



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Relationship Covenant

Preamble

“What shall we say then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” Romans 6: 1-4

We, the St. John's family, confess with the Apostle Paul the miraculous gift of new life in Christ. We celebrate God's gracious work in baptism—connecting us to His Son's all sufficient life. We take our place as disciples of our risen and returning Lord. As disciples, we are called by and follow Christ.

We also rejoice that we are connected with others who gather around our Lord's Word and Gifts of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. We confess our Lord's promises together. We trust His promised Spirit gives gifts and fruit in our lives so we might declare the praises of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

We, the communing members of St. John's, humbly take our place among those disciples to whom Christ gave the command, “... go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matt. 28: 18 – 20)

Covenant Promises

As a baptized member of Christ's Church, here represented by the congregation known as St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of West Bend, WI, and in addition having been taught the Christian Faith as expressed in Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism, I commit myself, together with all members of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, to the accomplishment of our Lord's Great Commission, expressed above, as we seek, “to Connect, Care, and Share in Christ.”

“St. John's... Connecting, Caring, and Sharing in Christ”

Therefore, I commit myself to a life of discipleship to include the following promises of grace:

1. Joyfully celebrate the gifts of forgiveness of sins and eternal life, which God gave me in my baptism,
2. Openly proclaim to others my God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed,
3. Be steadfast in prayer,
4. Daily oppose the devil and all sinful influences around me and from within me,
5. Be loyal to my church family and her teachings,
6. Declare the Scriptures to be the inerrant inspired Word of God,
7. Ongoing spiritual growth through regular/faithful worship, reception of Holy Communion, and Bible Study,
8. Serve my Lord with the time, talents, and resources He gives me within my church family and within His church at large .

I make this commitment depending fully upon the strength God gives me daily through His means of Grace (Word and Sacrament) and trusting in His forgiveness when I fall short.

Signature:_____ Print Name:_____ Date:_____

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Biblical References for Promises

- 1 Mark 16:16; John 3:16; Rom. 6:4; Eph. 1:7; Eph. 2:8-10; Phil. 4:4; 1 Col. 2:9-15; Peter 3:21-22
- 2 Matt. 28:18-20; Rom. 1:16; Phil. 2:5-11; 1 Peter 3:15-22; 1 John 1:3
- 3 Jer. 29:13; Matt. 21:22; Luke 11:9; Luke 18:1; John 15:7; Rom. 8:26-27; Rom. 12:12; Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6-7; 1 Thess. 5:17-18
- 4 Prov. 28:13; Cor. 10:13; 1 Eph. 4:27; Eph. 6:11; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 1:8-9
- 5 Acts 2:42; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 11:16; 1 Cor. 14:4, 12, & 26; Eph. 4:11-16; 2 Tim. 3:14-17
- 6 Deut 11:18; Ps 12:6; Ps. 30:6; Ps 119:103, 130, 160; Matt. 24:33-35; John 20:31; 1 Cor. 2:13; Eph. 6:17; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Heb. 4:12; 1 Peter 1:20-22
- 7 Josh. 1:7-10; Josh. 22:23; 2 Chron. 7:12b-14; Matt. 26:28; John 6:53; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 11:26; 1 Cor. 12:26; Heb. 10:24-25; 2 Peter 1:3-10
- 8 Mal. 3:1; Matt. 6:33; Matt. 20:28; Matt. 28:18-20; Luke 6:38; Rom. 12:1-12; 2 Cor. 9:6-9; Gal. 6:7-9

Adopted October 3, 2005

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