

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 6 & 7, 2023



Peace
Lutheran Church
NEENAH, WISCONSIN—LCMS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 6 & 7, 2023

Special Notes:

Baptism of Cillian Scott Coady and the return of Passing the Offering Plates

AS WE GATHER

On this, the 5th Sunday of Easter, we continue to focus our attention on Jesus' resurrection. As baptized believers in Christ, we see who Jesus is and who we are because of Him. Jesus is the cornerstone of our lives, of His church, and of His creation. We are His newborn, chosen, priestly people, who are called to proclaim His excellencies to the world around us, always firm & secure, knowing that Christ is an unshakable foundation.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GREETING

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!!

BAPTISMAL HYMN (Sunday Only) "Father Welcomes"

LSB 605

Refrain



Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly



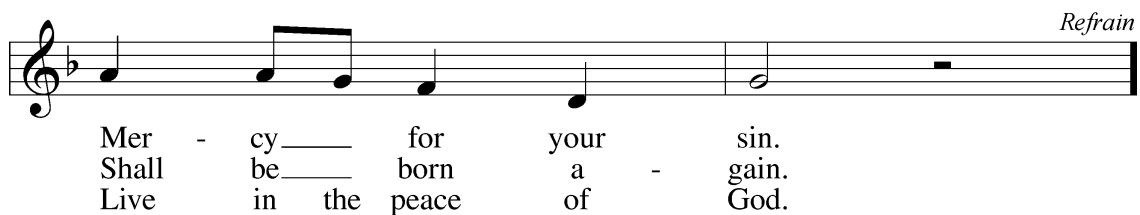
through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,



Life for - ev - er has been won.



1 Lit - tle chil-dren, come to Me, For My king - dom
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly



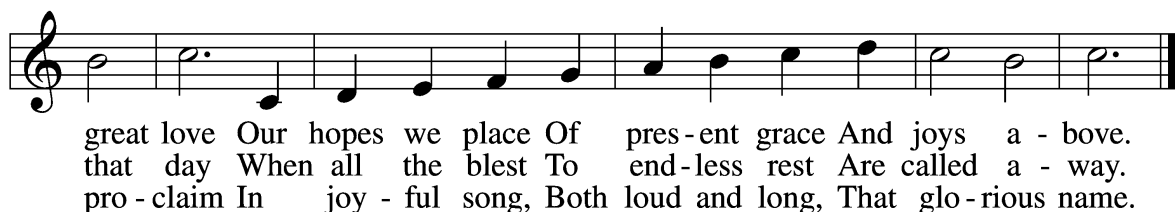
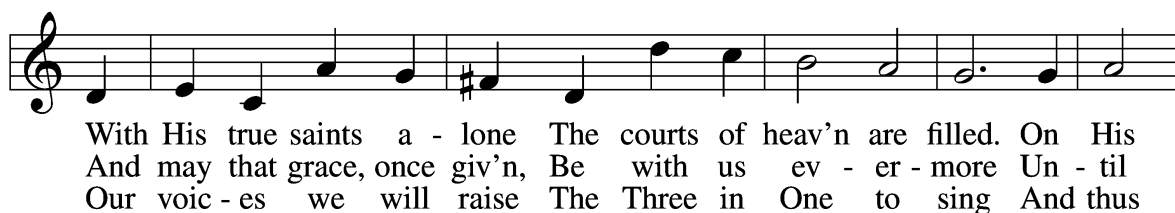
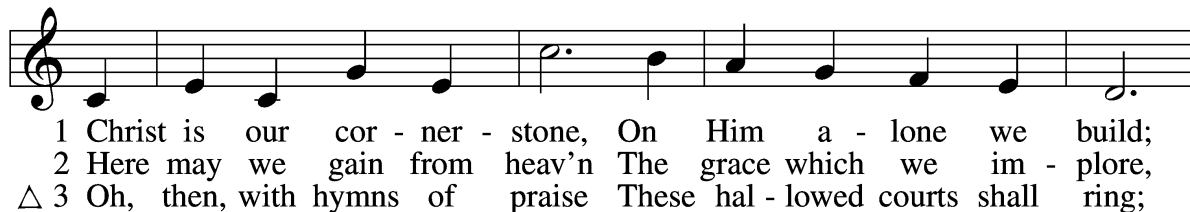
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BAPTISM OF Cillian Scott Coady

*Congregation please follow along, beginning on **page 268** in your hymnal*

HYMN "Christ is Our Cornerstone"

LSB 912



Text and tune: Public domain

stand

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: Christ is our cornerstone;
C: **on Him alone we build.**

P: He walks beside us through the darkness
C: **and never abandons us, even in death.**

P: In Him we are a newborn, chosen, priestly people.
C: **We are called to proclaim His excellencies to the world.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Though Christ is our cornerstone and has changed our identity to be His chosen people, we often build upon things other than Jesus. Such building crumbles to the ground, for unless we build on Christ, we labor in vain. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to His throne in confidence to ask for forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

P: Heavenly Father,
C: **though we are Your chosen people, we have acted in accordance with the world rather than Your Word. We have proclaimed hatred and violence rather than Your excellencies. Forgive us, renew us, and restore as Your newborn, chosen, priestly people, on account of Jesus. Amen.**

P: Though Jesus Christ was rejected and killed, God raised Him from the dead, 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. We are forgiven. We are a newborn, chosen, priestly people.**

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, You are the cornerstone and foundation upon which Your Church is built. Tear down all that we have built that was built apart from You, and tether us upon Yourself, our Rock and our Redeemer, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CHOIR: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" (Sunday)**FIRST READING** Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

