



# Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

## May 2021 Newsletter

*"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." [Saint John 10:27]*

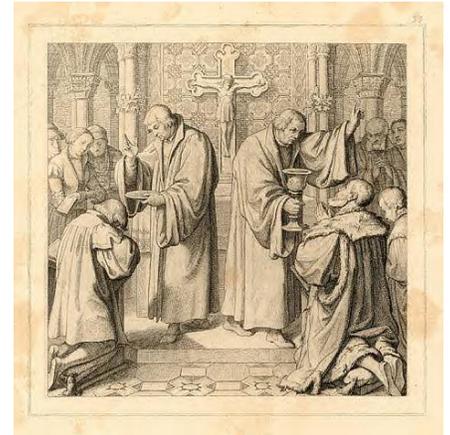


Dear Children of God:

Members in the past, present and probably in the future have asked me an interesting question. *"Why does the Pastor commune himself rather than having the elder commune him?"* This is a valid question considering that the custom at many congregations is having an elder distribute the Sacrament to the Pastor.

I have visited many congregations over the years and from personal experience I have seen that the majority of the time, an elder, or someone else from the congregation has communed the pastor. Since Scripture speaks only to the institution of the Lord's Supper and to who is worthy or unworthy, the practice of the pastor communing himself is an indifferent matter (adiaphora) and is permissible.

Back to the question of "Why do I commune myself?" The main reason that I do is historically, it was the Church's practice. There is not much in terms of documented evidence, but the evidence that is available comes from two of our noble church fathers, Martin Luther, and Martin Chemnitz. They both demonstrate that the pastor either was communed by another pastor or he communed himself.



The first mention regarding this practice comes from the one of the fathers of the church named Cyprian. At the time of Cyprian, who was martyred in 258 A.D., he wrote, "the celebrant received the elements first, after him the other clergy, then the laity, first the men and then the women." It should be noted that the no pastor gave the elements to anyone until he himself communed.

Although Cyprian's explicit mention of the celebrant's self-communion is comparatively late, it should be remembered that Cyprian was a determined traditionalist whatever his shortcomings, a lust for novelty was not among them. From that standpoint, it is reasonable to assume that the use he refers to was customary already when he wrote and had been for some time previous.

Without being too verbose and going through all the years from Cyprian to the Reformation I will now turn to Luther and his comments on the subject. In *"An Order of Mass and Communion for the Church at Wittenberg"* (1523) Luther writes, "Then, while the Agnus Dei is sung, let him (the celebrant) communicate, first himself and then the people." Again, "The bishop should also be free to decide on the order in which he will receive and administer both species. He may choose to bless both bread and wine before he takes the bread. Or else he may, between the blessing of the bread and of the wine, give the bread both to himself and to as many as desire it, then bless the wine and administer it to all."

Martin Chemnitz, who took over the reins of defending the faith after Luther also judges it proper if "the minister who communicates others also himself eats of that bread and drinks of that cup." Lastly, C.F.W. Walther, the founder of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod cites Gerhard, Carpzov, Brachman and Quenstedt (Other Lutheran Theologians) as at least allowing self-communion "if no other pastor can be found."

Most of you who have listened to my discussions on the liturgy know that I, as well as many other pastors in our Synod, do almost everything for a reason. If Scripture is silent on the subject, I then turn to the early church fathers, especially Martin Luther. As I said at the beginning of this article, an elder may give communion to the pastor without offense, but I feel more comfortable communing myself for the reasons stated above. I hope this answers the question, and I encourage you to ask me any other questions regarding doctrine or practice. Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this particular question.

May God bless our mothers this coming Mother's Day, as well as all our graduates. God be with you all.

**By the way, do not forget to attend the Divine Service on The Day of the Ascension which takes places on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.**

LTJ,

Pastor Zimmer

\*\*\*\*\*

### [The Blessing of Godly Stewardship – May 2021](#)

One of the best and beloved psalms is **Psalm 23**, the Psalm of The Good Shepherd. We learn that Jesus Christ is our shepherd and we will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. The Lord, our shepherd, will provide for all that we need both in body and soul.

