Communion Devotion – November 1, 2020 John 1:1-5, 10-14

This morning I would like to break from my habit of reading one of the records of the first Last Supper—this morning, I would like to read the opening verses from the Gospel of John—John 1:1-5, 10-14. As Paul summarized to Timothy in 1 Timothy 1:15,"Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Like the shepherd or the woman in today's parables, Jesus went out from heaven into the darkness of the earth to call sinners to come to Him.

This celebration we have every first Sunday of the month is to remind us of what it meant for Jesus to come to earth-- Isaiah 53:7 explains it this way, "He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth." The broken piece of matzos reminds us of Jesus' broken body; the juice reminds of His blood—all given for us. Jesus Christ died on a cross and rose 3 days later so that whoever believes in Him would be saved from an eternity in hell. As Peter said in Acts 2:21, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

If you have accepted God's gift of eternal life by making Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior, we invite you to join us in giving thanks to God for the promise of eternal life in heaven with the One that loved us so much that He died for us. This is a time of celebration, we don't need to fear what will happen to us when we die, we know, that as Paul wrote in

2 Corinthians 5:8, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."

As you hold the bread and then the cup, thank God for His grace, mercy, and love that called you to become one of His children. But, also, during the quiet time, look at your life—your thoughts, your actions—are they the kinds of things that tell Jesus thank you for what He did for you? Or are you an embarrassment to His name? If there are things in your life that need to be changed, confess them to God and then come with a clean heart in thankfulness to Him.