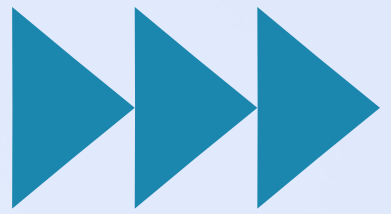




Living Water



2023-24



SACRAMENTS

UNIT #1




What is a Sacrament?

As Lutherans, we believe in two sacraments, Baptism and Holy Communion. In the Sacraments, Jesus calls us into relationship and meets us right where we are at. We use earthly elements (Water, Bread, Wine) as they are physical symbols that we can see, touch, taste, and experience. The physical elements combined with the word remind us that God shows up both in the ordinary and extraordinary places in our lives. As we celebrate the sacraments, we engage in Christ community and draw closer to one another in our journeys of faith.

How can we interact with the Sacraments?

Here at Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, we celebrate the sacraments every week in worship. We share in Holy Communion together as a church family and share in the celebration of Baptism with families. We can also interact with the sacraments outside of church through the elements. Water is all around us and is a reminder of God's promises through the waters of Baptism. We break bread together with friends and family each and every day. This is a reminder of God's promises through the gift of Holy Communion.



READ SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSS

Together as a group, read today's scripture Matthew 3:13-17. Ask for volunteers who might be willing to read each week. Take a moment to ask the group for their initial reactions. Lead your group in a discussion using the questions below.


1. What is the earthly element used in Holy Baptism?
2. Why do you think we use water in Baptism?
3. What other ways do we use water everyday?
4. Besides water, what else is necessary for a Baptism?
5. Do you know when and where you were Baptized?
6. What promises do family and congregation make in Baptism?

WORKSHEET

Have each student complete the Baptism worksheet provided. When each student is done, ask them to share their answers together as a group. Take time for everyone to share their answers and contribute to the conversation.

PEAKS & VALLEYS

During your small group time, give each student the opportunity to share one peak and one valley about their week. If they don't have a high or low for the week, ask them to share something that stood out to them about their week. End in Prayer!



READ SCRIPTURE AND DISCUSS

Together as a group, read today's scripture lesson Matthew 26:17-30. Ask for volunteers who might be willing to read each week. Take a moment to ask the group for their initial reactions. Lead your group in a discussion using the questions below.


1. What earthly elements are used in Communion?
2. Why do you think Jesus chose the elements he did for Communion?
3. When are the times that you can remember Communion in your everyday life?
4. What are the promises that we remember when we take Communion?
5. What are the ways that you and your family remember Communion throughout the week?

WORKSHEET

Have each student complete the Communion worksheet provided. When each student is done, ask them to share their answers together as a group. Take time for everyone to share their answers and contribute to the conversation.

PEAKS & VALLEYS

During your small group time, give each student the opportunity to share one peak and one valley about their week. If they don't have a high or low for the week, ask them to share something that stood out to them about their week. End in prayer!



5TH & 6TH**Baptism**


The 5th and 6th grade small groups will meet in the lower great room to share in some interactive games and lessons about Baptism. They will plan a fun Baptismal reminder to share with everyone when we return to the large group for wrap up.

7TH & 8TH**Communion**

The 7th and 8th grade small groups will meet in the upper great room learn how to make communion bread. They will bake it and bring it to share with everyone when we return to the large group and take communion together.

5TH GRADE**Getting to Know Our Neighbors**

A portion of the 5th grade students will meet over in the McKenna Atrium (through the double doors) to participate in a fun and educational program with our wonderful McKenna neighbors. Students will work side by side with seniors to understand their life station and how they see the world. We will rotate the groups the throughout the year during village nights.





ALL-SERVE NIGHT 10-11-2023



Our first all-serve night will be held at church. Small groups will be given time and resources to plan their off-site all-serves for the rest of the program year. Small groups will also participate in a service activity and discussion about the importance of service to others.

FAMILY NIGHT 11-1-2023



We are excited to host Dawn Rundman who is a nationally-recognized presenter, author, and resource provider. Preteens and their grown-ups are invited to this session to learn more about the amazing brains of preteens and what those around them need to know to be compassionate and understanding.

Family nights are specifically geared for students and parents/caregivers to attend together. We will bring in local speakers to focus on important topics connected to our curriculum. Family nights last an hour and there are no large or small group time as students will attend with their parent/caregiver.

