

## Faith Stepping Stone First Communion

**Pastor:** Will \_\_\_\_\_, who is receiving his/her first Communion today, and his/her parents (and sponsors *if they are present*) please stand.

To the parents (and sponsors *if they are present*): in Christian love you presented *this child* for Holy Baptism. You made promises at *him/her* baptism. As parents of *this child*, it is your calling to keep these promises:

to faithfully bring *him/her* to the services of God's house,  
to teach *him/her* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed and the 10 Commandments, to place in *his/her* hands the Holy Scriptures, and to provide for *his/her* instruction in the Christian faith.

Do you renew your commitment to these Baptismal promises? If so, answer, "**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**"

To \_\_\_\_\_, *who is receiving Holy Communion for the first time I ask*, will you come regularly to receive God's gifts in Holy Communion. If so answer, "**I will and I ask God to help and guide me.**"

Congregation, do you promise to support and encourage these parents, sponsors and young people in the keeping of these sacred promises? If so, answer, "**We will with God's help.**"

**Pastor:** One of the ways we help you, parents and sponsors, keep these promises and "provide for his/her instruction in the Christian faith" is to prepare him/her for his/her participation in the Lord's Supper. This is an important step in the life of a Christian because it is here where we receive God's forgiveness and are strengthened for service by God's abiding love. This sacrament is a gift of God's love to you and *your child*. Today we celebrate with you this Faith Stepping Stone in the life of *your child*, God's gift of himself in Holy Communion.

**Pastor:** At this time, I invite *those* who received instruction at our first communion class to come forward with his/her parents, (and his/her sponsors, *if they are present*), for the laying on of hands and to share Holy Communion.

***The family kneels.***

**Pastor:** I bless you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*The parents (and sponsors, if present) receive communion and then give communion to their child:*

***The body of Christ, given for you.***

***The blood of Christ, shed for you.***

*(The pastor presents the gift and certificate)*

**Pastor:** Go in peace.