

**The American Association of Lutheran Churches**  
**THE THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**  
**A Report of the Commission on Doctrine and Church Relations**

May 15, 2025

Dear Members of the Ministerium of The American Association of Lutheran Churches,

After years of work, study, prayer, and discussion, the Commission on Doctrine and Church Relations (CDCR) is pleased to present the document, *The Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper*. This long-awaited report, crafted to reflect the teachings of Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, aims to serve as a unifying resource for teaching, practice, and discussion within the congregations of The AALC.

We express our gratitude for the valuable insights shared by the ministerium during the town hall meetings held to gather input for this report. Your contributions have enriched this work, ensuring it addresses the needs and perspectives of our church body. The report is organized into three sections: “The Theology of the Lord's Supper,” “Admission to the Lord's Supper,” and “Practices Surrounding the Celebration of the Lord's Supper,” each accompanied by questions and answers to facilitate congregational engagement.

The CDCR felt it was best to provide this document first to the ministerium, giving you the opportunity to read, reflect and pray on it prior to its release to the Association and the public via The AALC website on June 2, 2025.

We pray that this document fosters deeper understanding and unity as we celebrate the precious gift of the Sacrament of the Altar through which Christ grants us forgiveness, life, and salvation. It is our hope that this report will inspire fruitful discussions and strengthen our shared confession of faith.

In Christ’s Service,  
Rev. Dr. Jordan Cooper, Chairman  
The Commission on Doctrine and Church Relations  
The American Association of Lutheran Churches