

Name: _____

Reviewed by: _____

What's a Sacrament and What's the Big Deal?

A Sacrament is one of the most important words to know about church. **A Sacrament is a gift that God gives us. Sacraments show us God's Amazing grace.**

A sacrament always combines two things: 1. God's command to do something 2. Something physical that we can touch. We have two sacraments in the ELCA Lutheran church (our church): **Baptism and Holy Communion.**

Over 2,000 years ago, God sent his Son, Jesus, to live as one of us. Jesus never sinned but we do. Because we're not perfect we can't make ourselves good enough to be in God's presence; but, because of God's extreme love for us, Jesus died on the cross in our place. He rose from the dead on Easter morning! We too die and rise with Jesus because that's how much God wants us to be with him. We are God's children.

We don't really deserve this but that's what **grace** is all about... getting something that we don't deserve = grace. God asks us to say "yes" to Jesus and to love each other and God. When we say "YES!, Jesus is our Lord!" nothing else can take his place. Thank you, God, for **amazing grace!**

God's Grace is a gift:

1. God's grace comes to us through the **Word of God** (Bible) and the **two Sacraments**: 1. Holy Baptism 2. Communion
2. Lutheran Christians (that's you) use the term, "**Means of Grace**" to describe the special way in which God shows love to us. Baptism is a means - or a way - that God's grace is given to us. Communion is a means - or a way - that God's grace is given to us.
3. We **hear** how much God loves us by reading the Bible, and we **experience** how much God loves us in the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Read Romans 5:8. This is just one place we hear about God's love for us.
4. The Word of God and the Sacraments God gives us are the true treasures of the Church. These are essential parts of our worship together.
5. As long as we **tell/speak** the Word of God and offer **the Sacraments** of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, which show God's love for us in Jesus Christ, we are being the Church. **Church = God's people**

Look around the church. There are objects we use to tell the Word of God and offer the sacraments. If you can't think of the name, ask an adult to help you.

1. God's people are fed at this place when receiving the body and blood of Jesus in Holy Communion:
2. Water is poured over people who receive forgiveness of their sins in Holy Baptism:
3. Eating this gives us Jesus' own body in Holy Communion:
4. The piece of furniture is where people read out loud from the Bible:
5. Drinking from this we receive Jesus' blood in Holy Communion:
6. This instrument helps us to sing songs:
(Another way we hear the Word of God is in song)