

Sunday, April 6th 2025

The Fifth Sunday in Lent



Mailing Address:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
489 Agnes
Suite 112, Box 117
Bastrop, TX 78602**

Physical Address:

**Epiphany Lutheran Church
(on the SDA campus)
3300 TX-21
Bastrop, TX 78602**

**Rev. E. B. Holschuh – Pastor
(512) 798-3682 (Voicemail/Text)
pastor@epiphanybastrop.org**

**Church Phone – (512) 907-0717
church@epiphanybastrop.org
epiphanybastrop.org/
facebook.com/epiphanybastrop**

WELCOME TO EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH!

“How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!” (Psalm 84:1) We are thankful that God has brought you here with us this morning to hear His Word and receive His gifts! You’ll find everything you need for the worship service in this bulletin and in *Lutheran Service Book*, our hymnal. If you have any questions about our worship service, our congregation, or what we believe, please ask our pastor or any of our members.

OUR COMMUNION POLICY:

Our presence at the Lord’s Supper is to be a sign of our unity in Christ. Lutherans believe Scripture clearly teaches this sacrament is for those who trust that Jesus Christ is their Savior, are repentant for their sins, desire to lead a God pleasing life, and confess that, in, with, and under the bread and wine, Jesus Christ is truly physically present for the forgiveness of sins. And since 1 Corinthians warns that we can take the Sacrament to our condemnation if ill-prepared, we kindly ask any guests desiring to commune with us to speak with our pastor or one of our Elders before the service.

SERVANTS DURING WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

Pastor – Rev. E. B. Holschuh
Musician – Kim Appel
Lay Reader – Deb Layland
Assisting Elder – Dave Sager
Usher – Jeremy Clifton
Acolyte – E.J. Clontz

AS WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING:

God’s Beloved Son Has Redeemed Us

Our life and works apart from Christ, no matter how they may glitter to the eyes of the world, are ultimately rubbish and have no righteousness. Rather, in the scandalous cross of Jesus, we find our righteousness alone “*through faith in Christ*” (Phil. 3:9). By such faith, we “*know him and the power of his resurrection*” (Phil. 3:10). For the same God who brought Israel out of Egypt has done a “*new thing*” for us in Christ Jesus (Is. 43:19). He has sent His beloved Son into His vineyard to be killed by sinful men and to become “*the stone that the builders rejected.*” Yet, the One rejected by men “*has become the cornerstone*” of His Church (Luke 20:17). Through the waters of Holy Baptism, He provides us daily refreshment in our earthly pilgrimage, “*a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert*” (Is. 43:19).

**DIVINE SERVICE
SETTING FOUR**

Prelude		Selected Music
Welcome and Greeting		Pastor
Announcements		
Opening Hymn	<i>“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”</i>	LSB 423
<i>(stand)</i>		

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *Ps. 130:3-4*
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *[Luke 18:13]*
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.** *[John 20:19-23]*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 3:3-6

P But you, O Lord, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.

C I cried aloud to the Lord,
and he answered me from his holy hill.

P I lay down and slept;
I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.

C I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(sit)

¹⁶Thus says the Lord,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸“Remember not the former things,
 nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing;
 now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
 and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild beasts will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 ²¹the people whom I formed for myself
that they might declare my praise.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings,

becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

Holy Gospel Reading

Luke 20:9-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁹[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone?’

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be

sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(sit)

Hymn of the Day “*My Song Is Love Unknown*” LSB 430

Sermon *Song of the Vineyard: The Parable* Luke 20:9-20

(stand)

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

(sit)

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in Your mercy

C hear our prayer.

Offering

Usher

(stand)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



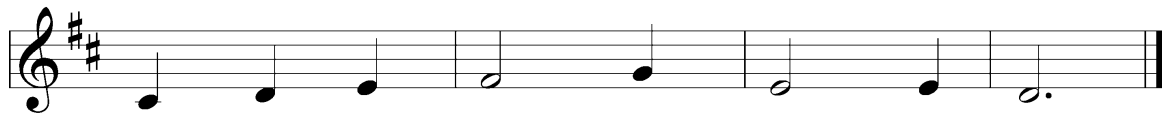
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(sit)

Distribution Hymn *“The Church’s One Foundation”* LSB 644

(stand)

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

(sit)

Closing Hymn

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

LSB 427

P Go in Peace!

C Serve the Lord!

Postlude

Selected Music

Initial and ongoing funding for Epiphany Lutheran Church has been received through a grant made possible by the Roy D. and Ingaborg G. Randolph Memorial Endowment Fund.

