

Regarding the Lord's Supper

We believe that the Lord's Supper is one of the greatest gifts God gives to His church on earth. It is our Lord's meal of grace, in which He bestows the forgiveness of sins to troubled souls; and for that reason, we want all who are able to receive the Lord's Supper.

We also believe, however, that this sacrament *can* be received to our spiritual detriment, because we receive with the bread and wine the real body and blood of a holy God who died to redeem the world. The scriptures tell us:

"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." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

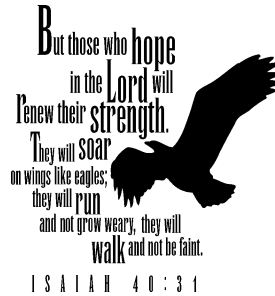
Because we want to be good stewards of this precious and mysterious gift of the Lord's Supper, we lovingly restrict its distribution to those who are able properly to examine themselves and recognize the body and blood of Christ in the meal.

To assist all of our worshippers in examining themselves, we offer the following questions for your reflection and affirmation:

- ✘ Do I believe that I am a sinner without hope of eternal life, except for God's mercy offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ? (*1 John 1:8-10; 4:10; John 3:16*)
- ✘ Am I sorry for my sins, and do I believe Christ's promise that in His body and blood is forgiveness, life and salvation? (*Proverbs 28:13; Matthew 26:26-28; Luke 22:19-20; John 6:51*)
- ✘ Do I believe that with the bread and wine I receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ, not just a symbol of it? (*1 Corinthians 10:16; Mark 14:22-24*)
- ✘ Do I intend, with the help of God, to live a life that is pleasing to God? (*Ephesians 4:22-24*)

If you can answer "yes" to these questions, then come with a repentant heart to join us in the blessing of Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and the strengthening of your faith. If you hold a belief that differs from the beliefs of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we kindly ask that you refrain from communing at our altar at this time. We also ask that children, under the age of 15, who have not been instructed in the faith, also refrain from communing. If you have any questions we invite you to speak to one of our pastors after the service. May God bless our worship together!

“He Sees and Strengthens”
Epiphany 5
Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
February 5, 2012



✠ **AS WE GATHER** ✠

Welcome to Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, and a special welcome to our guests! Our God is not blind to or disinterested in our daily struggles. Our God created the heaven and earth and has the power to sustain all things. Our God sees our needs. And our God strengthens us throughout our lives. Today we contemplate His gracious presence in our lives and find peace in His promise to “bear us up on eagle’s wings”. God bless your worship with us today.

So that everyone can worship without distraction: please turn off all cell phones and pagers, and please feel free to take your child(ren) to the staffed nursery or out to the narthex if they become restless during the service. Thank you for your cooperation.

ORDER of WORSHIP – Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service setting 1, p. 151 ff.

PRESERVICE MUSIC“Praise the Almighty” ~ *Bender/Manz*

✠ **PREPARATION** ✠

WELCOME & SHARING of PEACE

OPENING HYMN “Praise the Almighty” Hymn 797

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (*Page 151*)

✠ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ✠

KYRIE (*Page 152-153, sung responsively*)

HYMN OF PRAISE “*Gloria in Excelsis*” (*Page 154 – sung responsively*)

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY (Page 156)

P: O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OLD TESTAMENT READING.....Isaiah 40:21-31

(The Lord's understanding is unsearchable.)

²¹ Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? ²² He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. ²³ He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. ²⁴ No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. ²⁵ "To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰ Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹ but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL RESPONSE.....(*Men's Quartet*) "Jesus, Sun of Righteousness" ~ *Ahle*

GOSPEL READING.....Mark 1:29-39

(Jesus shuns mere popularity.)

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her. ³¹ So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. ³² That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³ The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴ and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. ³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" ³⁸ Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED *(Page 158 – spoken by all)*

SERMON HYMN "On Eagles' Wings" Hymn 727

SERMON "He Sees and Strengthens" Isaiah 40:21-31

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(Petitions) P: Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen. 4

OFFERING

(As our offerings are being gathered, we ask that each of you sign the Rite of Fellowship Folder located in each pew. If you are visiting with us please include your full name, mailing address, & phone number. After all have signed it please pass it back to the center aisle.)

MINISTRY FOCUS: HUMAN CARE MINISTRY

Each month we focus on one of our ministry teams fulfilling our mission of “Joyfully Sharing the Gospel.” This month’s focus is on the “Human Care Ministry” at Our Shepherd. As you view this presentation we invite you to give thanks to God for the ministry being done and consider if God may be calling you to participate in this ministry. Contact our Parish Nurse, Trish Schmidt for more information.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Regarding the Lord’s Supper: *We are celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion, which we believe to be a great gift from our loving God. If you desire to participate with us in this sacred part of our service, please refer to our communion policy on the inside front cover of the bulletin. Thank you.*

Communion Distribution: *We will commune this morning in “tables,” at the foot of the chancel. The ushers will direct each pew to come forward by the side aisle. You will return to your seat by the center aisle. Please place individual cups in the basket in front of the first pew.*

PREFACE *(Page 160 – sung responsively)*

SANCTUS *(Page 161 – sung by all)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(Page 161)*

LORD’S PRAYER *(Page 162, right column, spoken by all)*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI *(Page 163, sung responsively)*

AGNUS DEI *(Page 163 – sung by all)* 5

DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS Hymn 841, "O Son of God, In Galilee"
Hymn 849, "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *"Thank the Lord" (Page 164 – sung by all)*

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT *(Page 166)*

BENEDICTION *(Page 166)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN "Almighty Father, Bless the Word" Hymn 923

POSTLUDE "Prelude and Fugue in F Major" ~ *Bach*

THIS WEEK'S INDEPENDENT BIBLE READING 2 Kings 10, Psalm 103-104

*Altar flowers are given this weekend to the glory of God in celebration of
Bill & Pat Gunn's wedding anniversary.*

SERVING US TODAY . . .

Preacher: Pastor Ron May
Liturgist: Pastor Phil Rigdon
Elder: Scott Cox
Organist: Donna Martin
Quartet: Bob Martin, David Longworth, Erich Zwettler, John Krenzke

Communion Assistants:

8:00	John Widau	10:45	Jeff Huntington
8:00	Colton Martin	10:45	Aaron Roever
8:00	Dan Weiss	10:45	Ken Mikeworth
	Bill Bailey		Andy Strakis
	Dave Schuch		Don Raymond
	Bob Etheridge		Dave Dobler
	Fred Norman		Theo Cronauer
	Thomas Mattick		

