



BLESSED SACRAMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

“He [the rich man] died then indeed in body, but his soul was dead before. For he did none of the works of the soul. All that warmth which issues from the love of our neighbor had fled, and he was more dead than his body.” — St. John Chrysostom

Dear Saints,

First Sunday after *Holy Trinity* 6 June 2021

It is important to bear in mind the specific promises of Jesus. He comes to us. He is present. He helps. The Holy Spirit therefore is not to be confused with the Son, but less the substitute for the Son. To be sure, the Holy Spirit is given to us. But the Holy Spirit is not the resurrected one, Jesus the Son is. And it is the resurrection—not Pentecost—that ensures that Christ Himself comes to us, in a resurrection-sacramental presence. This is why we bow during the Eucharist, why we give adoration to Christ who is present in His once-crucified-now-resurrected true body and blood during Holy Communion.

There are spiritual powers, spiritual sources of strength, cisterns for your cleansing in his sacraments because we know these things and *receive* them not as common bread and wine or water, but as the means by which Christ conveys himself to us personally and intimately. Luther gets at this when reflecting on not merely the powerful presence of God’s Word in Holy Baptism but the presence of the ever-Incarnate One:

“Who, then, would despise the fact that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are present in Holy Baptism? Who would call such water simply water only? Do we not see what sort of spice God casts into this water? If you cast sugar into water it is no longer water but delicious claret or something else. Why, then, do we want to separate the Word from the water so entirely in this case and say that the water is simple water only, just as if God’s Word, nay, God Himself, were not present with and in this water, as they were there on the banks of the Jordan when Christ stood in the water, the Holy Spirit hovered over it, and God the Father spoke. This is why Baptism is a water that takes away sin, death, and every evil and helps us to enter heaven and eternal life. Such a delicious sugar water, aromatic, and specific it has become because God Himself has entered into it.” (Martin Luther, AE, 12a;142f)

Our great God and Savior Jesus Christ give us, conveys to us, unites us with His resurrection life precisely where the resurrection-existence breaks through into our dimension of time and space — the Sacraments which He Himself instituted.

When you participate or partake of any of these Christ-instituted sacraments, you begin to dwell in that overlap of heaven and earth, grace and nature, time and eternity. And there are times, many times, indeed weekly and even daily when we need to resort to heaven on earth because we're experiencing the hellishness of this life — illness, suffering, persecution, hardship, abandonment, broken promises, plaguing guilt, dying. And so far from being abandoned and alone, we have help, not merely from the Paraclete but from Jesus Christ Himself and it is something He delights to do. Indeed, it is one of His three primary responsibilities as the the world's rightful King — to protect, to provide, and to pardon. He delights to do these things for you. He delights to bring resurrection life to His resurrection people.

June 6	First Sunday after Trinity	Gen. 15:1–6	Psalm 33:12–22	1 John 4:16–21	Luke 16:19–31
June 13	Second Sunday after Trinity	Prov. 9:1–10	Psalm 34:12–22	Eph. 2:13–22 or 1 John 3:13–18	Luke 14:15–24

***First S. a. Trinity** 6 June. Color: Green. Divine Service 3. Processional 540. Hymn of the Day 594; Duet during Offertory; Psalm 33 chanted responsively at distribution; Post-Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis; Recessional 578. Sermon: St. Luke 16, “When Trump Meets Jesus.”

Catechesis. AUGSBURG ACADEMY (1400-1445) “Where Heaven and Earth Meet.”

First Sun. a. Trinity: Session 8: “Out of a Static Temple and into a Living Temple”
 Second Sun. a. Trinity: Session 9: “Christ is the Temple”

- * Welcome Bishop Jamison Hardy from Detroit!
- * Leadership will meet with the Bishop at The Porch Sunday @ 1130.
- * Happy Birthday to Nathan, and belatedly to Anna. Welcome back Drake family!
- * Congratulations to Sophia Bombaro graduating co-valedictorian from CCA on 4 June. Thank you families of BSLC for attending and your words of encouragement and gifts.
- * Enjoy a short article from Pastor <https://www.1517.org/articles/challenging-consumerism>

UPCOMING:

- (1) Sunday June 13, we will move to a summer schedule: Augsburg Academy 4pm, Mass 5pm.
- (2) This Sunday 6 June we will begin using Divine Service III, LSB 184ff. We will stay with DS III through the Season of Trinity.
- (3) *NEXT* Acolyte Training suggested: **Saturday 12 June @ 0900**. Then acolyte rotation begins.
- (4) Logos & Lager men's theological “pub” night. **New time and location: Sat 12 June @ 1800**.
- (5) Confirmation Catechesis 4:30pm Thurs 10 June at CCA: The Ninth Commandment.

Gratefully yours in Christ Jesus,
 Pastor John

Λόγος (Logos) & Lager

Theological Talk for Thirsty Men

SAT. 12 June @ 6pm
5359 East Lachance Road, Hayden

Presentation & Discussion:
“Does God use Baptism to Save?”

Beverages provided.

ΔψΩ (Jn 19:28)

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“Does God use Baptism to Save?”
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