

Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to

# **Glorify God**

as we

## Gather

around the Gospel to help people

#### Grow

in the **Gospel** and

Go

with the Gospel

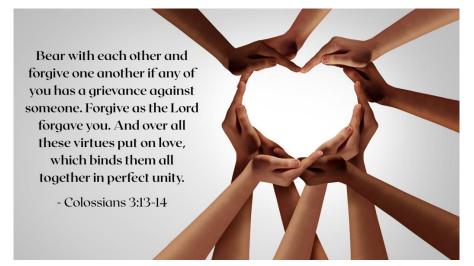
**Welcome!** We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

# September 11 & 14, 2025 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



# I'm a Church Member - Week 2 I Will Be a Unifying Church Member

When people here membership they think about being part of a gym or a wholesale club. Membership is often thought of to come with privileges, perks, and benefits. Members are served. Is this what it means to be a member of a Christian church? Paul explains the metaphor of the church as being a body with many members with Christ as the head (1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12). At the heart of this is love (1 Corinthians 13). Forgiven by the love of God through the love Jesus has for us to win us forgiveness we can love God and others. "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." He has place us all in the church with different gifts. In this series we look to build a strong healthy church by asking the question "What does it mean to be a church member?"

Week 2 – What builds unity among different people? The world is seeking the answer to this. Our world is divided on so many issues and topics. Can one be unforgiving and have unity? Can one ignore others and their needs and preferences and have unity? Can one think that their way and their ideas are the only right ways and have unity? Over all of this, there is one thing that will drive and create unity. Love. And not just loving one another, but the love that comes from Jesus, who forgives us, and showed us his great love, to bring us into a relationship of unity with God.

## **Gathering Rite**

Church of God, Elect and Glorious CW 854:1

Church of God, elect and glorious, holy nation, chosen race, called as God's own special people, royal priests and heirs of grace; know the purpose of your calling, show to all his mighty deeds, tell of love that knows no limits, grace that meets all human needs.

Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

# Congregation: Amen

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son # and of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. (Colossians 3:12-14)

#### C: Amen

M: Thanks be to Christ for his mercy and love! In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## Church of God, Elect and Glorious CW 854:3-4

## Hymn

- Once you were an alien people, strangers to God's heart of love, but he brought you home in mercy, citizens of heav'n above.

  Let his love flow out to others, let them feel a Father's care, that they too may know his welcome and his countless blessings share.
- 4 Church of God, elect and holy, be the people he intends, strong in faith and swift to answer each command your master sends. Royal priests, fulfill your calling through your sacrifice and prayer; give your lives in joyful service, sing his praise, his love declare.

Sunday 8:00 am and 10:30 am services continues with the Rite of Holy Baptism. Thursday service continue on page 5.

Be Seated

# THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM (Pg. 262)

M: Christ's almighty Word gives Baptism its power to save. Jesus promises in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." The apostle Peter declares in 1 Peter 3, "Baptism now saves you." Scripture also teaches that the power and promise of Baptism are intended for young and old alike. On the day of Pentecost, the apostle testified, "The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." By water and the Spirit, we are born again and are united with Christ and his people as members of the Church.

In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought *Greyson/Brighton* to be baptized. In Mark 10, it is written: *Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

We see the Holy Trinity at work in baptism. Paul writes in Galatians 3, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. For it is in baptism that a child receives the benefits of the death and resurrection of Christ. It is through baptism that a child receives the gift of the Holy Spirit which, plants the seed of the faith. It is in baptism that God the Father adopts us as his children.

Holding firmly to your command and promise, we ask that you would look with favor on Greyson/Brighton. Through this water of Baptism, cleanse him/her from all sin and deliver him/her from death and the devil. Set him/her apart from the unbelieving world and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep him/her in the true Christian faith all the days of his/her life. Guide, strengthen, and protect him/her so that he/she may honor your holy name and at last receive, together with all your people, the promised inheritance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Greyson Lee Schiesl / Brighton Sherry-Lee Swanningson*, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and the heart  $\tau$  to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

#### **EXHORTATION**

#### Stand

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that *Greyson/Brighton* may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

C: Yes, as God gives me strength.

