



Teaching the Sacraments

Pastor Jon Zabell
2017 National Conference on Worship, Music, and the Arts

Baptism

“So you see plainly that there is no work done here by us, but a treasure, which God gives us and faith grasps” (LC IV, 37).



Communion

“Here (Christ) offers to us the entire treasure that he has brought for us from heaven” (LC V, 66).



Aim

We want to be empowered, motivated, and equipped to teach the Sacraments in our homes, our churches, and our classrooms.



Obstacle

I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.
Romans 7:18

Obstacle

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Matthew 15:19



Obstacle

All our righteous acts are like filthy rags.

Isaiah 64:6

Forgive me for the times I've sinned.

Forgive me, because everything I am and do is sin.

Sinner by nature

- We want glory for ourselves.
- We must turn inward for help.
- We will fail.
- We will hurt ourselves.
- We will hurt others.

Rescue

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Matthew 5:6

Rescue

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”
Matthew 11:28

Rescue

“Baptism... saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”
1 Peter 3:21

Rescue

“Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”
Matthew 26:27,28

Explain: In providing us the external sacraments of Baptism and Communion, God washes away our doubts and makes us certain of his love.

What part does a clean conscience play in our life of sanctification?





“You were taught...to put off your old self... and to put on the new self.”
Ephesians 4:22-24



a. It's up to you to turn your life around each day.
b. Getting rid of sin is as easy as getting dressed.
c. People who own clothes that are clean and new will want to wear them.



Sacramental Living

It's not about:

- the rituals we use
- decorations and ceremonies
- doubling our communion attendance

Sacramental Living

It IS about:

- daily contrition and repentance
- daily putting on the new self.

Sacramental Living

It IS about:

- daily contrition and repentance
- daily putting on the new self.

So we'd be fools to ignore ritual, ceremony and frequent communing.

Teaching the Sacraments



Teaching the Sacraments



Teaching the Sacraments

Agree/Disagree:
We should be careful about letting people be too confident of their salvation.

Teaching the Sacraments

Your friend says, "I went to Communion today, but I still don't feel forgiven." How might you respond?

Teaching the Sacraments

"[You have] been buried with him in baptism and raised with him...³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God." Colossians 2:12; 3:3

Teaching the Sacraments

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind... Love your neighbor as yourself."
Matthew 22:37,39

Resources

- Bible
- Small and Large Catechism
- Hymnal, Supplement

Teaching in the Home

- Daily Baptismal reminder
- Communion preparation
- Baptismal anniversaries
- Discipline / Teach
- Confession and Absolution

Teaching in Church

- Daily Baptismal reminder
- Communion preparation
- Baptismal anniversaries
- Discipline / Teach
- Confession and Absolution

Teaching in the Classroom

- Daily Baptismal reminder
- Communion preparation
- Baptismal anniversaries
- Discipline / Teach
- Confession and Absolution