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| Chain the Cat.  The **** that God speaks is alive and full of power: active, operative, energizing, and effective. Heb 4:12  **For: May 25: Communion**  How to Receive Communion Worthily | **Readings** Memorization in **Bold**  • Who receives this sacrament worthily? • Why is it important to receive the Sacrament worthily? • Is it necessary to fast before receiving the Sacrament? • When do we receive the Sacrament worthily? • When is a person unworthy and unprepared? • How are we to examine ourselves before receiving the Sacrament? • May those who are weak in faith come to the Lord's Table? • Who must not be given the Sacrament? • What is confirmation?  •Chain your own verses for each section. Use bible.cc | |
| • Faith  • Believe  • Change  • Examine  • Confirm  **P** raise  **R** epentance  **A** ppreciation  **Y** ou  **E** veryone  **R** esolve | SS | Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe. • |
| Mon  . | It is very important because St. Paul clearly teaches: "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before He eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself' (1 Cor. 11:27-29). Fasting can be good training for the will, but God does not command particular times, places, and forms for this. 1 Tim. 4:8; also 1 Cor. 9:24-27.  We receive it worthily when we have faith in Christ and His words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." A person is unworthy and unprepared when he or she does not believe or doubts Christ's words, since the words "for you" require all hearts to believe. • |
| **Hymn:** LSB 637 http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/d/e/a/deatjcol.htm  1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured; Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.  2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields, To all believers life eternal yields; With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole, Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.  3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here. O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow As in this feast of love You bless us now. |
| Tue | We are to examine ourselves to see whether A. we are sorry for our sins; Ps. 38:18; 2 Cor. 7:10-11  B. we believe in our Savior Jesus Christ and in His words in the Sacrament; Luke 22:19-20; 2 Cor. 13:5  C. we plan, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to change our sinful lives. Eph. 4:22-24 As a preparation for the Sacrament, use "Christian Questions with Their Answers." Yes, for Christ instituted the Sacrament for the very purpose of strengthening and increasing our faith. Mark 9:24; John 6:37 • |
| Wed | The Sacrament must not be given to the following: A. Those who are openly ungodly and unrepentant, including those who take part in non-Christian religious worship. 1 Cor. 5:11, 13; 1 Cor. 10:20-21  B. Those who are unforgiving, refusing to be reconciled. They show thereby that they do not really believe that God forgives them either. Matt. 6:15; Bible narrative: The unmerciful servant (Matt. 18:21-35).  C. Those of a different confession of faith, since the Lord's Supper is a testimony of the unity of faith. Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 10:17; 1 Cor. 11:26; Rom. 16:17  D. Those who are unable to examine themselves, such as infants, people who have not received proper instruction, or the unconscious. 1 Cor. 11:28  Note: Pastors as stewards of the mysteries of God (1 Cor. 4:1) have the greatest responsibility as to who should be admitted to the Sacrament. Some of the responsibility also rests with the congregation and the communicant. • |
| Thurs | Confirmation is a public rite of the church preceded by a period of instruction designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community. Note: Prior to admission to the Lord's Supper, it is necessary to be instructed in the Christian faith (1 Cor. 11:28). The rite of confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Holy Baptism, to make a personal public confession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of fidelity to Christ. Matt. 10:32-33; Rev. 2:10 • |