

Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechisms, though they do not treat of them in the same order in their form of sound words. They have also three orders of Church officers, Ministers, Elders and Deacons.

However, the Church in Lundenburg, which I apprehend, is agreeable to the Churches of that description in Germany differs a little from the Church of Scotland in dispensing the Lord's Supper. They dispense it four times in the year, but give no token of admission. So that the minister in a manner, does not know who is to commune till he or she comes forward to partake. But great pains are taken with the young people, previous thereto, to have them well instructed in the Doctrines contained in their Catechisms, which they must have upon their minds, and are obliged to attend upon their minister for that purpose for some time. In entering upon the solemnity, there is a discourse suitable to the occasion, preached upon the Saturday, and upon the Sabbath a sermon answering the end of the day. Then the minister reads the form appointed to be read at the time, and which contains warning to such and such characters, not to come forward as it would add to their guilt, and of course heighten their condemnation, and on the other hand encourage those who they think have a right to come. This form as to matter may be said exactly to correspond with what the ministers of the Church of Scotland according to their Directory deliver previous to dispensing the elements, only the Dutch differ in this, that the clergy are obliged to read this form, while the ministers of the Church of Scotland are left at discretion to deliver themselves agreeable to their Directory. While this form and consecration prayer is read, the people stand in a decent and considerably solemn manner. Then when this is done the minister proceeds to dispense the elements, he himself communicating first. There is a table upon which the elements are placed, which stands in the area before the pulpit, and the people come forward in a regular orderly manner and receive, all standing. 1. The Minister. 2. The Elders. 3. The Deacons. 4. The old men. 5. The men of middle age. 6.

The young men. 7. Then the old women, and so on as was observed with the men, the young unmarried women coming last. This order they carefully observe, coming in a descent manner, upon one side of the table, till there may be about twelve or sixteen at a time standing round the table, the minister serving them with bread out of his own hand, speaking a few words to each, as he sees their case requires. Then he gives the cup in like manner, and when the first hath received the cup then he retires, so the second in order. And while they are retiring others are coming on the other side of the table. So that after the first table, they all know their place so well, that there is a constant coming and retiring till the whole are served, and that in a most regular and comely manner without even being desired. All the time they are communicating, which may, I suppose, be about three quarters of an hour, the whole congregation are singing hymns suited to the service, so that the whole congregation are employed. So that the manner though different from the Church of Scotland was orderly and agreeable, and the whole gone about with considerable solemnity. A few might not retire with such gravity as others, or as might quite answer such a solemn service. Yet this is the case less or more in every society upon the same occasion.— There would have been one hundred communicants, They have also a particular order as to the sitting in the church. The women sit all below. No men sit below, save the Deacons and Elders, the Elders on one side of the pulpit and the Deacons on the other. The other men all sit in the galleries. And what is farther to be observed, the young unmarried people are on one side of the church, the married on the other.

There are one hundred and forty-three families belonging to this congregation, scattered here and there. There are more families than these belonging to the Lutheran Church, and about seventy to the Church of England, though I am not certain as to the exact number of families either in the Lutheran Church, or the Church of England, but I am not far from the truth.