

#3 We Are Forgiven & Renewed: The Lord's Supper

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Where can people find forgiveness for their sins? Many people wander the earth, no doubt, seeking the answer to this deep universal need. The Sacrament of the Altar grants this forgiveness we need. But how is that possible with just bread and wine? And how do you know if you're ready to receive the Sacrament, at all? That's a question we, as confirmands, have had to ask ourselves - especially, as we approach the Lord's Supper for the first time...

The Sacrament of the Altar is the nothing less than the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ - that Body that hung upon the cross for sinful mankind; and that Blood, which was shed for you and me. We know this because Jesus says "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." The Sacrament is life, salvation, and the forgiveness of sins. Bread and wine alone cannot forgive your sins but through the working of the living Word of God that power is granted. The person who trusts in this Word is worthy to receive the forgiveness of sins through this Sacrament - not by our own merit but by the mercy of Him who gives the free gift.

True and sincere belief is required for receiving the Sacrament worthily, and that has been a difficult journey for me. As I spent time in church and with God's people, the seed of God's Word grew in me. Over time, it took root in me just as that seed takes root in the ground before it flourishes. Today, I confess that faith, which God's Word produced in me.

Jesus Christ gave His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all the sins of everyone. Today, we remember Him and receive God's forgiveness when we, together, take and eat this bread and drink this wine. Since it is of God, it is a blessing that is meant for all people everywhere. For we are all made in our Creator's image. And we will all one day see God. May we by faith see Him now in this Sacrament and receive mercy.