
Foundations:

Basic Christian Teachings

Session 8: “Christian Living, Part 3”

Review from Session 7

- What does the Law of God show us?
- Why do we strive to keep God’s law?
- Who gives us the power to begin keeping God’s law?

Today’s Session

This is the third session on living the Christian Life. Today’s session focuses on how the Holy Spirit brings to us the blessings of Christ through the Gospel

- The Gospel
- Sacraments
- Baptism
- The Lord’s Supper

What is the Gospel?

- It is _____, not good advice.
- The _____ of God's grace for us in Jesus Christ.
- The _____ that we have been rescued or saved.
- The good news about what has been done by _____ to put right our relationship with God.

Sacraments: The Word We Touch and Taste

The Word of God comes to us in different ways. Not only do we hear and read the word, we can experience it as artwork or drama. We can listen to it as music or singing. God has also attached his words to certain elements and acts, so that his word can be tasted and felt. We call these acts "sacraments."

What is a Sacrament?

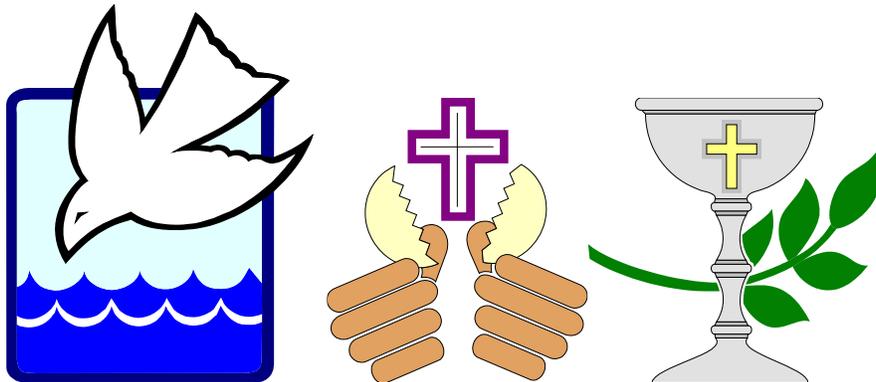
- It is sacred act:
 - _____ by God
 - connected to a _____ element
 - through which God delivers the _____ of our sins
- It is a visible expression of _____
- It is another way to know *the* Gospel is _____ Gospel.

What are the two Sacraments?

- + _____
 - *(Baptism is commanded by Jesus, connected to water, and God promises the forgiveness of your sins through it).*

- + _____
 - *(The Lord's Supper is commanded by Jesus, connected to bread and wine, and God promises the forgiveness of your sins through it).*

- + Please note that at St. John's, we consecrate marriages, conduct confirmation, bestow ordination, bless the sick, and absolve those who seek forgiveness for their sins. We do not label these as sacraments because they do not meet the definition that is traditionally used among Lutherans.

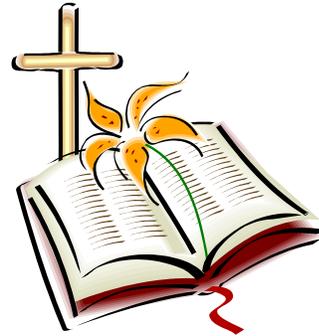


The Pipeline



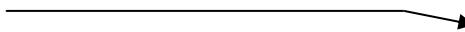
Grace: _____

All Finished!



Pipeline: _____





Baptism

What Is Baptism?

- “Baptize” means to _____ in some way. It could be done by immersion, pouring, or sprinkling. (**Mark 7:3-4, Luke 11:38**)



- In Holy Baptism, there is more than mere water. It is water used with _____ and by his _____.

Matthew 28:19 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*

- Baptism provides a fresh start – to be _____.

John 3:1-5 *“Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, ‘Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.’ In reply Jesus declared, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.’ ‘How can a man be born when he is old?’ Nicodemus asked. ‘Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!’ Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.’”*

- The outward act of baptism signifies the inward _____ of our sins

Acts 22:16 *“And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.”*

- Baptism is all about grace: washing, forgiving, restoring life through the giving of His Spirit.
- Baptism is something *God does for us*. It is not something we do for God.
- The Significance of Jesus' Baptism: The _____ for ours.

Matthew 3:13-17 *"Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'"*

What Are The Blessings Of Baptism?

- _____

Galatians 3:26-27 *"You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."*

- _____ and the _____

Acts 2:38 *"Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"*

- _____

1 Peter 3:21 *“And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”*

- Made part of the _____

1 Corinthians 12:13 *“For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”*

- _____ and _____

Titus 3:5 *“He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.”*

- Connected to the _____ and _____ of Christ

- Beginning a _____

Romans 6:1-4 *“What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”*

Why We Baptize Infants:

- They are _____ in the “all nations” of Matthew 28:19-20, and in the invitation of Acts 2:39.

