

# GIFT of GRACE

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 31, 2023

#### A WORD FROM PT

In recent weeks I have been discussing with you the change in how Holy Communion has been administered in many of our churches. Whereas until the late nineteenth century Communion Wine was extended in the Common Cup, the more recent practice of individual cups is a novelty and came about, as we have discussed, for practical or perceived hygienic considerations.

We then discussed how the hygienic concern was more likely one of perception than of actual medical, scientific, or demonstrable proof as a risk for the spread of infection. And last week, we discussed how individual cups may be more suspect

in the transmission of germs and viruses.

The point of this conversation has been to explain why we are now offering the option for communicants to sup from the Common Cup, and why without being compelled to do so you might consider the option.

This consideration is not a matter of “that’s the way it used to be done.” It is rather a matter of contemplating whether the “old way” was more faithful and indicative of what we believe is occurring in the Lord’s Supper.

A loaf of bread and a common cup bespeak of a united source from which we are each individually nourished. The loaf must be

distributed by breaking it into pieces. The wine must be distributed by being sipped from the common source, that is, the Common Cup.

Our Lord Jesus knew what He was doing when he took His cup, and said of it, “*this cup* is the New Covenant in My blood.” And it was this cup that He gave for all to drink! The counterpart to the bread that He gave is the CUP that He gave.

My purpose has been to educate and give an explanation. We are promoting, not insisting! That is why the option with two choices will continue to be afforded to the congregation. What matters most is what Christ gifts us with in His meal.

#### SINCE YOU ASKED...

##### What do Lutherans believe is given in Holy Communion?

“We believe, teach, and confess that in the Holy Supper the body and blood of Christ are truly and essentially present and are truly distributed and received with the bread and wine. We believe, teach,

and confess that the words of the testament of Christ are to be understood in no other way than in their literal sense, and not as though the bread symbolized the absent body and the wine the absent blood of Christ, but that because of the sacramental union they are truly the body and blood of Christ” (*Formula of*

*Concord, Epitome, Art. VII.*)

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 10 that the bread is “a participation in the Lord’s body.” If the Lord’s body were not truly present, the bread would perhaps be a participation in his spirit. But Paul says it is a participation in his body!

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Thursday, 6/1**  
9:30am Prayer Gathering

**Friday, 6/2**  
7am Men’s Breakfast at McDonalds  
10am Service at Ona Care Center

**Sunday, 6/4** The Holy Trinity  
9am Divine Service with Communion  
10:15am Coffee Fellowship  
2pm 40<sup>th</sup> Ann of Ordination Reception for PT at Shepherd of the Hills Luth

**Thursday, 6/8**  
6pm Church Council

**Friday, 6/9**  
7am Men’s Breakfast at McDonalds

**Sunday 6/11** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentec  
10am Divine Service with Communion  
10:15am Coffee Fellowship  
10:45am Adult Class



**Making Disciples for Life**

LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) (LCMS.org)

## THIS AND THAT...

There will be a **40th Anniversary of Ordination** celebration for Pastor Tim, held at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church from 2-4pm on Sunday, June 4. Everyone in the congregation is invited.

It's not too early to save the date and put on your calendars our congregation's annual "**Divine Service in the Park**" 10am on Sunday, July 9 at the West Shelter in Halfway Creek Park.

The **Men's Breakfast Bible Study** will be moving to McDonalds Restaurant on OT during the summer months. We will keep the same time - Friday mornings at 7.

The continued **livestreaming** is for those who cannot otherwise attend in person!

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Pantry!

The Molstads are scheduled

to clean the week of June 18. And the Duesenbergs are scheduled for the week of July 16.

The **June Designated Benevolence** is for **Lutherans for Life**.

We rightly consider the communion we have with Christ our Lord in the Lord's Supper, but also significant is the unity and communion we share with the various members of Christ's Body, that is, with the Christians with whom we share the meal.

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8*

## HUMOR DEPARTMENT

### Celebrations

#### Birthdays

June 7 ..... Ron Kuehn  
 June 13 ..... Paul Hanson  
 June 15 ..... Susan Wilhelm  
 June 25 ..... Mary Bartos  
 June 26 ..... Tom Rislow

#### Anniversaries

June 13 ..... M & M Wangen  
 June 22 ..... P & N Hanson

### Ole & Lena Jokes

(not Norwegian jokes)

At the fair Ole and Lena asked how much the airplane ride would cost. The pilot said \$10 for three minutes. "That's too much," said Ole. The pilot said, "I will make you a deal. If you and your wife ride for 3 minutes without uttering a sound, the ride will be for free. But if you make a sound, you will have

to pay \$10." Ole and Lena agreed. And they went on a wild ride. After landing the pilot said to Ole, "I want to congratulate you for not making a sound. You are a brave man." "Maybe so," said Ole, "but I gotta tell ya, I almost screamed when my wife fell out."

Lena had two chickens. One of them got terribly sick. So

she killed the other one to make soup to get the first one well again.

Ole and Lena went to the Olympics. While sitting on a bench a lady turned to Ole and said, "Are you a pole vaulter?" Ole said, "No, I'm Norwegian ... and my name isn't Valter."

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

**6/4** The Holy Trinity

**Asst Minister:** Tom Rislow

**Reader:** Brad Benrud

**Crucifer:** Drew Staff

**Acolyte:** Dawson Staff

**Ushers:** Jeremy Schoonover

**Counters:** Jarrod R/Dave B

**Comm Asst:** Jarrod Roll

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** Jessica S/Leslie D

**Livestreamer:** Tim Betlach

**6/11** Second Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** tbd

**Reader:** Paula Betlach

**Crucifer:** Elyse Schoonover

**Acolyte:** Elliot Cunningham

**Ushers:** Cole Warner

**Counters:** Tom R/Dan M

**Comm Asst:** Tim Betlach

**Accompanist:** Leslie Duesenberg

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** Jeremy Schoonover

**6/18** Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Cole Warner

**Reader:** Craig Bartos

**Crucifer:** Jed Roll

**Acolyte:** Stella Roll

**Ushers:** Jarrod Roll

**Counters:** Connie M/Naomi R

**Comm Asst:** tbd

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** Jarrod Roll

**6/25** Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

**Asst Minister:** Naomi Rislow

**Reader:** Dan Molstad

**Crucifer:** Benjamin Roll

**Acolyte:** Asher Roll

**Ushers:** Dan Molstad

**Counters:** Cole W/Mary B

**Comm Asst:** Mike Meunier

**Accompanist:** Tom Rislow

**Fellowship:** tbd

**Livestreamer:** Cole Warner

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church  
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Services held at 9am at:  
 642 Western Avenue  
 A block north and then  
 a block west of King Furniture