THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

August 20, 2023 10:00 a.m.

"The Mission of Beautiful Savior is to "Serve the Lord, extend the Gospel, and make Jesus alive in the community."



For All Peoples

AS WE GATHER

The Lord's words through the prophet Isaiah remind us of the purpose of the sacred space into which we have entered: "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:7). Even from ancient times, the Lord God has invited all peoples—no matter who they are or where they have come from—to enter His presence and receive deliverance from their sin. In Christ Jesus, crucified and raised to life again for our salvation, we trust that the promises of God, offered to all, are also promises He makes personally to us. Jesus died for all, and Jesus died for you! Standing together as one, we, though many, form one family and belong to one everlasting kingdom. Together, we receive God's gifts. Together, we raise our united voice in prayers and praises. Together, we gather to experience the life God offers "for all peoples."

Pastor: Heavenly Father, With open arms You welcome all who call on Your name - who acknowledge You as Lord, and look to You in faith. No one stands outside the circle of Your mercy and love. And so we come to offer You our worship - to declare that You are our God, and that we are Your people, called and chosen by You from the very beginning. Through the presence of Your Holy Spirit open our eyes to see You here; open our minds to receive Your truth, and our mouths to speak and sing Your praise. For You alone are God - worthy of all praise and worship, now and to the end of time. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Voices Raised to You We Offer" LSB #795, v 1-2, & 5

- 1 Voices raised to You we offer; Tune them, God, for songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in tribute For Your gifts through all our days. Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to You we sing!
- 2 All creation joins to praise You; Earth and sky Your works display. Art and music, gifts You lend us, We return to You today. Alleluia! Alleluia! God, Creator, source of life!
- 5 How can any praise we offer Measure all the thanks we owe? Take our hearts and hands and voices—Gifts of love we can bestow. Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to You we sing!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (Stand)

Page 167

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will

forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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)

Psalm 28:1-2, 6-7; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is the strength of his people;

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,

lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help, when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

Blessèd be the LORD!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. 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.

The LORD is the strength of his people;

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

KYRIE (Chanted)

Page 168-169

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- 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 mercy.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE (Stand & sing)

Page #171-172

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.

(Congregation)

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia.

2. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. A-men.

This is the feast of victory for our God, For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign, Alleluia, Alleluia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Page 172

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD:

"Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. . . .

6"And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants,

everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

⁸The Lord GOD,

who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,

"I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Romans 11:1-2a, 13-15, 28-32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . .

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .

²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Sing For Joy" -By Lamont Hiebert

Verse 1

If we call to Him He will answer us
If we run to Him He will run to us
If we lift our hands He will lift us up
Come now praise His name All you saints of God

Chorus

O sing for joy to God our strength O sing for joy to God our strength our strength

Verse 2

Draw near to Him He is here with us Give Him your love He's in love with us He will heal our hearts He will cleanse our hands

If we rend our hearts He will heal our land

Lamont Hiebert. CCLI Song #1861357 © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License #21038571

ALLELUIA AND VERSE (Stand & Sing)

Page 173

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

NICENE CREED (Spoken)

Page 174

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"In Christ There Is No East or West" LSB #795, v. 1-5

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north, But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 With God there is no tribe or race; In Him we all are one. He loves us as His children through Our faith in His dear Son.
- 3 So, brothers, sisters, praise His name Who died to set us free From sin, division, hate, and shame, From spite and enmity!
- 4 Join hands, disciples of the faith, Whate'er your race may be; Who serves my Father as His child Is surely kin to me.
- 5 In Christ now meet both east and west; In Him meet south and north. All Christian souls are one in Him throughout the whole wide earth.

(Matthew 15:21-28)

OFFERTORY (Sing)

Page 176

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the Name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

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

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE (Stand)

Page 177

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also 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 truly good, 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, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 178

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Page 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Page 179

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Page 179

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. Amen.

