

## TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Reception of Holy Communion is open to confirmed members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who repent of all sins and understand that they receive Christ’s true Body and Blood, as well as bread and wine, for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we respectfully request you speak with the Pastor before communing. This practice is prompted by love both for God’s Word and God’s people. Those who are not communing today are invited forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest for the blessing. A good tool for use in preparing to receive Holy Communion is found on pages 329-330 of the hymnal. For further study, please see: Matthew 5:23-24, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:42; Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 11:17-33.

## AS WE GATHER

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. *“For his righteousness’ sake,”* He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns *“the darkness before them into light”* (Is. 42:16) because He is *“the light of the world”* (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh *“while it is day,”* until that night *“when no one can work”* (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though *“at one time you were darkness,”* now *“you are light in the Lord”* (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to *“awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead”* (Eph. 5:14).

+ENTER IN SILENCE+ +WAIT IN PRAYER+ +WORSHIP IN REVERENCE+

## PRELUDE

### ***DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE*** (Page 151-166)

## HYMN

***“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”***

**#545**

*(Please STAND)*

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

**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.**

1 John 1:8-9

*(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.

[John 20:19-23]

**C: Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

Ps. 27:4-6 (antiphon: Ps. 22:15)

P: My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

**C: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.**

P: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

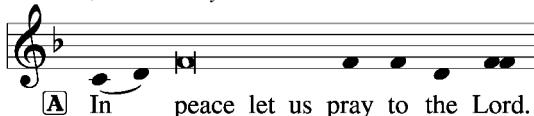
**C: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

**C: 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.**

P: My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

### KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47





**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



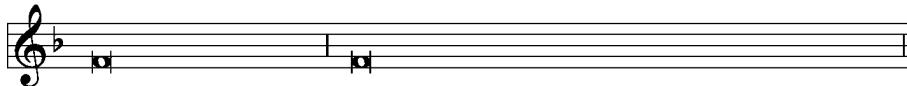
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be SEATED)*

### OLD TESTAMENT

*Isaiah 42:14-21*

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GRADUAL

[Heb. 12:2]

**All:** [O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,  
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 5:8-14*

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*(Please STAND for the reading of the Gospel)*

## LENT VERSE

Joel 2:13



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound - ing in  
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 9:1-41*

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

*After the reading:*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the  
Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The  
third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and  
sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He  
will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the  
life † everlasting. Amen.**

*Christian:* the ancient text reads “catholic,”  
meaning the whole Church as it confesses the  
wholeness of Christian doctrine.

*(Please be SEATED)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Arise and Shine in Splendor”*

**#396**

## SERMON

*The Lord Promises*

*Isaiah 42:14-21*

Woman in Labor.

- I. The Lord declared His plan of salvation.
  - A. For a long time, He held His peace.
  - B. The Lord magnified His Word.
- II. The Lord will do whatever it takes to deliver His people.
  - A. He removes all barriers.
  - B. The Lord magnified His Word.
- III. The Lord magnifies His Word for you.
  - A. New life is coming.
  - B. He connects His Word to water, bread, and wine.

The Lord Promises.

## *Sermon Listening Worksheet*

1. Why does God compare Himself to a woman in labor?

2. What does “Torah” mean?
3. To what does the blindness in Isaiah 42 refer?
4. Why does Jesus perform miracles?
5. How does Jesus give eternal life/save sinners?
6. What would the Lord have you think of/remember?
7. What does the Lord do for your sake?

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

**C: Amen.**

*(STAND and sing to the Lord)*

## **OFFERTORY**

***“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”***

**#955**

*(Please be SEATED)*

## **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

*(If you have a completed prayer card, please place it in the offering plate.)*

*Electronic giving* is available via our website or the GivePlusChurch App for smartphones. During the offering, please sign the red attendance pad and pass it to the person next to you. “Record of Fellowship” sheets will be collected after the service.

## **RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

Austin Burke

*(Please STAND)*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

(P: “Lord, in Your mercy,” C: **“hear our prayer.”**)

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

(Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Because we have a strong desire for all to comprehend this wonderful gift, we ask that you please review the Communion Statement in the front part of this bulletin.)

## PREFACE



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

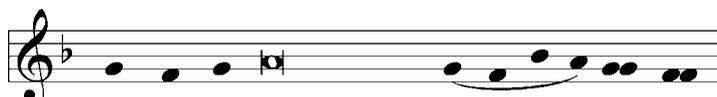


**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary.....evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### 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 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.**

### LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**P:** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**



(Please **STAND**)

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray...one God, now and forever.



## BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26



**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.



(Please be **SEATED**)

## HYMN

*“Amazing Grace”*

#744

## SILENT PRAYER

## POSTLUDE

**+DEPART IN PEACE+**

## *Our Response to God's Grace*

Faithful Assembled for 3/15 Worship: (7 Visitors)	62
Faithful Assembled for 3/15 Sunday School & Bible Class: (2 Children)	24
Faithful Assembled for 3/18 Lent Vespers:	21
Offerings, Tithes, & Firstfruits for 3/15 & 3/18: (Weekly Needs: \$2,700.00)	\$ 1,395.74
Year to Date <u>Received</u> Offerings: (Year to Date <u>Budgeted</u> Offerings: \$29,700.00) <i>Over 13% of our offerings are given to missions.</i>	\$ 21,200.38

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**—Congratulations to **Joey Dozal** (23<sup>rd</sup>). Our prayers and God's blessings go with him as he celebrates his "day."