SERMON NOTES: Luke 20:9-20

Song of the Vineyard: The Parable

1. The three synoptic Gospel authors— _____, _____, and _____—recorded a total of 46 parables told by Jesus during his earthly ministry.
 2. A _____ is a story meant to “ _____ ” two ideas or concepts typically drawn from _____ experiences alongside one another to make one principal point.
 3. Isaiah, some 700 years before _____, calls Israel God’s _____ and warns that He would lay waste to it because it produced only _____ grapes.
 4. At the time of Jesus the _____ served as a _____ for the _____ people and so his followers would have understood it this way.
 5. The Parable of the Wicked Tenants speaks not only to the Jews’ mistreatment of God’s _____, but especially to their final insult against God: the killing of the vineyard owner’s _____ and _____.
 6. This parable must be heard in the context of God’s _____ in His warnings to sinners about the _____ that awaits those who _____ His Son.
-

PRAYERS AT EPIPHANY

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please share any prayer request on the Prayer Requests sheet as you enter on Sunday. You may also email a prayer request, as well as a request to become a part of Epiphany’s prayer chain, to secretary@epiphanybastrop.org.

Please continue to pray for...

- Rev. Bryan and Deaconess Keah Payne and their children, Serenity and Dalton – missionaries in Tanzania

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

The first step to becoming a member of our congregation is to speak with our pastor.

We believe, teach, and confess that we are all broken sinners in need of God's salvation, which He freely gives through His Word and Sacrament. Church is not a club for the sinless— it's a hospital for sinners!

You may become a member of Epiphany Lutheran Church by transferring your membership from a sister congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) or you may receive instruction from the pastor and become a communicant member of Epiphany and the LCMS through Adult Instruction Class or through a profession of faith.



Epiphany Lutheran Church has a podcast! Our ***Peace Be With You*** podcast is available on popular podcast apps, but you can always find it at peacebewithyou.podbean.com (or just scan the QR code).



Epiphany Events Calendar: Our congregation calendar is on our website (epiphanybastrop.org); to add an event, please email secretary@epiphanybastrop.org.

Offering: Should you wish to make your regular tithe or offering online, you may do so at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZKYH/home> or scan this QR code.



New QR code for advertising and visitors to find out more about Epiphany Lutheran Church, our history (well, all two years of it) and us.



Lent Midweek Fellowship Gatherings: Join us as we gather together at 6:30pm on 4/9 (Monroes) for a light meal and video study! For more info, contact Pastor E.B.

Thursday 6pm Zoom Study: Join us for *Hebrews – Timeless Truths*, a 13-week look at the entire (13 chapters) of the New Testament book of Hebrews (began on February 13th). We'll look at the practical application of each chapter of Hebrews as we seek to understand more deeply the heart, will, intent and design of our Heavenly Father, the life, ministry and teachings of Jesus, and the powerful work of the Holy Spirit in our world today. Register: bit.ly/ELC-Hebrews

Make Every Day Count devotional gathering at Argent Court Assisted Living in Bastrop meets twice a month at 3pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays.

Congregation Photo! On Easter Sunday, we'd like to gather all members of our Epiphany Family together for a picture outside between brunch and the service. Pass the word... We don't want to leave anyone out!

New Tuesday 6:30pm Bible Study Opportunity at SDA: Join Pastor E.B. for *How We Got The Bible*, a 5-session video study featuring the late Dr. Paul L. Maier, in the SDA sanctuary beginning April 29. As God's written Word, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments are the source of His revelation to man. We'll look at the production, collection, transmission, and preservation of these marvelous works. *PLEASE register* if you plan to attend: bit.ly/ELC-HowBible

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday: Join us at 7:00pm here at the SDA campus for our Maundy Thursday (4/17) and Good Friday (4/18) services.

Easter Sunday Schedule: We will gather at 10:00am on Easter Sunday for brunch and fellowship. See the sign-up sheet in the kitchen if you would like to bring something. Then, we will gather in the sanctuary at 11:30 for our Easter Morning service. Come join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord!

The First Annual Epiphany Lutheran Church Spend the Year in Scripture Challenge reading schedule through next Sunday:

- Day 97 - Mon 4/7: 2 Samuel 8-12, Psalm 97
- Day 98 - Tue 4/8: 2 Samuel 13-15, Psalm 98
- Day 99 - Wed 4/9: 2 Samuel 16-18, Psalm 99
- Day 100 - Thu 4/10: 2 Samuel 19-21, Psalm 100
- Day 101 - Fri 4/11: 2 Samuel 22-24, Psalm 101
- Day 102 - Sat 4/12: 1 Kings 1-2, Psalm 102
- Day 103 - Sun 4/13: 1 Kings 3-5, Psalm 103



Lutheran Radio: Hear The Lutheran Hour each Sunday on station KBUK-FM 104.9 at 7:00 a.m. or on station KANJ-FM 91.5 at 12:30 p.m. or go to lhm.org for a link to listen to the Lutheran Hour live. You can also listen to The Lutheran Hour on the local Austin station KLBj (590 AM or 99.7 FM) at 7am on Sunday. **KFUO Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfu.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/KFUOradio), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/KFUOradio), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/KFUOradio).