PAX DOMINI Page 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sing)

Page 180

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (Sit)

- 1) "I Am the Bread of Life" WOV #702, v. 1-5
- 1 I am the Bread of Life You who come to Me shall not hunger; And who believe in Me shall not thirst,
 No one can come to Me Unless the Father beckons. Refrain.

REFRAIN: And I will raise you up, And I will raise you up, And I will raise you up On the last day!

2 The bread that I will give Is My flesh for the life of the world, And if you eat of this Bread, You shall live forever, You shall live forever! Refrain.

- 3 Unless you eat The Flesh of the Son of Man And drink of His Blood, And drink of His Blood, You shall not have life within you. Refrain.
- 4 I am the Resurrection, I am the Life
 If you believe in Me, Even though you die,
 You shall live forever. Refrain.
- 5 Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come in to the world. Refrain.
 - 2) "The Lamb" LSB #547, v. 1-5
- 1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice? Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!
- Refrain: Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own! The Lamb is reigning on His throne!
- 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
 Refrain
- 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain
- 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness. He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain
- 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows. His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in Joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

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.

BENEDICTION Page 183

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.

CLOSING HYMN "Sing Praise to the God of Israel' LSB # 936, v. 1-4

- 1 Sing praise to the God of Israel! Sing praise for His visitation! Redeeming His people from their sin, Accomplishing their salvation, Upraising a mighty horn within the house of His servant David!
- 2 God spoke by the prophets long ago, His promise on oath Recalling—To Abraham made in former years: Of vanquishing foes appalling, That those He delivered from their fears Might gladly and truly serve Him.

- 3 You, child, will go on before the Lord As prophet, His way preparing; To speak on behalf of God Most High, His counsel of truth declaring: Rich mercy and grace for all whereby iniquity is forgiven.
- 4 O bright, rising Sun, now shine on us In need of illumination; Come scatter the shades of sin and death and shatter their domination. Be guiding our footsteps on the path of peace, in Your presence dawning!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Why do we do, that?" Continues through Labor Day Weekend, join us every Sunday morning at 8:30am. This is your chance to ask any questions you have about Beautiful Savior, about Christianity, about Lutheranism, about our beliefs or our practices. You can email all questions ahead of time to Pastor Tim at: PastorTimAnderson@gmail.com you can also submit them in the basket next to LWML mite box in the narthex.

Women's Weekly Bible Study meets Mondays at noon. All Beautiful Savior women and friends are welcome to attend! We will study The Women of Endor on Monday, Aug. 21.

<u>Aug 22nd 2023: Pizza and Pipes at Organ Stop Pizza.</u> Join us for a night of Food, Fellowship, Fun and the ORGAN!!! Music begins at 4:30pm and we encourage you to come when you can. A Signup sheet is in the narthex/hallway. If we have at least 20 sign-up, we can reserve a table. Need transportation? Talk to Ellen Brown or Pastor Tim. We hope to have Rides available.

August 24, Thursday

12 PM "Brunch & Bibles" at Crackers & Co Café, 1285 W. Elliot Rd., Tempe, AZ 85284. Please let Kathryn Odle by Wednesday 8/23 if you will be attending (so she can make reservations)

Sept 10th 2023 at 11:00am. A Grand Legacy Of Faith

<u>Celebration:</u> Join us after church on Sept 10th as we celebrate Grandparents Day here at Beautiful Savior. We will honor our grandparents and encourage you to bring pictures and stories of your grandma's and grandpa's and share how they have inspired you and your faith. We also encourage you to bring a grandkid to church or anyone you have a mentoring relationship with. We will play generation trivia and try to better understand each generation as we continue to pass on the faith.

2023 Beautiful Savior T-Shirts.



We are in the process of ordering our 2023 Beautiful Savior T-shirts to have for our church events and also just to wear out in the community. If you would like to order a shirt please write 2023 T-shirt on the memo line of a check or place cash in an envelope labeled 2023 t-shirts. Shirts are \$20 per shirt and we will be placing our first shirt order on Sept. 1st.

