

NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, Closed Communion is observed by this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in and are a faithful member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or a denomination that has altar fellowship with the LC-MS, and continues to embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced at this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament Christ Jesus is truly present (The Real Presence) in, with, and under the bread and wine which is the Real Body and Blood of Christ that is distributed to and orally received by you, bestowing on you the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation;
- (d) that you have truly examined yourself and have repented of all your sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal.

If you are a guest at Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church, we kindly ask that you first speak with our pastor before receiving this Blessed Sacrament. It is in accord with Holy Scripture that we practice Closed Communion and, therefore, it is an expression of our sincere friendship and concern for your spiritual welfare. If you desire to learn more about our beliefs we ask you to speak with our pastor.

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Christ's Mercy Is Ours to Show to Others

"Be merciful, even as your Father also is merciful" (St. Luke 6:36-42). The old Adam in us wants to condemn and seek vengeance. But the Lord says, *"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay"* (Rom. 12:14-21). To condemn, avenging yourself, is to put yourself in the place of God. It is to fail to trust that He is just. Ultimately, it is to disbelieve that Jesus suffered the full vengeance for all wrongs. Only Christ is merciful as the Father is merciful. He is the one who overcame all evil with the good of His cross, forgiving even His executioners. The Lord promises in Isaiah that He will, *"...guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail"* (Is. 58:11). Jesus is the One who does not condemn but gives life that runs over. Only through faith in Christ are we sons of the Father—being merciful, forgiving, doing good to our enemies. In Christ, we know that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (Rom. 8:8-13).

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A Guide to the Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

June 28, 2026



Respice in me, et Miserere mei, Domine

*"Look Thou upon me, O LORD,
and have mercy upon me."*

***The Fourth Sunday after Trinity
Merciful Father Sunday***

**Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church
6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100
Colorado Springs CO 80918**

*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --
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