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Today's Focus

“BECAUSE CHRIST SERVED US”

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Welcome! Holy Word is a community of Christians experiencing life together in the grace and peace of Jesus. Here you will find a family culture, easy access to Bible teaching at all levels, community connection, personable staff, and the unity of our belief and mission. Whether you are a first time guest, a seeker, skeptic or lost soul, or a long time Christian, we invite you to get to know us. Come as you are!

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Connection Cards: Welcome to all our guests and members this morning. We'd like to get to know you better. To help us, please fill out the connection card inside your worship folder. Prayer requests and feedback are also welcome. Place the card in the offering plates or hand it to an usher after the service. God bless your week!

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Children in Worship: We love kids in church and we love families worshipping together. To enhance the children's worship experience, we have a kids sermon during the service. We encourage parents to work through the service folder with their children to help them follow along. We have orange busy bags in the nursery available for the children. If your child needs a break from the service, feel free to use the Nursery (in the church lobby), hallways or fellowship hall, all are equipped with sound from the service.

Welcome & Invocation

Hymn: Crown Him with Many Crowns | Blue Hymnal 511



- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave



hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
No an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,



and hail him as thy match-less King thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.
but down-ward bends his won-d'ring eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died e - ter - nal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Text (sts. 1–2, 4): Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, abr., alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Group: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Leader: God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed in Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

Group: Amen.

Hymn: Christ, the Life of All the Living | Blue Hymnal 396



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion and hast borne it



death, our foe, who, thy - self for me once giv - ing
pa - tient - ly, e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,



to the dark - est depths of woe: through thy suf - f'rings,
ful - ly to a - tone for me. Thou didst choose to



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.



Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.
Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks shall be, dear - est Je - sus, un - to thee.

Text: Ernst C. Homburg, 1605–1681, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt.

Tune: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

First Reading

Joshua 24:14-18

¹⁴“Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God.”