**We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. Thus, we live as though the Lord is not our shepherd, as though we are not the Lord's sheep.**

**How do we do this?** We do it when we put anything else above Him and His provisions for us. We continuously place our importance on things of this world rather than receiving the gifts that He won for us on the cross. This is a violation of the First and Third Commandments. Do we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we do not trust that God will provide all that we need? Do we look the other way when our neighbor is in need? We fail because we have a mind set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We do this because we close our ears when the Shepherd speaks to us through his Word. The promise is sure: *"Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ."* Romans 10:17

**Through the Word of God our Shepherd calls us to Himself as the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through that Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith.** The faith that ables us to follow our Shepherd wherever He leads us. **He promises to lead you to your true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, the heavenly kingdom reserved for you.**

Thank you for our earthly fathers through whom You have given us life. *" Listen to your father, who gave you life."* Proverbs 23:22

The Lord is always remaining your Shepherd even when you, the sheep go astray. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. **Can you think of someone whom you could invite or encourage to enter the sheepfold at the Divine Service so that they too may hear the voice of the Good Shepherd?** *"And we urge you brothers, warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone."* I Thes. 3:14

**Our Good Shepherd is the Shepherd that lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your shepherd! By His grace and mercy, let us live then as His sheep.**



### **Week of May 2-8**

Sun, May 2, 9:00 am Divine Service  
Sun, May 2, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School

### **Week of May 9-15**

Sun, May 9, 9:00 am Divine Service  
Sun, May 9, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School  
Sun, May 9, Mother's Day  
Mon, May 10, 7:00 pm Elders Meeting  
Tue, May 11, 12:05 pm Altar Guild Meeting  
Tue, May 11, 1:00 pm Women' Bible Study  
Thu, May 13, 6:30 pm Divine Ascension Service  
Sat, May 15, 10:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

### **Week of May 16- 22**

Sun, May 16, 9:00 am Divine Service  
Sun, May 16, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School  
Mon May 17, 7:00 pm Council Meeting

### **Week of May 23-29**

Sun, May 23, 9:00 am Divine Service  
Sun, May 23, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School

### **Week of May 30-31**

Sun, May 30, 9:00 am Divine Service  
Sun, May 30, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School  
Mon, May 31 Memorial Day

### **Ascension Service**

Join us Thursday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m. for a festive Divine Service celebrating The Ascension of Our Lord. This festival celebrates Christ's bodily ascension into heaven and its implications for us, God's people.

### **Piano Dedication:**

On Sunday, May 16 at 3:00 PM there will be the dedication of a 1949 Steinway Grand Piano at St. John Lutheran Church in Sycamore. The concert will be performed by Dr. Mark Laverty and last about 1.5 hours with a reception to follow. All are welcome. Contact Pastor Mumme for more information.

## **May Birthdays**

13 Ron Ruisz  
14 Teresa Pape  
16 Barb Potempa  
26 Bobbie Light  
31 Keith Fox



## **May Baptismal Anniversaries**

03 Laverne Stephens  
04 Paul Edgar  
07 Terry Donaldson  
10 Patricia Lewis  
13 Edward Cruz  
22 Christine Stocker  
25 Adam Wuthenow  
27 Robin Wise  
?? Michael Collins



## **May Wedding Anniversaries**

31 Terry & Colleen Donaldson

## **Ladies Aid**

The Ladies Aid Rummage (Garage) Sale is returning the week of June 20. Since last year's sale was cancelled due to Covid 19, we should all have collected kitchen items, office materials, clothing, crafts, bedding, and linen items that are just what we need for the rummage Sale. Your friends and relatives will also have items to dispose of, so do not forget to spread the word that the sale is coming.



It seems like 25 cents to \$1.00 items will not amount to much, but you would be surprised to know just how much these sales have brought to provide for the necessary repairs and new items needed for the church.

If you have a folding table that you would not mind loaning us for that week, please let Karen Moritz or Judy Yuenger know. We have found that overcrowded tables hinder sales, so we would appreciate the use of your tables.