Acts 2:38-39 *“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call.’*

Mark 10:13-15 *“People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He 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. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.’”*

- They _____ Christ.

Psalms 51:5 *“Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me”*

- The example of Old Testament circumcision at eight days old.
 - Circumcision was done at eight days.
 - Circumcision marked the child as God’s child. God did not wait for the child to grow up and claim Him. He claimed the child, and commanded the parents to then raise the child up knowing their Heavenly Father.

Colossians 2:11-12 *“In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.”*

- Babies can receive a blessing whether they are able to ask for it or not.

Luke 18:15-17 *“People were also bringing babies to Jesus to have Him touch them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. But Jesus called the children to Him and said, ‘Let the little children come to Me,*

and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these...”

- Babies can have a saving relationship with God through faith even if they cannot yet express it on their own because faith comes from God not us.

Psalm 22:9 *“Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother's breast.”*

- Children are the _____ of faith. (Mark 10:13-16).

What Baptism Is Not:

- 1 – It is not magic
- 2 – It is not an automatic “fix” or eternal fire insurance policy.
- 3 – It is not a religious ceremony or ritual to guarantee remaining a lifelong Christian
- 4 – It does not place an “aura” of protection around us.
- 5 – It does not guarantee a child will grow up to be an angel or have fewer temper tantrums.

Can Anyone Be Saved Without Baptism?

- Only _____ cuts us off from God.

John 3:18 *“Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.”*

- A possible example:

Luke 22:42-43 *“Then he (the thief) said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ Jesus answered him, ‘I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.’”*

- Anyone who believes in Christ will _____ to be baptized (Acts 8:35ff)

The Lord's Supper

What Is The Lord's Supper?

- The _____
- _____ and _____
- The _____ and _____ of Christ.
- A _____ meal



The Words of Institution

(Matthew, Mark, Luke, and 1 Corinthians)

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 PRESENT AT THE LORD'S TABLE?

- _____ and _____
- _____ and _____

Matthew 26:26-28 *“While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, ‘Take and eat; this is my body.’ Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.’”*

1 Corinthians 10:15-16 *“I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?”*

1 Corinthians 11:26-28 *“For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.”*

- The importance of the word "is."
 - The Lutheran view: "is" simply means "_____,"
 - We can't explain *how* Jesus is present with His body and blood, just *that* He is present!
 - The bread and wine are not just symbols
 - The bread and wine are still present. They do not change into the body and blood. Bread, Wine, Body, and Blood are all present in a sacramental union.
 - It is a _____

The New Passover

- The Passover commemorated God's redemption of the Israelites, saving them from slavery and death, and making them His own. (See Exodus 11-12)
- Jesus is the _____

John 1:29 *“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”*

1 Corinthians 5:7 *“For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed”*

The Final Sacrifice

- Jesus _____ and _____ all of the Old Testament sacrifices.

Hebrews 9:11-12 *“When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.”*

Matthew 27:50-51 *“And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.”*

The Blessings Of The Lord’s Supper



- _____
Luke 22:19 *“This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”*

- _____
Matthew 26:28 *“This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins”*

- _____ Jesus’ death

1 Corinthians 11:26 *“For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”*

- Express our _____.

1 Corinthians 10:17 *“Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.”*

- In the biblical times, to eat at someone’s table was to announce a desire to be friends with them, to be in community with them. This is why Jesus kept getting in trouble with the authorities, because He ate at the table of “sinners”.
- Likewise, Jesus reaches out to us in grace and forgiveness, and invites us to accept His friendship (*John 15:15*) by eating at His table.
- This is where the term “communion” comes from.

How Should I Prepare To Receive The Lord’s Supper?

- _____ and _____

1 Corinthians 11:27-30 *“Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.”*

Who Should Not Receive The Lord’s Supper?

- Those who are unwilling to _____

1 John 1:10 *“If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.”*

- Those who are unwilling to _____

Matthew 5:23-24 *“If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.”*

Also **Matthew 18:21-35**

- Those who do not believe that Christ’s body and blood are _____ in the Supper.

1 Corinthians 11:29 *“For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.”*

- Those who cannot _____ themselves

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

For Further Growing

From “Luther’s Small Catechism”

- Sacraments p. 281
- Baptism p. 285
- The Lord’s Supper p. 322

Sharpening The Sword

Each week you will be given a verse of the Bible to put to memory. The Bible calls God’s Word “the sword of the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:17). We want you to have a big, sharp sword!

This week:

Acts 2:38-39, *“Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call.’*