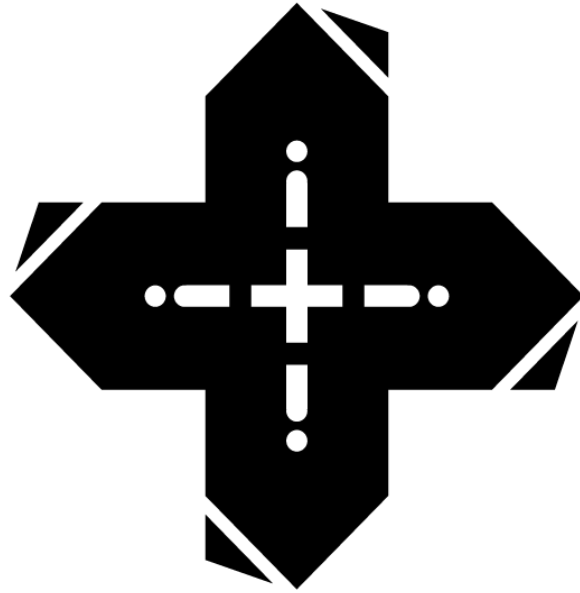


**Connecting Christ. Creating Community.**



**HUNTERSVILLE**  
*Lutheran Church*

**SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST**  
**09.12.21**



# Huntersville Lutheran

*A Changeless Message for  
A Changing Community*

Worshipping at the Seven Oaks 19725 Oak St. Cornelius, NC

Worship @ 9:30am

Pastor@huntersvillelc.com | huntersvillelc.com | 248-807-3057

**W**elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Our service is centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the dead so that we would have eternal life in him. God reveals this soul saving message in his Word. We gather to find strength though God's powerful and holy Word. Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the order of service, readings, and hymns, and fill out the take action card. May God bless our time together this morning.

## About Our Worship

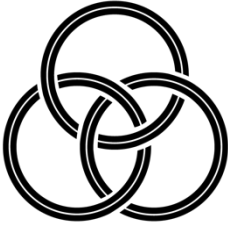
The gospel is the good news about what Jesus did to be the Savior for sinners. It is also the power of God—the very thing he uses to work faith in our hearts and transform our lives. Therefore, gospel-centered worship places the gospel in central focus. This order of service is called the liturgy. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Gospel-centered worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children).

## For Your Convenience

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway at the rear of the building. Simply follow the arrows once you are in the hallway.

## Service Participants

Rev Doug Van Sice, *pastor of Huntersville Lutheran*  
Andrea Van Sice, *keyboardist*



## ORDER OF SERVICE

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*From beginning to end, the Gospel—the good news of what Jesus did for sinners—is the central focus in our worship. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. This is because the Gospel is the very thing that God uses to transform hearts and eternities, creating saving faith in the heart of the believer. God bless our worship this morning.*

### **Opening Hymn | *Fight the Good Fight* |**

- 1. Fight the good fight with all your might;  
Christ is your strength and Christ you light.  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Your joy and crown eternally.**
- 2. Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
Life up your eyes and seek his face.  
Life with its way before us lies;  
Christ is the path and Christ the prize.**
- 3. Cast care aside, lean on your guide;  
His boundless mercy will provide.  
Lean, and the trusting soul shall prove  
Christ is the life and Christ its love.**
- 4. Faint not nor fear; His arms are near.  
He changes not, and you are dear.  
Only believe, and you will see  
That Christ is Lord eternally.**

## Invocation

**L** In the name of the Father and of the Son  $\text{✝}$  and of the Holy Spirit.<sup>1</sup>

**C** Amen.

## Confession of Sins

**L** Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**C** Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

**L** Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C** Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

**L** God, our merciful Father, as forgiven all your sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**C** Amen.

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<sup>1</sup> The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshippers of their baptisms.

## Lord, Have Mercy | *Kyrie*<sup>2</sup> |

**L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Christ, have mercy.

**L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Glory be to God | *Gloria*<sup>3</sup> |

1. All glory be to God on high!  
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;  
We praise you for your peace and grace,  
Your favor toward our fallen race.

2. Our grateful thanks to you we bring,  
For your great glory, heav'nly King,  
For all, O Father, you have done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son

3. O Lamb of God, to you we pray.  
You take all human sin away.  
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;  
From God's right hand, your mercy share.

4. You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;  
The Father's glory you made known.  
We by your Spirit sing again:  
"All glory be to God!" Amen.

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<sup>2</sup> The word *Kyrie* is a Greek word from the phrase *Kyrie Elieson* which means, "Lord, have mercy!" This is the most heartfelt cry of a believer to his Lord. It is not a cry for forgiveness, but a cry for mercy that our Lord and King hear us and help us in our necessities and trouble. This morning, may it be our heartfelt cry to our Lord and King.

<sup>3</sup> This ancient song of the church gets its name from its first few words in Latin: *Gloria in Excelsis Deo!* This was the greatest song of praise ever heard on earth. An angel choir sang it in the Judean sky the night Jesus was born (Luke 2:14). This song has been sung in Christian churches for 1500 years. As Martin Luther once said, "This ancient song did grow, nor was it made, but it came from heaven."