Please join us at our meeting at **10:00 am on May 15**. There is a lot to be done prior to the sale and the more help we have the better.

## Congregational Meeting

Congregational Meeting took place Sunday (April 25). The meeting agenda was provided via email. Since this meeting had some very significant items, I have decided to place the information in the newsletter.

- The congregation voted (15 Yeas/ 9 Nays) and the motion was passed to have Talma's ashes buried in the flower garden near Luther hall.
- Another motion was unanimously Yeas and motion passed that no other member or person shall be buried/or spread of ashes on Divine Shepherd Property
- Steeple will be placed in the front of the church; this project will be communicated to the congregation before starting
  - We understand JULIE will need to be called out before we do any digging
  - This will be a large hole, need cement and a crane to move the steeple
- The Tree near Luther Hall entrance will be removed within the next month or two
  - When this removal takes place, we will communicate to all as we do not want anyone at the church during the time of removal for safety purposes
- A motion was made to sell the property behind the shed (southern part of the church land) 33,000 sq. ft and was unanimously passed
  - An email has gone out to Lakeview Properties (Frank and Steve) informing that we had agreed to sell the land on a few contingencies
    - Lakeview pay for Divine Shepherd's attorney fees to have the legal documents reviewed
    - Lakeview to pay any fees (government or otherwise) in obtaining the land
    - if a cell tower is placed on the land that the monthly residual funds be split equally
- Streaming of the LIVE service will be stopping in the next month or two
  - more information on this will be provided as we get closer to stopping the LIVE streaming
- Coffee/Juice and treats will be provided after service

- A sign-up sheet has been posted. If no one signs up for that week there will be no treats
- Also, help with clean-up will be needed

As always if you would like to provide any feedback/suggestions on any church items the council and myself would like to hear them,

Sincerely Yours in Christ,  
Ed Cruz, Chairman [Chairman@ds-lcms.org](mailto:Chairman@ds-lcms.org)

## Coins for Caring Network



Caring Network (formerly CareNet Pregnancy Services) provides support, medical care, material goods, and mentoring to pregnant women, often in need. Divine Shepherd is once again participating in their annual "Coins for Caring Network" drive. To help, pick up a baby bottle from the narthex beginning on or after Mother's Day, fill with coins, dollars, or a check payable to Caring Network, and return it to church on or before Father's Day. Thanks.

## Altar Flowers



The 2021 flower charts are posted. If you would like to contribute flowers to help beautify the sanctuary on a Lord's Day, please add your name to any open Sunday on the flower charts.

**Ruth Ogden** will do two altar bouquets for \$25-\$30. If you sign up, **Karen** will contact you to get your flower request, and a brief note to place in the worship bulletin. When the worship service is over, you are welcome to take your bouquets home.

## Congratulations Graduates

**Paul Edgar** – high school  
128 Juliana Dr. #1 Wood Dale, IL 60191

**Michael Collins** will graduate from IL State University with a degree in Business  
13536 Arborview Cir. Plainfield, IL 60535

We are encouraging the congregation to send cards to our graduates.

## Sunday Treats

Do you enjoy treats and fellowship after Sunday services? If so, please consider signing up on any given Sunday(s). Why not sign up with a friend?



*Empty slots mean no treats.* To enable our diabetic members to enjoy these treats, please consider supplementing some of the “sugary goodies” with crackers and cheese and/or fruit. The signup sheet is posted on the Luther Hall bulletin board. Monetary donations are accepted to defray the cost of drinks and paper products, which are supplied by Ladies Aid.



## THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

Directing Choice Dollars is a great way for eligible Thrivent members to show support for what matters most to them. If you have not given your Choice Dollars to Divine Shepherd, please do so. \$1290 has been deposited since January.

