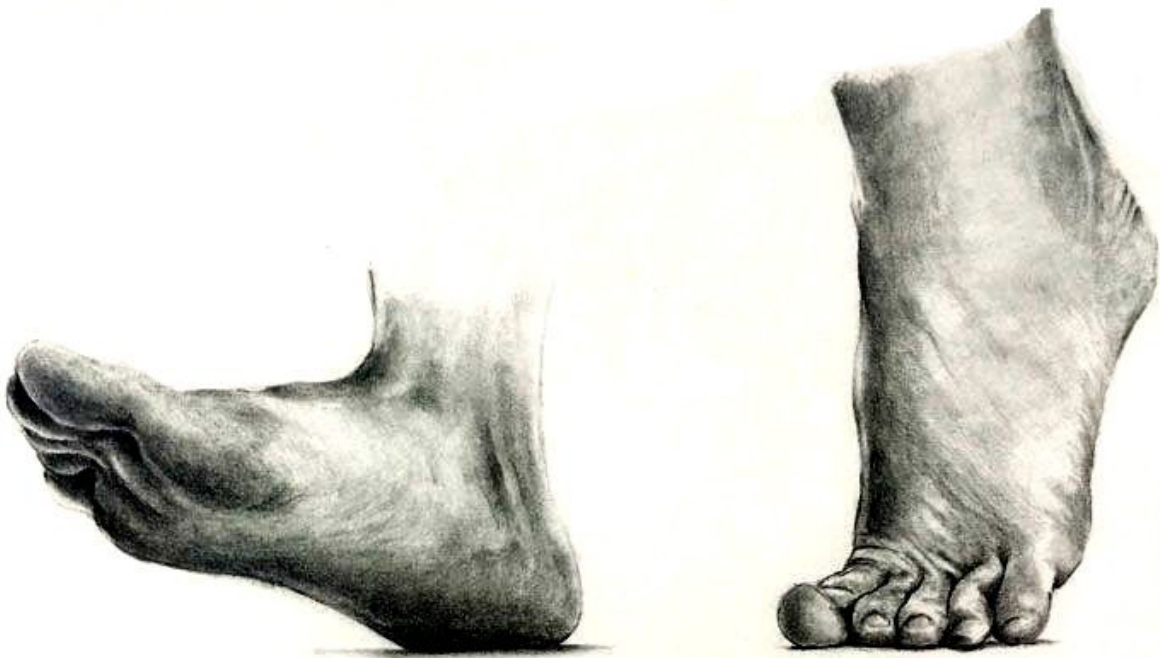


† 40 Days of Walking the Way †  
Week 5



**Communion:**

**Worshiping  
&  
Sharing**

## ✠ Holy Communion ✠

### “Deeper Discipleship & Closer Community with Jesus” St. Luke’s Evangelical Lutheran Church | March 25, 2020

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#### Invocation

Father, Creator of heaven and earth, ✠ **we thank you for your daily love and care.** ✠ Son Jesus, servant of all, ✠ **we follow your example.** ✠ Holy Spirit, presence of life, ✠ **rule and dwell in our hearts and community.** ✠ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ✠ **we surrender our minds, bodies, and whole lives to you.**

(we make the sign of the cross, touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

Into your loving hands ✠ **we place our worries, stresses, and burdens.** ✠ In stillness and patience ✠ **we wait on you in all things.**

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is present among us)

♪ *Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.* ♪ (tune: GC2 23, twice)

#### Remembering Our Baptism Journey

Our heavenly Father makes us his children through Baptism as he puts to death Civilization's Way of control within us and then raises us to Jesus's Way of faithful obedience. We pray that he continues and completes this work of Baptism within us, as we daily leave everything behind to find true life in the word and story of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ✠ **Amen.**

♪ *Lord, baptize us and wash away our sin. Lord, baptize us and change our hearts within. Lord, baptize us and grow our discipline. Lord, we praise you, for all that you do!* ♪ *Lord, baptize us to never be afraid. Lord, baptize us to love all you have made. Lord, baptize us to share your help and aid. Lord, we praise you, for all that you do!* ♪ (tune: LSB 677)

#### Prayer of the Day

Father, help us to ✠ **daily walk the Way of Jesus.**

Help us to ✠ **daily embrace our Baptism journey of dying & rising.**

Help us to ✠ **daily Repent through listening, confessing, letting go, & following.**

Help us to ✠ **daily Commune through worshiping, sharing, caring, & inviting.**

Father, help us to ✠ **daily entrust our lives into your hands. Amen.**

#### Song ✠ *LSB 418 “O Lord, throughout the Forty Days”*

♪ *O Lord, throughout the forty days your focus was to pray. You lived by faith and left behind Civilization's Way.*