## THE WORD

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### Prayer of the Day

**L** Let us pray:

O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Children's Message

#### First Reading | *1 Kings 18:16-39* |

<sup>16</sup> So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah. <sup>17</sup> When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?"

<sup>18</sup> "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the LORD's commands and have followed the Baals. <sup>19</sup> Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

<sup>20</sup> So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup> Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

But the people said nothing.

<sup>22</sup> Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. <sup>23</sup> Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. <sup>24</sup> Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire—he is God."

Then all the people said, "What you say is good."

<sup>25</sup> Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." <sup>26</sup> So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

<sup>27</sup> At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." <sup>28</sup> So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. <sup>29</sup> Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

<sup>30</sup> Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. <sup>31</sup> Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." <sup>32</sup> With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. <sup>33</sup> He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

<sup>34</sup> "Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. <sup>35</sup> The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

<sup>36</sup> At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. <sup>37</sup> Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

<sup>38</sup> Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

<sup>39</sup> When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!"

**L** "The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 46

- L** God is our refuge and strength,
- C** **An ever-present help in trouble.**
- L** Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
- C** **And the mountains fall into the echart of the sea,**
- L** Though its waters roar and foam
- C** **And the mountains quake with their surging.**
- L** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
- C** **The holy place where the Most High dwells.**
- L** God is within her, she will not fall;
- C** **God will help her at break of day.**
- L** "Be still and know that I am God;
- C** **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."**

## Second Reading | *Ephesians 6:10-18* |

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

- L** The Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**



## The Gospel

**L** The Gospel according to Mark, chapter nine.

<sup>14</sup> When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. <sup>15</sup> As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

<sup>16</sup> "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked.

<sup>17</sup> A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. <sup>18</sup> Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not."

<sup>19</sup> "You unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me."

<sup>20</sup> So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

<sup>21</sup> Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?"

"From childhood," he answered. <sup>22</sup> "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

<sup>23</sup> "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

<sup>24</sup> Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

<sup>25</sup> When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

<sup>26</sup> The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead." <sup>27</sup> But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

**L** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to you, O Christ.

## Hymn of the Day | *O Church Arise* |

- 1. O Church Arise and put your armour on  
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.  
For now the weak can say that they are strong  
In the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth  
We'll stand against the devil's lies.  
An army bold whose battle-cry is Love  
Reaching out to those in darkness.**
- 2. Our call to war to love the captive soul  
But to rage against the captor.  
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole  
We will fight with faith and valour.  
When faced with trials on every side  
We know the outcome is secure.  
And Christ will have the prize for which He died  
An inheritance of nations.**
- 3. Come see the cross where love and mercy meet  
As the Son of God is stricken  
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet  
For the Conqueror has risen  
And as the stone is rolled away  
And Christ emerges from the grave  
This victory march continues till the day  
Every eye and heart shall see Him**
- 4. So Spirit come put strength in every stride  
Give grace for every hurdle  
That we may run with faith to win the prize  
Of a servant good and faithful  
As saints of old still line the way  
Retelling triumphs of His grace  
We hear their calls and hunger for the day  
When with Christ we stand in glory**

# Sermon | *Your Savior is Stronger than Your Doubt* |

*Mark 9:14-27*

## Personal Sermon Notes

## **Confession 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 fully 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. From there he will come 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.**

# THANKSGIVING

**Offering |** The members of Huntersville Lutheran have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you would like to give digitally, text any dollar amount to **84321**. Easy to follow instructions will be sent to your phone to complete your digital offering. Guests, you are welcome to participate in supporting our ministry, but certainly do not feel obligated.

**Connect Cards |** In your service folder, you will find *Connect Cards*. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment and fill it out completely to give us a record of your attendance. In addition, you may request prayers be said on your behalf today. Place your *Connect Card* in the offering plate by the door on your way out.

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

- ☐ **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.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**



# THE SACRAMENT

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*Huntersville Lutheran practices close communion, which means biblical conversation and confession with our church beforehand. It is our desire to share in the eternal blessings of this Sacrament according to the instructions that God himself gives. If you are new to Huntersville Lutheran, please know that many of those around you were at one time new, too. And, as you can see by their presence, this preliminary discussion has only brought us closer together to celebrate the Lord's Supper in the way he has prescribed. Contact our pastor at any time.*

## Introduction to the Lord's Supper

- L** Everyone ought to examine their hearts before partaking of the Lord's Supper. *1 Corinthians 11:28*
- C** **I confessed my transgressions to the Lord and he forgave the guilt of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*
- L** Everyone ought to recognize the true body and blood of the Lord in this Supper. *1 Corinthians 11:29*
- C** **The bread that we break and the cup that we bless are a participation in the body and blood of Christ.** *1 Corinthians 10:16*
- L** Those partaking of the Lord's Supper are to be united in fellowship as one body.
- C** **Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.** *1 Corinthians 10:17*

## The Words of Institution

- L** 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.