M: Let us pray: We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received *Greyson /Brighton* as your own child and made *him/her* a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to *him/her* and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Thursday's service continues here.

# Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

God of heaven, Lord of our salvation, you established peace between us and you through the perfect life and atoning sacrifice of Jesus.

- C: Thank you, Savior, for your sacrifice.
- M: You have called us to love each other as you have loved us.
- C: Bless us with your Spirit so that we love each other deeply, from the heart. Amen.

Be Seated

#### THE WORD

First Lesson Acts 2:42-47

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. (NIV)



#### Psalm of the Day Psalm 133 Oh, How Good It Is CW 731 1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -2 Oh, how good on this jour - ney we share it is to re -3 Oh, how good em-brace his com-mand it is to to pre-Where the geth - er in spir-it, in faith and u - ni - ty. with the hap-py and weep with those who mourn. For the joice fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the the af - flict find grace weak find strength, ed when we live we all share the love as one in of the fruits of his pres-ence here mong a us. of fer the bless-ing of be long ing. Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir it. Refrain So with voice we'll one sing to the Lord, and with heart we'll live out his word, one whole earth till the the Re-deem - er sees has come.

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Gospel Lesson John 17:20-26

<sup>20</sup> "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

<sup>24</sup> "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

<sup>25</sup> "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." (NIV)

The Gospel concludes as follows:

M: In Christ, we who are many form one body,

C: and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:5



#### 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 fully 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.

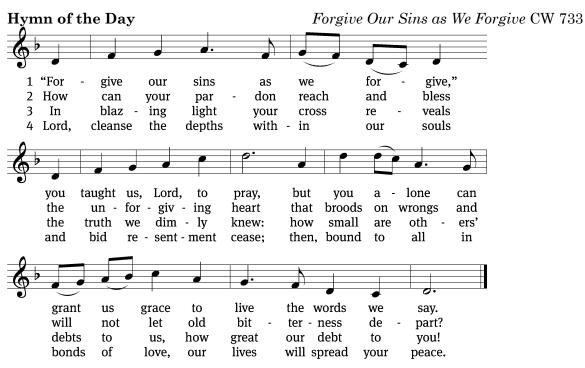
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

# The Nicene Creed - History and Notes

The Nicene Creed was written around A.D. 325 in defense of the true Christian faith. The Council at Nicea developed it, expanding on the deity of Christ, in order to safeguard the apostles' teaching. The Second Article of the Creed is much longer than that of the Apostles' Creed because the council was addressing false doctrines about the person of Jesus Christ.

Having heard the Word of God, the church repeats what is heard, as believers confesses with the whole Christian Church the one, true Faith. This is what we believe. The creed is not a prayer, but a confession of our Faith before God and the world. The emphasis is on the second article and the cross of christ, and persecution that the Christian must bear because of his confession, the cross of which Jesus spoke when he told his disciples to "take up the cross and follow me." This is the creed for which some have given up their lives. Also in the creed we have a foundation of what the Christian church has taught and believed for centuries, and should match what the preacher shares. This is the reason why it is placed before the sermon.



Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.

Tune: A Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, Harrisonburg, 1820, ed. Ananias Davisson

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# Sermon Colossians 3:12-17

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (NIV)

## 4K - Grade 4 (8 am)

So good Lord to be here With friends I hold so dear Your grace is clear Strength over fear So good Lord to be here.

Words by Ben Ott

So good Lord to be here With Your sweet creatures near Your grace is clear Strength over fear So good Lord to be here.

#### So Good Lord To Be Here

So good Lord to be here My wayward feet you steer Your grace is clear Strength over fear So good Lord to be here.