Planet Green recycle container is in the fellowship hall by the thermostats.

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 schedule is on the fellowship board. Questions, talk to Pastor Tim.

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, La Mesa & Staff Continuing Education

"The Stewardship Committee will be collecting cash from the congregation for the Justa Center every Sunday in August. If you would like to make a donation to help the homeless seniors in Phoenix, please use your "Designated Funds" envelope and write "Justa Center" on it. You might also want to write "Justa Center" on the description line of your check. We will make contact with Justa Center after the collectioin is over and will buy and deliver to them what is the uppermost priority on their list. We thank you, in advance, for your generosity. Bobbie, Wendy, and Charlotte"

POSTLUDE

"Toccata" -Robert Thygeron

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: <u>www.beautifulsaviortempe.org</u> Email for BSLC: <u>office@beautifulsaviortempe.org</u>

SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher:
Pastor Tim Anderson
Organist/Dir. of Music:
Ellen Brown
Charles Haynes
Special Music:
The Beautiful Savior Singers
Lector Reader:
Charlotte Grefe

Assisting Elder: Don Calender
Greeter: Marsha Beetham

Acolyte: Joe Carlin Altar: Pat Carlin

<u>Visitors</u>, 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. <u>Members</u> are also encouraged to complete a "Worship Information" card (you can update address and phone number, request a pastoral visit)

Pastor Tim's Office Hours: Pastor Tim is available Monday through Thursday, 10am - 3pm as well as by appointment. 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: 8-6-23 Bible Study—10; Worship Service—36; 8-7-2023 Women's Bible Study—7; 8-24-2023 Brunch & Bibles Midweek Bible Study—NA;

Income report for 7-30-23: Loose Plate \$233; Weekly Envelopes \$2717; Designated Gifts \$70; Other \$; Total \$3020.

THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

August 20, Sunday

8:30 AM Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Music Rehearsal

10 AM The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost -Casual Worship (Also, being streamed on Facebook online)

August 21, Monday

12 PM Women's Bible Study

5 PM Council Meeting

August 22, Wednesday

4:30 PM Organ Stop Pizza Event

August 24, Thursday

12 PM "Brunch & Bibles" Mid-week Bible Study at Crackers & Co. Café, 1855 W. Elliot Rd., Tempe, AZ 85384

4-7 PM La Mesa

August 25, Friday

9 AM-11 AM Church Offices Cleaned

August 27, Sunday

10 AM The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship w/Holy Communion

Prayer List: We pray for strength, comfort and healing for:
Mary Jackson, Jeanne Wilson, Walter Hurley, Connie Laird, Warren & Cheryl, Brian, Brian, Christy Bergman, Susan, Ruth, Jeanne Wilson, Kathryn Odle, Phyllis Schinke, Vicki, Tom & Amina Kruck, Wendy Sievers, Glenn Brown, Mike & Ken, Bev Dase, Stan, Bergman's brother-in-law; Brenda;

Pastor Pope, doing better after heart procedure;

Annalisa Durnan, Ruth, Alice, Nicole McClain, Alice, Jan Buel, Beth Ruettinger &with Covid 19, Warren, Cheryl, Brenda;

Doris Reith and Len Lacy - memory care;

Eileen & Linda both recently lost their husbands;

Prayers for those in Maui for those still missing & help for those left without homes;

Deb and Doug Bergman & all travelers – safe traveling.

FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO MAY 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 - KFNX RADIO (1100) @ 10 AM

August 20 "The Latest Polls". Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: <u>Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus.</u> What people think about something--that's a poll. What that something actually is--that's the truth. (Matthew 21:8-11 and Luke 23:23-25)



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 <u>center</u> of each tray for those
 who have an intolerance to alcohol.
- 2) The Blood of Christ, in, with and under the wine, <u>is served in individual</u> <u>glasses.</u>
- 3) Children and adults not instructed or confirmed are still encouraged to approach The Table to receive a blessing.