

A Service of Word and Table



in celebration of the relationship of
interim eucharistic sharing between

The United Methodist Church
and

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Sunday, September 10, 2006
7 p.m.



Saint Paul United Methodist Church
Lincoln, Nebraska

Interim Eucharistic Sharing

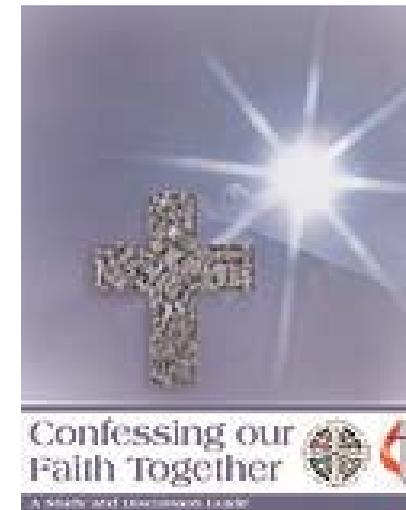
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and The United Methodist Church have joined in an interim Eucharistic sharing agreement.

The two churches pledge to engage in mutual prayer and mutual support, study together of the Holy Scriptures as well as the histories and theological traditions of both churches, and joint programs of theological discussion, evangelical outreach and social ministry endeavors.

The agreement also encourages joint services of Holy Communion following guidelines established by both churches and looks forward to the future possibility of a relationship of full communion.

A study guide, *Confessing our Faith Together*, may be downloaded from: General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (UMC) www.gccuic.org or

Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations (ELCA) www.elca.org/ecumenical/resources/topical_index.html



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Sending Forth

- ◆ HYMN 344 "Lord You Have Come to the Lakeshore"
- ◆ DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING
Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Amen.

RECESSIONAL AND POSTLUDE "Fanfare" William Mathias

GOING FORTH

*You are invited to gather after the service for fellowship
in the Bevins Family Life Center.*

Participants
Celebrants:

Bishop Ann Brookshire Sherer
Nebraska Area, The United Methodist Church

Bishop David L. deFreese

Nebraska Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Host Pastor: Rev. Dr. David Lux, Saint Paul United Methodist Church

Cantor: Rev. Stephen Griffith, Saint Paul United Methodist Church

Organist: James J. Lytton, Director, Lincoln Lutheran Choir

The tryptich banners were created by the Rev. Doyle Burbank Williams. The one to the east suggests the Presence of God spiraling over the waters at Creation. The west banner suggests the second creation and second birth in Christ. Again the Wind-Spirit broods over the waters of baptism bringing new life. These were created for the UM Annual Conference session held in June.

Thank you to Saint Paul Church for hosting the service.

A Service of Word and Table

Entrance

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Prelude and Fugue in G Minor" Dietrich Buxtehude

- ◆ GREETING
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
The Risen Christ is with us.
Praise the Lord!

◆ PROCESSIONAL HYMN 110 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

- ◆ OPENING PRAYER *(together)*
**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(please be seated)

Proclamation and Response

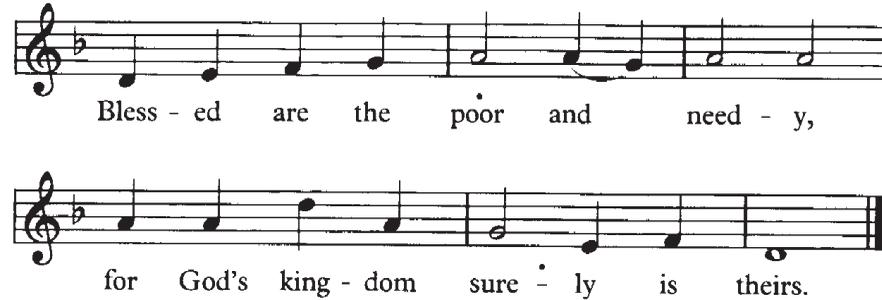
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your
Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word
proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.
Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

Response:



SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:1-6

◆ HYMN 545

"The Church's One Foundation"

◆ GOSPEL READING

Matthew 20:20-28

SERMON

"The Gospel Really Is Good News"
Bishop David L. deFreese

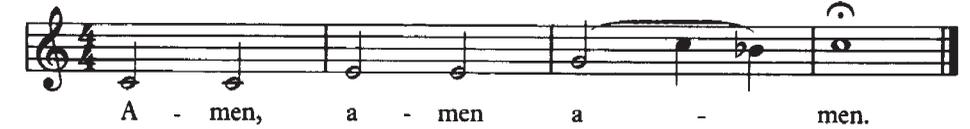
Response to the Word

◆ THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**
**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Elise Eslinger



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THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

The bishops break the bread while saying:

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The
bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The bishops lift the cup while saying:

The cup over which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The bread and wine are given to the people, with these words being exchanged:
The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

*We will receive by intinction. The stations to the right will serve grape
juice; those to the left, wine. During the giving, you are invited to join in
singing of hymns: 618, 384, 139, 620, 57, 102*

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread,
gave thanks to you,
broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you,
gave it to his disciples,
and said: “Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Elise Eslinger

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

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Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

After each petition: Leader: Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly
repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All pray in silence.

Leader to people:

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People to leader:

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Leader and people:

Glory to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.
All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

OFFERING

As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Tonight's offering will benefit The Food Bank of Lincoln

Offertory "Chorale-Prelude: A Mighty Fortress" Dietrich Buxtehude

The bread and wine are brought by representatives of the people to the Lord's Table.

Thanksgiving and Communion

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

*The bishops take the bread and cup,
and the bread and wine are prepared for the meal.*

◆ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The Risen Christ is with us.

Praise the Lord!

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere
to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

We give thanks that in the fullness of this time,
we can come together as two churches—The Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America and The United Methodist Church—as a symbol of
the unity of your body, called into mission and ministry together.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Elise Eslinger
(after NICAEA)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.