#### Stand

## Prayer of the Church

## THE SACRAMENT

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

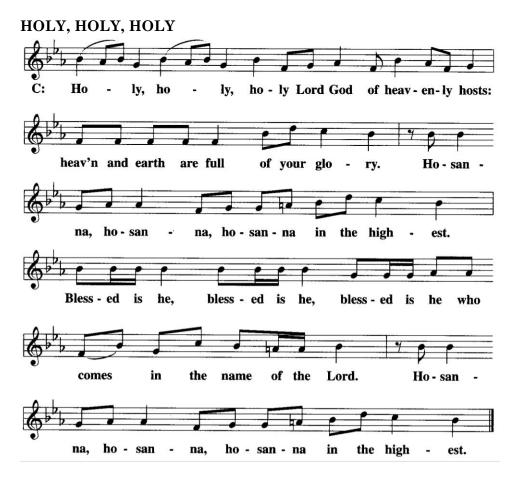
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:





## **Words of Institution**

M: 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."

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

C: Amen.





Be Seated

#### COMMUNION

Please remember to register for communion

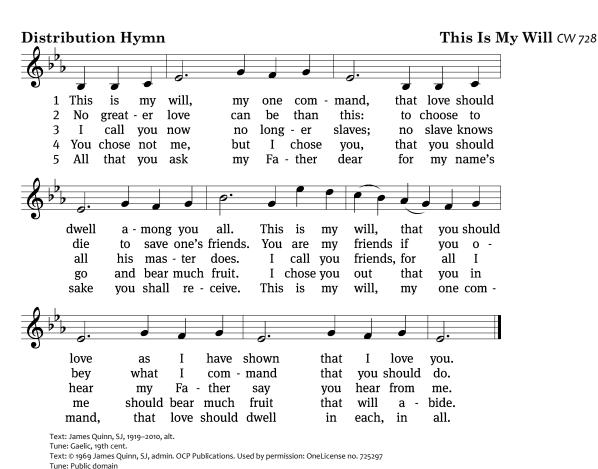
Marking "C" on the Connection Card in your pew. Please place Connection Card in basket behind the last pew as your leave today.

#### Distribution helps:

Communion will be served in front of the pews on both sides. Please go up through the middle aisle and exit through the side aisles. If you are sitting on the outside of a row, feel free to walk to the back of church and up the center aisle. Please communion with your family. The number of people communing is not a set number.

2 individual cups of white grape juice are available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. Gluten free wafers are also available. Hold your hand palm down to let the server know you would like the gluten free wafer.

You can use the questions on page 295 (blue hymnal), on page 16 of this service folder, or the review of Lord's Supper on page 293 (blue hymnal) to prepare for communion.



# Stand

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### C: Amen.

## **Benediction**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C: Amen.

Be Seated

## Acknowledgments

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Oh, How good It Is

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ross Holmes, b. 1984; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Ross Holmes, b. 1984; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980

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## **Closing Hymn**

## In Unity and Peace CW 732



How good it is and how pleas-ant to live in u-ni-ty and peace.



How good it is and how pleas-ant to live to-geth-er in one Lord.

#### (Last time only)





- 1 the name of our Lord \_\_\_\_ Ie - sus Christ, In a -2 Live a life that is wor - thy of your call, be
- 3 Share the love that has joined us as one, u -



gree in ev - 'ry-thing you say. \_\_\_\_\_ hum - ble, gen - tle, and pa-tient. nite in spir - it and i - deals. \_\_\_\_ May there \_\_ be no di-Bear with each oth - er in Nev - er be ri - vals, do



vi - sions a - mong you, but be u - nit - ed in one mind. ways that are lov - ing, pre - serve the u - ni - ty of faith. not be con - ceit - ed, but look to oth - ers in their need.



For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all. For there is one Lord, one faith, one God of us all.

Text: James J. Chepponis, b. 1956 Tune: James J. Chepponis, b. 1956

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## PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.