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**—Lent Vespers continues this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Under the theme "Behold the Man," this week we consider "A God with a Mother." *Out of an abundance of caution and love for our neighbor, there will be NO Lent Meals for the next two Wednesdays.* Continue in your Lenten discipline with faithful midweek worship attendance this Wednesday.

**WELCOME**—We welcome into our Communicant membership today, through the Rite of Confirmation, Austin Burke. Austin was baptized at Trinity LCMS in Copperas Cove, Texas on March 30, 2013. He joined our congregation, with the rest of his family, as a baptized member on April 17, 2016. We rejoice that he will celebrate with us in all the blessings the Lord has given to His Church.

**EVANGELISM**—The Evangelism Committee will meet TODAY, following the Divine Service.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER**—The April-June quarterly issue of Portals or Prayer is available in the Narthex today. This is great tool for use in personal and family devotions. A limited number of large print editions are also available.

**ONLINE GIVING**—Don't forget that we offer online giving through the secure services of Vanco. Visit our website ([www.divinesaviorlc.org](http://www.divinesaviorlc.org)) or download the GivePlusChurch App for smartphones to sign up today. You can make a one-time donation or set up a regular, recurring offering.

**EASTER CANDY**—Throughout the rest of March we are asking for donations of candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. We do not need any plastic eggs, but we are in need of lots of candy. Please bring your candy donations no later than Sunday, April 5. *NOTE: We may have to postpone the hunt for later in the Easter season.*

**EASTER LILIES**—If you would like to give an offering for Easter Lilies, over and above your regular tithe, please note that on your extra donation. This year, we will not be publishing a donation list of flowers given in memory or in honor of someone.

**EASTER BREAKFAST**—Out of an abundance of caution and love for our neighbor, there will be NO Easter Breakfast this year.

**CHOIR PRACTICES**—Choir Practices will now be held at 5:45 p.m. each Wednesday. See Choir Director Judi Jopling for more information.

**PSALM 142:5**—"I cry to you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.'" The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, and He is in control. We can follow His Word in confidence.

### **THIS WEEK @DSLCLDevine**

<b>Today:</b>	<b>Evangelism Committee meeting following the Divine Service Elders meeting following the Divine Service</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>Choir Practice (5:45 p.m.) NO Lent Meal Lent Vespers (7:00 p.m.)</b>
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	<b>Divine Service with Holy Communion (9:00 a.m.) Donuts/Coffee (10:00 a.m.) Divine Service with Holy Communion (10:30 a.m.)</b>

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

*(Prayer requests will be printed for two weeks. Afterward, they will be printed in the newsletter for one month.)*

\*New Prayer Request

### **Thanksgivings and Celebrations**

*"Let us come into His presence with a song of thanksgiving" (Psalm 95:2)*

### **Surgeries and Healings**

*"For I am the Lord who heals you." (Exodus 15:26)*

\***Kenneth Catherson**, following surgery—requested by Robert Martin

**Gissell Martin**, following accident—wife of Robert Martin

**Mary Feltner**, health issues

**Thea Marie Keskinen-Burke**, upcoming medical tests

**Carla Boehle**

**Christine Fear**

**Karlee Riser**—great-granddaughter of Glen & La Nell Felps

**Claudia Carberry**

### **Hospice**

*"The Lord bless you and keep you..." (Numbers 6:24)*

**Linda Crowell**—friend of Margaret McCloskey

### **Special Needs and Concerns**

*"Our God is compassionate." (Psalm 116:5)*

### **Deaths**

*"I know that my Redeemer lives" (Job 19:25a)*

**Family of Kayla Quintero**—relative of Johnny Schuknecht

### **Cancer Patients and all their family members**

*"I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security." (Jeremiah 33:6b)*

**Kathy Bellmore**, malignant brain tumor—sister of Judi Jopling

The Lord be with you.

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. (Psalm 46:1-3)

Following recommendations of the Governor, the CDC, keeping in mind the Fourth Commandment, out of love for our neighbor (Mark 12:31), and in consultation with the Chairman of the Congregation and the entire Board of Elders, we will make the following changes beginning March 23 and evaluate this on a daily basis:

1. No Bible Class or Sunday School until further notice.
2. Lent Vespers (no meal) continues on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM.
3. The Divine Service will be held on Sundays at 9:00 AM AND 10:30 AM. With an additional service, this will keep our gatherings small and help distance 6 ft. apart.
4. When each gathering in the Sanctuary reaches approximately 15 people, we will use the Fellowship Hall (with live video). Holy Communion will be served in both buildings.

The Divine Service and Lent Vespers are also live-streamed and archived on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/DSLCDDevine](http://www.facebook.com/DSLCDDevine)), and the bulletins for these services are available on our website ([www.divinesaviorlc.org](http://www.divinesaviorlc.org)). Remember, if you are sick or if your conscience is troubled by attending during this time, please stay at home and make use of the services online.

Should you wish to receive Holy Communion outside of Sunday, either at the Church or at your home, please call me (325-245-8901) and we will make that happen. Should you wish to meet for prayer, or if you have any other spiritual needs during this time, do not hesitate to contact me.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:32-33).

No matter the present troubles, in Jesus you have peace. Your salvation is secure, and the Lord's promises are certain. He has not forgotten you, and He has not forgotten this world. He not only died on the cross to redeem *you*, but also this *fallen creation*. New life is coming for you and this crumbling world. Take heart, dear friends in Christ.

Please be diligent in your prayers for the Church, her pastors, our leaders, our nation, and all others in need. You are certainly in my prayers daily.

God's Blessings,  
*Pastor Wehmeyer*