RightNow Media: Every person in our Epiphany family has (and can share) free access to over 25,000 biblical video series for adults, youth, and kids—**RightNow Media** has a free app that’s available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. Visit app.rightnowmedia.org/join/elcb or scan the QR code.



Answers to Sermon Notes:
1. The three synoptic Gospel authors—**Matthew, Mark, and Luke**—recorded a total of 46 parables told by Jesus during his earthly ministry.
2. A **parable** is a story meant to “**throw**” two ideas or concepts typically drawn from **ordinary** experiences alongside one another to make one principal point.
3. Isaiah, some 700 years before **Jesus**, calls Israel God’s **vineyard** and warns that He would lay waste to it because it produced only **worthless** grapes.
4. At the time of Jesus the **vineyard** served as a **metaphor** for the **chosen** people and so his followers would have understood it this way.
5. The Parable of the Wicked Tenants speaks not only to the Jews’ mistreatment of God’s **servants** but especially to their final insult against God: the killing of the vineyard owner’s **son and heir**.
6. This parable must be heard in the context of God’s **grace** in His warnings to sinners about the **judgment** that awaits those who **reject** His Son.

THIS WEEK AT EPIPHANY:

Sunday, April 6th

- 10:00am – Children’s Sunday School (Fellowship Area)
- 10:00am – Adult Sunday School (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 11:30am – Worship Service with Communion

Wednesday, April 9th

- 6:30pm – Lent Midweek Fellowship Gathering – At the Monroes’

Thursday, April 10th

- 6:00pm – Zoom Study: *Hebrews-Timeless Truths*

Sunday, April 13th – Palm Sunday

- 10:00am – Children’s Sunday School (Fellowship Area)
- 10:00am – Adult Sunday School (Sanctuary)
- 11:00am – Fellowship / Coffee Time
- 11:30am – Worship Service with Communion

3-minute



Seminary

How God 'Works' Conversion

God chooses to use means or vehicles to express his loving relationship with us. Rather than allowing human beings to wonder whether or not they are converted or have done the right thing, God accommodates himself to our human condition and uses tangible means to work our conversion. The faith that is worked in the hearts of believers is the result of the Holy Spirit's activity. Scripture tells us that the Holy Spirit uses the word, specifically "the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17) to create faith. James confirms this when he says that we are begotten by the word of truth (James 1:18). Paul in several of his letters adds his support to this understanding that God uses the word to create faith. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 affirms that it is the word that works in those who believe. In Romans 1:16, Paul even calls the Gospel the power of God, referring to its power to create and sustain faith.

The Law prepares the sinner for conversion. When the Law is preached and heard, the Holy Spirit convicts people of their sinful condition and of the fact that they are under God's wrath (Psalm 51:17; Acts 2:37-41). Through the Law comes the knowledge of one's sin (Romans 3:19-20). The result of this preaching of the Law is what is sometimes called the "terrors of conscience" as exemplified by the jailor at Philippi (Acts 16:29-30). When individuals know their sin and feel the burden of a guilty conscience, they are ready for the sweet message of the Gospel.

The Gospel converts the sinner. When the sinner hears the promise of forgiveness that comes from Christ, faith is created (Romans 10:17). This is a miraculous and mysterious work which cannot be sufficiently explained, although Scripture does tell us that this is how God works (Romans 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14). As the good news about God's forgiving love in Christ is heard, the promises of God no longer seem foolish, but become his wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:23-24). The voice of the Good Shepherd is recognized as a good voice and no longer that of a righteous Judge (John 10:14-16; 1 Peter 2:25).

In addition to the spoken, written, and proclaimed word, the sacraments are also used by the Holy Spirit as a means of grace. Matthew 26:26-28 supports this idea.

Titus 3:5 shows how the Spirit creates faith through baptism. Paul shows that the Lord's Supper also is a vehicle for sustaining faith (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Finally, how this actually "works" is a mystery. Just as psychologists cannot actually tell us how thoughts create emotions, so theologians cannot explain how the Spirit of God changes knowledge about God into faith. Jesus' comparison to the growth of a seed (Mark 4:27) illustrates that we don't have to understand how something works in order to appreciate it.

[From *Called to Believe: A Brief Introduction to Doctrinal Theology* by Steven P. Mueller, Wipf & Stock, 2006]