after a broken hip. She says thank you for all the prayers.
- For **Alex** (Joe & Pat Carlin's grandson) on Jan. 30th he will have surgery to replac the piece of his skull that was removed because of brain bleed.
- **Ken** who is suffering from MS.
- **David Bomhoff** in hospital in Minnesota – several infections, will be hospitalized indefinitely;
- **Barbara Willford, Cherryl Rice, Wendy Sievers, Glenn Brown, Lois Sunderman, Bev Dase & Blue Sky (Tom)** – medical issues.
- **Doris Reith; Len Lacy; Judy Snedeker**, friend of Gladys Myer – memory care.
- **Beth Ruettinger, Beth Hutson, Jim Schutkowski, Sherry Ellis, Gerri Koski, Warren and Cheryl** -- chemo treatment.
- **Steph Young** – lost both parents this last year;

- **Minmin**, Bobbie's friend prayer of thanks, delivery went well, Mom and baby doing well;
- **Beth Young**, friend of Pastor and Annie, - lost parents within this year.

**FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO STILL VIEW SERVICES
ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS ARE BELOW:**

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE YOU CAN GO ONLINE & VIEW AT

1) Open a webpage browser (internet explorer, chrome, Firefox, etc.)

2) Type or paste the following link into your address bar:

www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranChurchTempe/

3) Option 1 - Scroll until you find a post that shows a "Live" feed titled for the Sunday service, or

4) Option 2 - Click on the "Videos" button on the left-hand sidebar (ignore anything asking you to sign up or sign in to Facebook)

5) Look for the video titled for the date of the Sunday service. Video stream will be live starting at or around 10am. If it does not show up, try refreshing the page. The video of the service will remain on the page if you would like to view it at a later time, or to replay it again at your discretion.

Lutheran Hour Broadcast - KFAX RADIO (1100) @ 10 AM:

February 5 "Your Time to Shine" Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. John Nunes](#). Dr. John Nunes says God sometimes places us in the path of strangers so that "we can share just a little glow of the Light we know." (Matthew 5:14-16)

"The Stewardship committee will be collecting for Justa Center during the month of February. Cash will be accepted, as always, but we have a list of their needs that you will find on the insert in the bulletin and, if you prefer, you can buy the items and bring them to church by the end of February."

Charlotte



HOLY COMMUNION. . .OUR UNDERSTANDING

It is the special joy of the baptized and instructed Christian to celebrate Christ in our very midst with the Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion). The Scripture clearly and carefully teaches that, in Holy Communion, the very Body and the very Blood of our Lord Jesus are really present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine. It also teaches that "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord (acknowledging the Real Presence of Jesus with the elements) eats and drinks judgment on himself." (I Corinthians 11:28-29).

Communicants, then, are rightfully prepared and "worthy" when they:

- *are truly penitent of their sins;*
- *even now embrace Jesus as their Savior and recognize His Real Presence in the bread and the wine; and*
- *seek to amend their sinful lives, with the assistance of this Meal and the power of the Holy Spirit.*

If you have any further questions, please speak with the Pastor before the service.

Other notes on the distribution of Holy Communion:

- *1) Wine is the Biblical standard for all communicants. However, grape juice is in some glasses and available in the center of each tray for those who have an intolerance to alcohol.*
- *2) The Blood of Christ, in, with and under the wine, is served in individual glasses and common cup. Please choose your preference.*
- *3) Children and adults not instructed or confirmed are still encouraged to approach The Table to receive a blessing.*