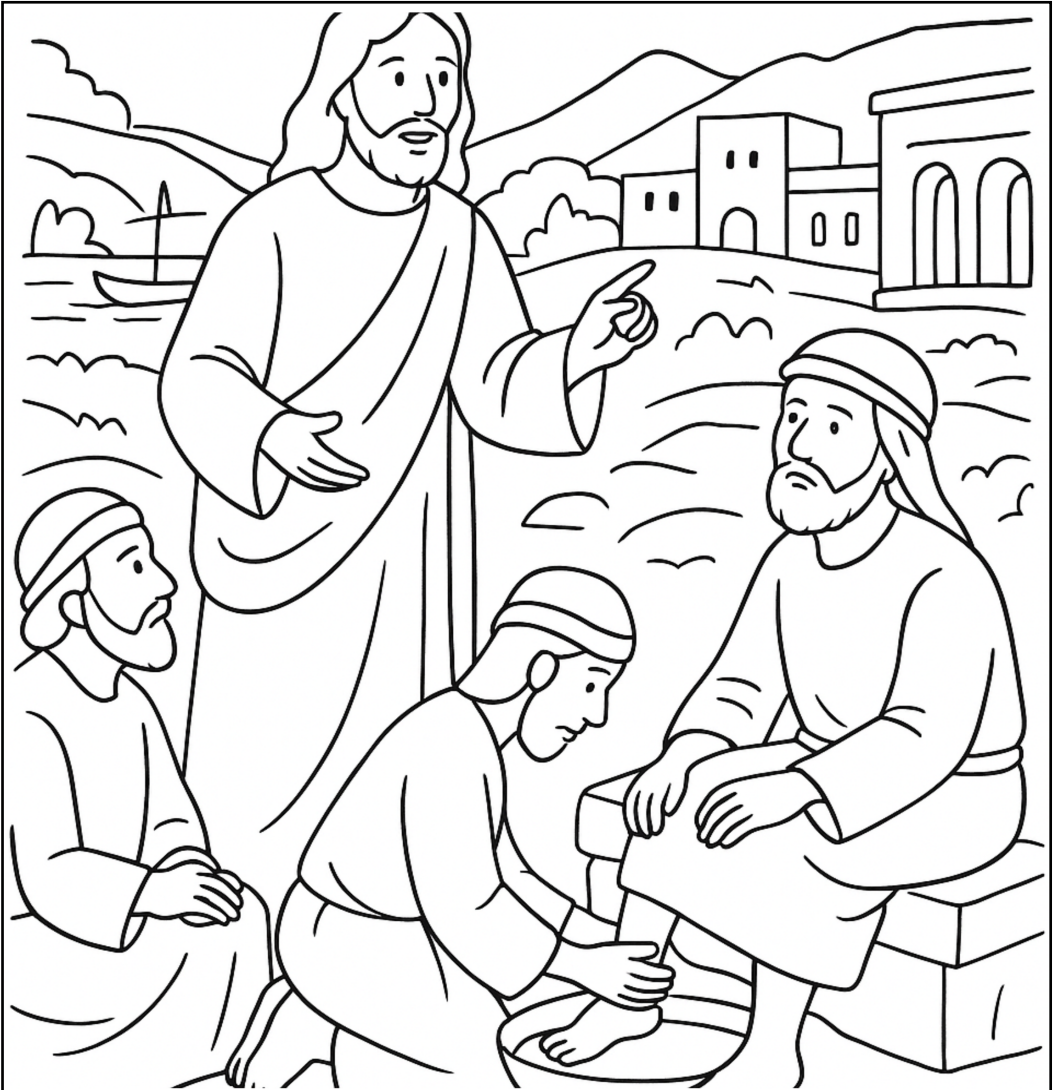
Second Reading

Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Children's Message

Young worshipers are invited to the front of the church for a Bible message just for them.



· **Gospel: Mark 10:35-45** ·

James and John ask for places of honor, but Jesus teaches that greatness means serving. He came not to be served, but to serve and give His life.

Prayer:

Jesus, teach me to serve like You. Amen.

Hymn: Beneath the Cross | Blue Hymnal 710



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I find a place to
2 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus his fam - 'ly is my
3 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus, the path be - fore the



stand, and won - der at such mer - cy that
own. Once stran - gers chas - ing self - ish dreams; now,
crown, we fol - low in his foot - steps where



calls me as I am; for hands that should dis -
one thro' grace a - lone. How could I now dis -
prom - ised hope is found. How great the joy be -



card me hold wounds which tell me, "Come." Be - neath the
hon - or the ones that you have loved? Be - neath the
fore us to be his per - fect bride. Be - neath the



cross of Je - sus my un - wor - thy soul is won.
cross of Je - sus see the chil - dren called by God.
cross of Je - sus we will glad - ly live our lives.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980

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The Heart of a Servant

³⁵Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

³⁶“What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

³⁷They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.”

³⁸“You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

³⁹“We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴²Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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Sermon study questions for Connect Group discussion, & for personal reflection:

1. According to Jesus, what does it mean to be “great” in his kingdom?
2. How is this different from the world’s definition of success, honor, or leadership?
3. What is a specific way you can be great this week?

Sermon notes:

Profession of Faith — Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.



Communion Liturgy

Leader: Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption. We bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth. We proclaim his death until he returns. We are brought into unity with God.

Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise God's holy name and join their glorious song.

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -

san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,

bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

The power of forgiveness in the Lord's Supper is in the promises of God's word. Therefore, the worship leader speaks the words that Jesus did when he first instituted the Lord's Supper.

Leader: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Group: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

The musical score is written on five staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, using eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The score ends with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

The Sacrament

In Holy Communion, we receive the forgiveness of our sins by eating and drinking the body and blood of Jesus Christ that has a holy union with the bread and wine.

By participating in Holy Communion, we also give a statement that we share a common faith with everyone at the Lord's table with us. For this reason, if you are not a member of Holy Word Lutheran Church or another WELS church or an ELS church, we ask that you would speak with one of our pastors or staff minister before you join with us in the sacrament. Please see our Scriptural explanation of our practice of Holy Communion on the page 23 for more information.

Distribution

Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our Gift of Thanks

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

During this time we collect financial offerings as gifts for the work of God at Holy Word. We will pass around the offering plates at this time. Anyone may also give online at www.holyword.net.

For your convenience, you may also scan the image printed here with your phone. This QR code will take you directly to the church offering website. Please include your contact information if you would like to receive a statement of giving receipt.



