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ShepherdLutheran.com

January 10, 2018

Parents of Middle Schoolers,

We are excited to offer First Communion Classes to your child this Spring. The class is open to students in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and older.

Middle School can be a trying time for young people and we want our young brothers and sisters in Christ to benefit from Holy Communion, too. Jesus says, "this is my body, which is given for you" (Luke 22:19) and "this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28). Martin Luther explains that when we have faith in Jesus' words "for you... for the forgiveness of sins," we are strengthened in our faith. "For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation" (SC VI 3).

The class runs during the season of Lent, beginning with a Seder Meal on March 4 and culminating with a celebratory meal, a "foretaste of the feast to come," on March 25. Each meal will be accompanied by a hands-on lesson in the Worship Center. First Communion then follows that Thursday during the Maundy Thursday service. The class meets for 2 sessions and includes take-home work that should be completed by the child **and** his or her parent. Attendance by your child/teen is required at each class.

**First Communion Classes**

**When:** March 4 and 25, 5:00-7:00 PM

**Where:** Church Lobby

**Dinner:** A suggested donation of \$10/person will cover the costs of the two meals.

**Parent Participation:** You are invited to be a part of the two dinners, but this is not required.

**First Communion:** During the Maundy Thursday service on March 29 at 7:00 PM

**Instructors:** Pastor Chris Kennedy and Nick Arnold will be the instructors for these classes

**Register:** Online at [ShepherdLutheran.com/FirstCommunion](http://ShepherdLutheran.com/FirstCommunion)

**Deadline:** Please register by February 18 so that we know how many to feed!

We look forward to seeing you and your child on March 4. Until then, may God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of Him. (Eph. 1:17)

In Christ,

Nick Arnold  
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