ESV p.1086

¹Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. ⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . . ²And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

⁵¹You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵²Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

⁵⁴Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." ⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:2-10

ESV p. 12014

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

stand

HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1–14

ESV p. 1070

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. ¹²“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because

I am going to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

sit

HYMN OF THE DAY "Built on the Rock"

LSB 645



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



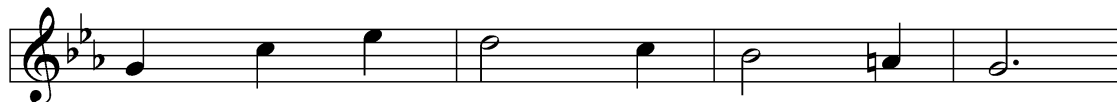
stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
Choos - es to live with us in love,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

OFFERING – *Today we return to our tradition of Passing the Offering Plates. Please take the plate and pass it to the next person. If you let them know, an usher will gladly assist you.*

OFFERTORY “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

955



Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
 cup of bless-ing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were
 sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
 hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
 give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Christ is our Cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we bring before You all those who have built their lives on something other than You. We pray that You would draw them to Yourself that they may build on a sure foundation: We pray for all those who have trouble in this world, including for the homeless, the poor, the lonely, the unemployed, those who are abused, and those who are taken advantage of. Lead each of these to steadier situations, so that their lives may evermore be built on You. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, You have borne our griefs and shared in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially . . .*]. Point them to the hope that in Your Father's house are many rooms, and You have gone to prepare a place for us. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for all those struggling with relationship issues, whether that is friendships, family dynamics, marital struggles, or anything else. We pray that You would bring reconciliation in the midst of such struggle. Remind Your people that they are chosen and holy and called to reflect Your forgiveness. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for our nation and its leaders. For our president and vice president and their staffs, for Congress and all lawmakers, for the Supreme Court and all judges, we pray that You would shine Your wisdom upon these, Your servants. Guide them to perform their tasks with justice and equity. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy upon them, and restore them to health according to Your wisdom. Christ is our cornerstone,

C: on Him alone we build.

Special Prayers

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we commend all these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede

for us and You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 continually call us out of darkness and into Your marvelous light, so that we may proclaim Your excellencies to all the nations. Grant us faithfully to eat Christ's 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 (Spoken by the pastor.)

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:

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"We All Believe in One True God"

LSB 953



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de - scend - ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus - tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. une: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed.,
Meiningen Text and tune: Public domain

"The Church's One Foundation"

LSB 644



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
 Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a-sun-der, By her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er-more
 And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep-ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic-to-rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt. Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–76 Text and tune: Public domain

"My hope is Built on Nothing Less"

LSB 575



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
 His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
 in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
 then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!



Refrain
 On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

stand

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. Daily remind us of our identity in You as a newborn, chosen, priestly people called to proclaim Your excellencies; 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

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.

sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF DEPARTURE “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” LSB 465



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds In
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift He brings, There -
 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 tri - umphed!
 fore our heart with rap - ture sings: “Christ has tri - umphed!
 heart and will on things a - bove That we con - quer
 with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: “Christ has tri - umphed!



He is liv - ing!” Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and
 He is liv - ing!” Now still He comes to give us
 through Your tri - umph; Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's
 Al - le - lu - ia!” Be to the Fa - ther and our



clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 life And by His pres - ence stills all
 day That by our lives we tru - ly
 Lord, To Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: “Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!”
 strife. 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!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln Text: © 1958 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005744 Tune: Public domain

THE SENDING

P: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!!

POSTLUDE

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Welcome to Peace in the name of the Risen Savior!

We request that visitors register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. We ask that you share your name and address so that we can recognize your visit with us. All members are requested to register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. Members, please indicate all family members present and those who took communion, so that the Pastor and Elders can be spiritually accountable for you and your family.

Are your cell phones turned off? Cell phones are indeed a great convenience in life these days. However, please, out of courtesy, silence cell phones during the worship service.

Thank you!

Hearing assist devices and large print bulletins are available for those who may need them. Please see an Usher or the Elder who will be happy to assist you.

A Mother's Room is available for parents of young children if the need arises. The Mother's Room in the west hallway. The worship service is able to be heard in the Mother's Room.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion

Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is a sacred act, established by Christ Himself and is given to His Church. As members of **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, we hold the doctrine of the Real Presence, in with and under; meaning that Jesus gives His Body and Blood with the bread and wine, as He Himself says, *"This is my body... This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins."* (Matthew 26:26ff)

The Holy Scriptures also teach us to receive this meal in a way that is responsible and healthy. As overseer, St. Paul wrote- *"let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Out of genuine care for God's people we ask that those (1) who have not been baptized and instructed in the faith or (2) who come from another church body, not in altar or pulpit fellowship with us, refrain from receiving Holy Communion.

For those preparing to receive Holy Communion, Luther encourages us to ask ourselves these questions:

Do **I repent** of my sins, desiring to turn away from them, back to the Lord?

Do **I believe** Jesus died and rose for me and gives me His Body and Blood this day "for the forgiveness of sins"?

Do **I intend** to use this means of grace to change my life, following His will and way?

We ask that all who receive the Lord's Supper fill out a "Care Card" and place it in the offering plate. Please note that reduced-alcoholic white wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray.

**Peace Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

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Josiah Fitch, Associate Pastor
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WORSHIP SERVICES:

Holy Communion Celebrated at all Services
Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00a.m.

Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School (Sept. –May) 10:30 a.m.

Website: www.peaceneenah.com

Youtube: Peace Neenah