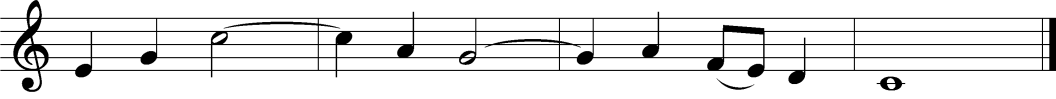
Blessing

Hymn: Lift High the Cross | Blue Hymnal 900

Refrain



Lift high the cross; the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
3 Let ev - 'ry race and ev - 'ry lan - guage tell
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
of him who saves our souls from death and hell.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.
Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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Holy Word Happenings



Volunteer Fair — Find Your Team!

Come to Holy Word's Volunteer Fair today after the worship service and enjoy food and fun while browsing service booths. Whether you love working with children, greeting guests, or helping behind the scenes, we have a ministry for YOU!

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Holy Word Early Learning Center Open House: Everyone is invited to HWELC's Open House! Meet our school families and take a peek at what the teachers are planning for the 2026-2027 school year!

When: Tomorrow, Sept 14, starting at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall.

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Divine Call — Joel Hering: Pastor Joel has received a Divine Call to serve as Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Rochester, Minnesota. The Hering family will take a few weeks to prayerfully deliberate about where God would have them best serve His Kingdom. Pastor Joel welcomes you to call or email him with any feedback or questions at joel@holyword.net.

Connect Group Events

New! 20s & 30s Connect Group: Young adults are invited to this *new* group meeting weekly on Tuesdays at the McKenna's home! This is a welcoming place to form and strengthen relationships, share life (and snacks!), and grow in faith together. We'll begin each week with time for fellowship, then spend time studying the Bible together!

When: Beginning this Tuesday, Sep 15, at 6:30pm

Where: Round Rock

Leaders: Brendan & Abbie McKenna abmckenna24@gmail.com

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Moms in the Word — Pizza & Craft Night

Calling all Moms! You are invited to a fun night of crafts, pizza and friendship on **Saturday, Sept 26, from 5-7pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We'll learn how to make custom patch hats, or bags if you are not a hat person. Please bring a hat / bag to decorate plus patches you like (available at Amazon and Hobby Lobby). Please RSVP to Amanda Hering 651-366-0971 or Hannah Roberts 920-253-0517.

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Women's Book Club: Enjoy friendship and fellowship as we discuss the book *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. We will meet at 7pm this Friday, Sept 18 at Sheena Walter's home in Austin. New members are always welcome. Contact Julie Wietzke at juliewtx@outlook.com to RSVP or for additional information.





Kids in Christ Fall Kick Off!

All K — 4th graders are invited to join Holy Word's Kids in Christ. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday during the school year. Bring your friends and join us for pizza, games and Bible study at the KIC Fall Kick Off next Sunday, Sept 20, from 4:30-6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please email Ms. Yessie at yessie@holyword.net for more information.

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Youth in the Middle Pool Party : All 5th thru 8th graders come join us for fun and fellowship at the Youth in the Middle Fall Kick Off Pool Party this Saturday, Sept 19, from 3:30-6pm at Adam & Becky Gould's house in Austin. Bring your swimsuit, a towel and sunscreen. Food will be provided. Please send questions and RSVP to Ms. Sallie at 512-709-7904.

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High School Youth: High school students are invited to join Holy Word's Youth in Christ (YIC). Led by Chad & Cindy White, we meet on Wednesday evenings during the school year at the White's house in Round Rock. For more information contact Mrs. White at 512-925-5583.



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How Do I see all the options and Sign Up for a Connect Group?



1. Scan this QR code or goto www.holyword.net/groups.
2. Find your Group(s)
3. Email the Leader



HWELC Happenings: Enjoy some Holy Word Early Learning Center updates in our weekly newsletter by scanning this QR code.



Aug 31 – Sept 3



HOLY WORD ANNIVERSARIES:

Greg and Rachel Driver 09/17/20



HOLY WORD BIRTHDAYS:

Eilidh Stephenson	09/14
Megan Sumbillo	09/14
Mason Hufford	09/16
Micheal Colmenero	09/16
Chad White	09/16
Eric Vignaud	09/17
Molly Stelljes	09/18
Andrew Michelson	09/19
Karen Timmerman	09/19
Sheena Walter	09/19

THIS WEEK AT HOLY WORD

MONDAY

5:00 pm HWELC Back to School Open House

TUESDAY

10:00 am Women's Online Bible Study (Online)

6:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Gebert)

