

So, can I commune here? If you share this confession of faith with us, and you are a member of a sister congregation in our Synod (Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod), we welcome you to join us in humbly receiving Christ’s Body and Blood for the forgiveness of your sins. If you share this confession of faith with us, but you are *not* a member, Pastor would love to visit with you after worship about possibly receiving the Supper with us in the future. If you do not share this confession, or you have more questions, you are likewise encouraged to speak with the Pastor and he would be happy to visit more with you!



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lutheran Parish of
Salem-Madelia & Trinity-Lewisville



¹ Martin Luther, Martin Luther’s Small and Large Catechisms, CPH: 2019, pages 60-61

Artwork: “Higher Things Ecclesiastical Art” by Ed Riojas.

A BOOKLET FOR OUR GUESTS

We are delighted that you have joined us for worship this morning at Salem. Please introduce yourself to our Pastor before or after worship, as well as those around you in the pews. This morning we give thanks to God for the Holy Communion. This gift goes by other names, “Lord’s Supper,” the “Sacrament of the Altar,” and the “Eucharist.” This brief booklet is an introduction to what we believe, teach, confess, and practice in our Parish.

What is the Sacrament of the Altar? Answer: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written? Answer: The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul, write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, “Drink of it, all of you, this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking? Answer: These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things? Answer: Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for your for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say, “forgiveness of sins.”¹