♪ *You were tempted to take control, but you would not give in. You knew that pow'r and wealth come from the evil way of sin.*

♪ *In weakness and fragility, you trusted God above. Please teach us to deny ourselves and imitate your love.*

*♪ We trust that you will give us strength to learn from you each day. Be with us as we follow you and walk Jesus's Way.*

## † The Word of God †

### Preparing to Listen

We gather at the feet of our Lord Jesus, listening to his word and allowing it to change and shape our minds, decisions, and lives. *♪ Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind. ♪ (tune: LSB 770)*

### Reading ✕ Psalm 95:1-8

The reading comes from Psalm 95. ✕ **We listen with open hearts.**

This is the word of our Creator. ✕ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

### “Worshipping” Litany

The Creator's work of Baptism ✕ is received through the practice of **worshipping.**

Through worship ✕ **we die to the ego-centered Way of Civilization.**

Life is no longer about us ✕ **as we center our entire lives on the Creator.**

Worshipping is ✕ **pledging allegiance to the Creator as the only Lord.**

Instead of serving ourselves ✕ **we serve the Creator in all we do.**

Worshipping is ✕ **praising the Creator through prayer, liturgy, study, and song.**

Instead of praising ourselves ✕ **we praise the Creator for providing, protecting, and saving us.**

Worshipping is ✕ **telling the Creator's story to each other in words and actions.**

Instead of living our own stories ✕ **we live within the Creator's story.**

At the center of all worship ✕ **is the mystery of sharing bread and wine.**

As we share bread ✕ **we feed on Jesus and are part of the Body of Christ.**

As we share wine ✕ **Jesus's blood empowers us to sacrifice ourselves.**

Through this mystery ✕ **we learn to see God in, with, and under his creation.**

### Song ✕ *LSB 719 “I Leave All Things to God's Direction”*

*♪ I leave all things to God's direction, he brings good through all that happens. His will and way must always be done, his love is seen in his actions. My fortress and rock is he. What pleases God, that pleases me.*

*♪ God knows what must be done to change me, his love for me will never cease. His love is seen as hard times hit me, and also in the times of peace. My Father is always for me. What pleases God, that pleases me.*

*♪ God wants to save both body and soul, he loves each person as a whole. Therefore I let go of all control, all that matters is the Lord's goal. His will be done eternally. What pleases God, that pleases me.*

*♪ My God has all things in his keeping, he is the always faithful friend. He gives me laughter after weeping, and all his ways in blessings end. His love endures eternally. What pleases God, that pleases me.*

Reading ✠ Acts 4:32-35

The reading comes from Acts 4. ✠ **We listen with open hearts.**

This is the word of our Creator. ✠ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

“Sharing” Litany

The Creator’s work of Baptism ✠ **is received through the practice of sharing.**

As the Body of Christ ✠ **we hold all things in common.**

We share by ✠ **removing all divisions within the Body of Christ.**

We tear down ✠ **Civilization’s political, economic, and social divisions.**

We share by ✠ **giving all our time and resources to the Body of Christ.**

Through sharing all our time ✠ **we wait on the Creator and each other.**

Through sharing all our resources ✠ **we trust the Creator for what we need.**

We share by ✠ **carrying all burdens as the united Body of Christ.**

We are responsible for ✠ **and support each other in good and bad times**

We live out the reality that ✠ **it is more blessed to give than to receive.**

By daily sharing ✠ **we let go of control over ourselves and others.**

This sharing also ✠ **creates an alternative political and economic reality.**

Within the Body of Christ ✠ **we have no debts, slaves, or private property.**

Song ✠ *LSB 736 “Consider How the Birds Above”*

Message

Reflection & Repentance

Let us reflect on how the word of Jesus is speaking into our lives this day.

(silence for reflection)

For making life about ourselves, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠ For not giving our allegiance to you alone, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠ For living out our own selfish story, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠ For dividing ourselves from each other, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠ For not sharing all our time and resources, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠ For not bearing each other’s burdens and keeping to ourselves, ✠ **Father, forgive us.** ✠ Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ *Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.* ♪ (tune: LSB 449)

Will you leave behind the Way of Civilization and walk in the Way of Jesus?

✠ **Yes, I renounce the Way of Civilization and pledge my full allegiance to Jesus.** ✠ Our heavenly Father heals all those who return to his loving arms. You are forgiven and set free from all slavery to live life in the Way of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! ✠ **Amen.**

Choir

Benediction

May the Lord bless you with humility, reminding you that you are but dust. May he forgive and release you from your brokenness and addictions. May he

shape you into the loving and trusting character and image of Jesus. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Song ✕ *LSB 424 "O Christ, You Walked the Road"*