6:30 pm 20s & 30s Connect Group (McKenna's house)

WEDNESDAY

6:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast (Jim's Restaurant)

6:30 pm Youth in Christ Movie Night (White's house)

7:00 pm Hymn Sing (Sanctuary)

7:00 pm Men's Evening Bible Study (Conference Room)

FRIDAY

10:30 am Friday South Austin Bible Study (Siirila's house)

7:00pm Women's Book Club (Sheena Walter's house)

SATURDAY

3:30pm Youth in the Middle Pool Party (Gould's house)

SUNDAY

9:30 am Worship

11:00 am Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Young Professionals Bible Study (Conference Room)

Teen Bible Study (Childcare Center Classroom)

Catechism Class (Childcare Center Classroom)

Kids Bible Study (Childcare Center Classroom)

4:30 pm Kids in Christ (Fellowship Hall)

About the Lord's Supper: Whenever we receive the Lord's Supper, we want to remember three important Scriptural truths:



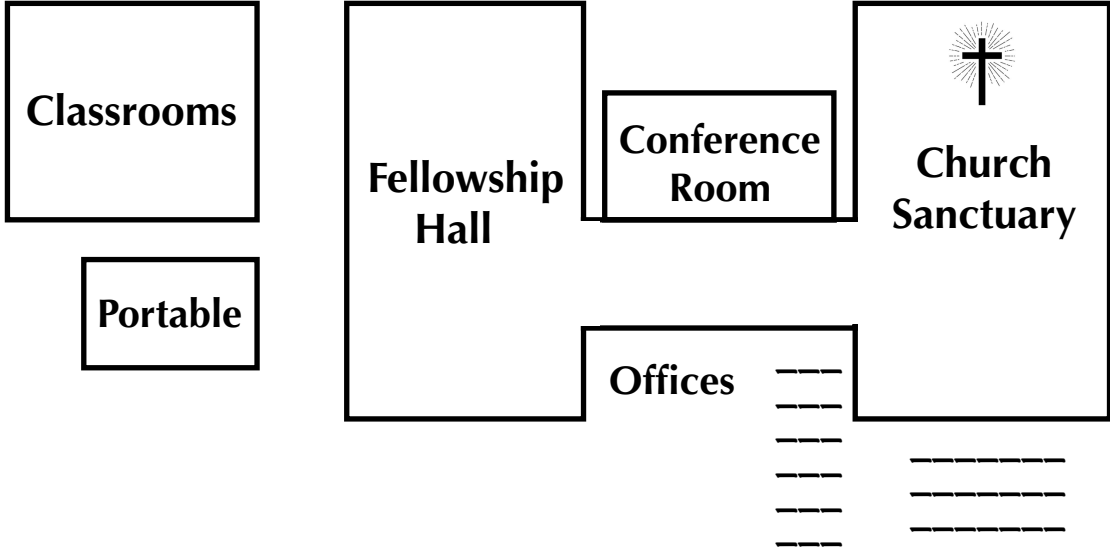
- 1) **The body and blood of Christ are really present** with the bread and wine. This is not a mere representation but the actual body and blood of Christ. (1 Corinthians 11:27)
- 2) In the Lord's Supper Jesus gives each of us the **forgiveness** of all our sins. The supper is not merely a symbol of forgiveness but in the supper, Jesus actually gives his forgiveness to us. (Matthew 26:28)
- 3) When we take the Lord's Supper **we are united** in a special way to everyone else taking it because we all partake of the one body and blood of Christ together. (1 Corinthians 10:17)

These three teachings are very dear to us. We know that not all Christians believe these truths about the Lord's Supper. If you are a member of another Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS) or an Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) church, we assume that you believe these truths. If you are a member of another Christian church body, please talk to our pastors about your faith regarding these truths **before** you take the Sacrament.

Also, if you do not yet have faith in Jesus as your Savior, our Lord wants you to come to faith in him before taking his Sacrament.

We are careful about the Lord's Supper because we want to humbly accept his gift in the way God intended. Thank you for patiently respecting our Scriptural practice.

Holy Word Campus Map



- Young Professionals Bible Study — Conference Room
- Adult Bible Study — Fellowship Hall
- Moms in the Word — Classrooms
- Teen Bible Study — Classrooms
- Catechism Class — Classrooms
- Kids Bible Study — Classrooms