

July 17, 2011

WELCOME to Apostles Lutheran Church! This congregation is a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). We believe and teach that the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, and the only means by which God has revealed the way of salvation, which is in Jesus Christ. We pray that this hour will refresh your heart as God draws you closer to Himself.

***The works of the LORD are great,  
studied by all who have pleasure in them  
(Psalm 111:2)***

#### PRAYERS

Ongoing: Lorraine Priebe; Serving in our military: Ian & Owen Jacobson, Jessy Moore

Birthdays	Anniversaries
7/17: Adrianna Moore	7/19: Eugene & Elisabeth Alcalay
7/22: Allen Heimsoth	

#### THIS WEEK AT APOSTLES

Today, 9am: Divine Service with Holy Communion  
Thursday, 9am: Study of Lutheran Theology  
Sunday, 9am: Divine Service of the Word

**LUTHERAN TALK RADIO**...You can listen to *Issues, Etc.* on-demand. *Issues, Etc.* is produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Topics include: *Islam, Defending the Pro-Life Position, God's Will for Your Daily Life, Religion & Politics, Biblical Interpretation, the Pop Spirituality of Oprah Winfrey, Movie Reviews, Christ-Centered Fatherhood, Creation vs. Evolution, Witnessing to Jehovah's Witnesses and more. Listen to what you want when you want at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org).*

***Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
Psalm 51:10***



## Questions and Answers that Clarify

When He said, “Drink from it, **all of you**” (Matthew 26:27), Jesus was calling His entire Church, His Holy Bride, to celebrate the Holy Supper with Him. God is also aware, however, that false teachings, misunderstandings, and even heresies regarding the person and work of Christ are constantly circulating in His Church. For that reason, our loving God says we are to “examine ourselves,” (1 Corinthians 11:28) before we celebrate the Holy Meal and participate in this most intimate relationship with His Son, Jesus. If we attend Holy Communion without examining ourselves as God asks us to do, we are then simply unprepared to receive Him.

**Question:** Why do some Christians permit anyone who calls himself a Christian, no matter what he believes, to partake in the Holy Supper, while other Christian congregations exercise love and concern regarding who is permitted to partake of the Meal?

**Answer:** This concern is not a denominational tradition. This is God’s concern as expressed through St. Paul when God says, “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly” (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). St. Paul says that if one does not recognize the sacred treasure which the Lord offers here, that person will misuse it at the Lord’s displeasure.

For example, if a person is taking a particular medicine and then, unknowingly, takes another medicine or substance which conflicts with the first medicine, some serious reaction could take place which may even result in death.

In the same way, if a person holds beliefs which are in conflict with Christ’s teachings, or is living a lifestyle of willful sin in conflict with Christ’s teachings, partaking of the Holy Supper invites His judgment. The apostle Paul says that Christ’s Gospel (the Sacrament of the Gospel) is to some a fragrance of life and to others an odor of death (2 Corinthians 2:14-15).