

# MORNING SERMON OUTLINE

## **SACRAMENTS IN WORSHIP**

**Matthew 26:26-29 & 28:18-20**

### **1. “Sacrament(s)”**

The WORD “sacrament” is not in the Bible! But the thing itself is.  
What are “sacraments”?

Yes, Baptism & the Lord’s Supper; but what have they in common?

### **2. Only God in Jesus Christ saves sinners, not sacraments**

The sacraments point us symbolically to Christ –  
so that by faith in Him and His saving work we may be saved.

### **3. Sacraments – God’s kind gifts to strengthen faith**

They are God’s visual aids to help us grasp His Word & see Christ.

They give us nothing the Word does not give,  
AND without the Word they are meaningless.

### **4. They are ordinances of Christ entrusted to the church**

Christ orders His church with officers, to whom He has given the keys  
of His kingdom, to open & shut, to bind & loose (Matt.16:19, 18:18).

The sacraments are to be administered in the visible church with its  
accountability structures & ministry of the Word.

## **WSTMINSTER CONFSSION OF FAITH**

### **Chapter 27: The Sacraments**

1. Sacraments are holy signs and seals of the covenant of grace. They were directly instituted by God to represent Christ and his benefits and to confirm our relationship to him. They are also intended to make a visible distinction between those who belong to the church and the rest of the world, and solemnly to bind Christians to the service of God in Christ, according to his Word.

2. In every sacrament there is a spiritual relationship, or sacramental union, between the visible sign and the reality signified by it, and so it happens that the names and effects of the one are attributed to the other.

3. The grace which is exhibited in or by the sacraments, rightly used, is not conferred by any power in them. Neither does the efficacy of a sacrament depend on the piety or intention of him who administers it, but rather on the work of the Spirit and on the word of institution, which contains (together with a precept authorizing its use) a promise of benefit to worthy receivers.

4. There are only two sacraments ordained by Christ our Lord in the gospel: baptism and the Lord's supper. Neither sacrament may be administered by any person except a minister of the Word, lawfully ordained.

5. With regard to the spiritual realities signified and exhibited, the sacraments of the Old Testament were essentially the same as those of the New Testament.