

# Confession and Absolution

## 579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise

- 1 The Law of God is good and wise  
And sets His will before our eyes,  
Shows us the way of righteousness,  
And dooms to death when we transgress.
- 2 Its light of holiness imparts  
The knowledge of our sinful hearts  
That we may see our lost estate  
And turn from sin before too late.
- 3 To those who help in Christ have found  
And would in works of love abound  
It shows what deeds are His delight  
And should be done as good and right.
- 4 But those who scornfully disdain  
God's Law shall then in sin remain;  
Its terror in their ear resounds  
And keeps their wickedness in bounds.
- 5 The Law is good; but since the fall  
Its holiness condemns us all;  
It dooms us for our sin to die  
And has no pow'r to justify.
- 6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,  
Who from the curse has set us free,  
And humbly worship at His throne,  
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
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*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

*LSB 203*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*Kneel/Stand*

## Confession of Sins

LSB 203

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Absolution

LSB 203

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 5:4–8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6*

For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked will | perish.  
For you are not a God who delights in | wickedness,\*  
evil may not | dwell with you.  
The boastful shall not stand be- | fore your eyes;\*  
you hate all evil- | doers.  
You destroy those | who speak lies;\*  
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and de- | ceitful man.  
But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will en- | ter your house.\*  
I will bow down toward your holy temple in the | fear of you.  
Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my | enemies,\*  
make your way straight be- | fore me.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

## Kyrie

LSB 204

**C** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7–20*

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

<sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

<sup>17</sup>“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

## 696 O God, My Faithful God

- 1 O God, my faithful God,  
True fountain ever flowing,  
Without whom nothing is,  
All perfect gifts bestowing:  
Give me a healthy frame,  
And may I have within  
A conscience free from blame,  
A soul unstained by sin.
- 2 Grant me the strength to do  
With ready heart and willing  
Whatever You command,  
My calling here fulfilling;  
That I do what I should  
While trusting You to bless  
The outcome for my good,  
For You must give success.

- 3    Keep me from saying words  
       That later need recalling;  
 Guard me lest idle speech  
       May from my lips be falling;  
 But when within my place  
       I must and ought to speak,  
 Then to my words give grace  
       Lest I offend the weak.
- 4    Lord, let me win my foes  
       With kindly words and actions,  
 And let me find good friends  
       For counsel and correction.  
 Help me, as You have taught,  
       To love both great and small  
 And by Your Spirit's might  
       To live in peace with all.
- 5    Let me depart this life  
       Confiding in my Savior;  
 By grace receive my soul  
       That it may live forever;  
 And let my body have  
       A quiet resting place  
 Within a Christian grave;  
       And let it sleep in peace.
- 6    And on that final day  
       When all the dead are waking,  
 Stretch out Your mighty hand,  
       My deathly slumber breaking.  
 Then let me hear Your voice,  
       Redeem this earthly frame,  
 And bid me to rejoice  
       With those who love Your name.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
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## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 10:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1–9

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

<sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\text{✠}$  everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

## 427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872  
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## Sermon

*Stand*

*Sit*

## Offering

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

## Lord’s Prayer

- C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## Benedicamus

LSB 212

- A** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

## 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

- 1 Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.
- 2 Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

- 3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;  
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.
- 4 Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

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