

## Divine Service

The Divine Service is celebrated every Thursday night at 6:30 PM and each Sunday at 8:00 and 10:45 AM (from Memorial Day through Labor Day the second service is at 10:00 AM).

We take with the utmost seriousness the words from the Apology of the Augsburg Confession:

“We do not abolish the Mass but religiously keep and defend it. In our churches Mass [i.e., Divine Service]\* is celebrated every Sunday and on other festivals, when the sacrament is offered to those who wish for it after they have been examined and absolved. We keep traditional liturgical forms, such as the order of the lessons, prayers, vestments, etc.”

In this Divine Service, we use Christian hymns and songs from every age, provided they are faithful to Holy Scripture and confess Christ above all things. You will not find any watered-down, me-centered, feelings-driven worship here! Everything is measured by how it confesses Christ and preaches Law & Gospel to us. Thus without apology we celebrate the Divine Service in a reverent, dignified manner. We use the Historic Lectionary (calendar of Bible readings used by Christians for many centuries), which leads us deep into the truths of the Christian Faith, focused on our Lord Jesus Christ.

We use the newest hymnal of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, Lutheran Service Book. We use each order of Divine Service on a seasonal basis including Divine Service, Setting Three (the conservative revision of the Common Service, known to many as “page 15” from The Lutheran Hymnal).

We keep and use many traditional ceremonies of the Church, such as making the sign of the cross, kneeling, bowing, and standing at certain points in the service. These are done in gospel freedom as physical reminders of our Lord’s gifts and blessings; they are neither commanded nor forbidden, but encouraged for use to benefit piety and help the body train the spirit.

The Lord’s Supper is offered at each Divine Service. Communion is open to members of our congregation and to those who are members in good standing

of congregations in fellowship with ours (e.g., the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, the Lutheran Church–Canada, etc.). Visitors are asked to speak with the pastor before communing. Those who wish to prepare for Holy Communion and membership at Our Father’s are warmly invited to speak with the Pastor. He will gladly meet with you at your convenience and set up a schedule for instruction and spiritual formation, culminating in Baptism or Confirmation. Please contact Pastor Fabrizius or call the church office (414-282-8220) for more information.

We offer Christian Education for all ages at 9:30 AM on Sundays. We have Sunday School classes for the children organized by age; the adult Bible class is taught by Pastor Fabrizius.

*\*The Reformers used the word “Mass” not to describe the Roman Catholic service and its sacrifice, but in an evangelical way, meaning the faithful Christian liturgy of Bible reading, Preaching, and Holy Communion.*