## Prayer Chain



Several members are part of a church prayer chain. If you (men or women) would like to join them in praying for our congregation’s special needs, please contact Bobbie Light at **630-251-7860** or **Karen Moritz at 630-759-3188**

## Important Phone Numbers

**Church office: 630-759-5300**  
**Pastor Zimmer: 583-880-9532**  
**Prayer Chain: 630-251-7860 (Bobbie Light)**  
**Newsletter info: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)**  
*(items are due May 24)*

## Benefit Mobile

Sign up via [benefit-mobile.com](http://benefit-mobile.com) and designate Divine shepherd as your charitable organization. Then download the app (Apple or Android). Benefit Mobile purchases qualify for our 50 % cash back rebate. Purchased gift cards are electronic instead and can be used immediately. You may also send these as a gift to an email account

## Amazon Smile

Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), select Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook as your charitable organization begin each of your purchases at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), and Amazon will do the rest. Our congregation will receive 0.5% of every Amazon Smile purchase made.



Shop with Scrip cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion Next order date is May 16. Pre-purchased card are available after Sunday services and forms are on the cabinet by Luther Hall’s outside door. These cards make many of the Ladies Aid projects possible, and best of all they do not cost members anything beyond the face-value amount. Script pays us to use their service. What is more, many of these cards can be reloaded so do not have to continually buy new cards.

**Note: make checks payable to Ladies Aid of Divine Shepherd**

*Your Organization:*

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church – Manna

*Your Coordinator: Lisa Cruz*

630-636-6359 • [dslcmanna@yahoo.com](mailto:dslcmanna@yahoo.com)

[shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com)

*Your Enrollment Code:*

B2LD2C7A55973

## Follow Us on Social Media

Follow us on social media to keep up to date with church happenings and events, find a variety of new and old congregational photos, and read inspirational posts and quotes from Holy Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and various Christians throughout the centuries.

Facebook: [fb.me/DSLcBolingbrook](https://fb.me/DSLcBolingbrook)

Twitter: @dslc60440



You are invited to listen to Issues, Etc. — the radio voice of the Lutheran faith for the 21st century. Listen live (3:00-5:00pm CST) or at your leisure via the following options (go to [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org) and click on the ‘listen’ tab for specific options).

### A Mother’s Day Blessing



If God has given you the blessing of being a mom, He has given you the promise that you will not be alone in doing it. You are the everyday hero, and He is the divine power that will give you everything you need the moment you need it.

May His grace, peace, and love surround you this Mother’s Day, making you feel as special – and exceptional – as you truly are.

Into a precious vessel God pours tenderness, and love, an understanding heart, and all the joy a child dreams of. He gives her His compassion and kindness like no other, then wraps her in a quiet strength and gently calls, her Mother

### Strength Through Prayer

When worn by toils of busy day  
Christ found it always good to pray.

In solitude He sought a place  
to talk with God and seek His grace.  
So, when I’m weary, worn, or weak,  
continually His face I’ll seek!

In secret prayer, O blest retreat,  
we need not ever know defeat.  
New strength for tasks, both great and small,  
is promised those who on Him call.  
So, when I’m weary, worn or weak,  
continually His face I’ll seek.

“And he spake a parable unto them  
to this end, that men ought always  
to pray, and not to faint.”

Luke 18:1

### Memorial Day Prayer

Dear Father,

We remember those who have served our country with honor and devotion, especially those who have given their lives. We praise You for all the blessings that we enjoy as a result of their sacrifice, including peace, liberty, security and the freedom we have to worship You.

Please stretch forth Your caring arms to preserve those who are now serving in the military. Support them and their families in times of danger and protect them as they face the unknown. In Christ’s name we pray – Amen. (Portals of Prayer)

Please remember all military personal and their families in your prayers.



### A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Father, we are overwhelmed by Your bounteous love and mercy. You have provided us with food, homes, clothing, family, friends, and freedoms. You have blessed us with Your Word. Through Baptism, we are blessed to be Your children. We have this blessing of forgiveness from Your Son, through His body and blood. We are blessed to receive the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. Thank You for all of these blessings. Amen.

*Praise the Lord, all nations;  
laud Him, all peoples! For His  
loving kindness is great toward us.  
(Psalm 117:1-2)*