- C** **Amen.**

## Lamb of God | *Angus Dei* |

Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

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

## Distribution

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<sup>4</sup> John the Baptist declared Jesus to be the Lamb of God (*Angus Dei*), the sacrifice for sins, once for all. We join countless Christians in singing these words before receiving the very thing in this Supper that these words promise, sins taken away through the blood of Jesus.

## The Lord's Blessing

☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24*

☑ Amen.

## Song of Departure | *Your Hand, O Lord, In Days of Old* |



1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old Was  
2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health, Gave  
3 Oh, be our great de - liv - 'rer still, The



strong to heal and save; It tri - umphed o'er dis -  
speech and strength and sight; And youth re - newed and  
Lord of life and death; Re - store and quick - en,



ease and death, All dark - ness and the grave. To  
fren - zy calmed Re - vealed you, Lord of light. And  
soothe and bless, With your life - giv - ing breath. To



you they came, the blind, the dumb, The par - a -  
now, O Lord, be near to bless, Al - might - y  
hands that work and eyes that see Give wis - dom's



lyzed and lame, The lep - ers in their  
as be - fore, In crowd - ed street, by  
heal - ing pow'r That whole and sick and



mis - er - y, The sick with fe - vered frame.  
beds of pain, As by Gen - nes - 'ret's shore.  
weak and strong May praise you ev - er - more.



# Announcements

**Thank You |** You could have chosen to be anywhere this morning and you chose to spend it here, so thank you. To our guests and visitors this morning, we pray your time with us has been enjoyable. If you have any questions, feel free to speak with any of our members or pastor after the service.

**Want to Learn More? |** Aside from worship, one of the best way to learn more about Scripture and Huntersville Lutheran teaches is to join a Faithbuilders class. Faithbuilders is a class on the basics of Christianity and is our path to membership at HLC. Whether you are brand new to Christianity or a life-long believer, this class is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen your faith and grow in your relationship with your Savior. If you are interested in joining or have any questions, please contact Pastor ([pastor@huntersvillelc.com](mailto:pastor@huntersvillelc.com)).

**New Bible Study Starts Today! |** A new bible study starts today after worship. For the next 6 weeks, we are going to explore at Idols We Never Knew We Had. Bible study will begin five minutes after worship has concluded.

**Theology on Tap |** Join us Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, for a new Bible Study called Theology on Tap. It will be held in the back room of Primal Brewery starting at 7pm. We will meet for around an hour for an informal bible study. If you would like to partake in some of Primal's delicious beer, please arrive a few minutes early to order some.

**Congregational Meeting |** On Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will have another a congregational update meeting. This meeting will take the place of Bible Study and happen right after worship. We will give a financial update, an update on the land, and talk about a restructuring of leadership duties at HLC.

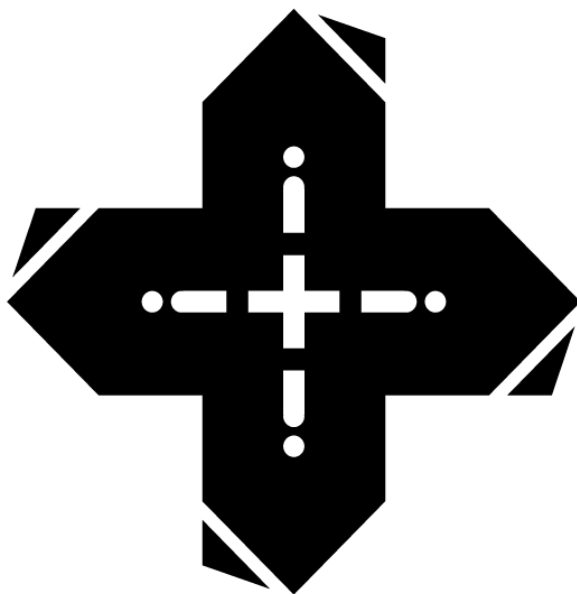
## **Communion at Huntersville Lutheran**

We believe what God's Word says. God's Word clearly teaches that along with the bread and wine we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26, 28; Mark 14:22, 24; Luke 22:19-22). Communion is important to us at Huntersville Lutheran and we seek to honor the biblical view of communion. Before coming up for communion, all adults should ask themselves these questions:

1. Do you confess your sins and seek to turn away from the sins you confessed?
2. Do you recognize that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the only way sin is forgiven?
3. Do you recognize that in the Sacrament of Communion you receive Jesus' true body and blood along with the bread and the wine?
4. Do you believe that the Bible *IS* God's inspired Word and does not just contain some truths of God?
5. Do you believe that Huntersville Lutheran Church teaches only the truth of God based on His inspired Word? (A summary of these teachings is taught in Faithbuilders, a class that runs multiple times throughout the year.)

We ask that those who have not had the opportunity to understand our Scriptural confession and are unsure of the answers to the above questions would speak with the pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. It is our sincere desire to share in the blessings of the Lord's Supper with you according to the pattern Jesus himself has given in his Word.





# HUNTERSVILLE

*Lutheran Church*



**WELS**  
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

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