

# Confession and Absolution

## 904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

- 1 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word  
We are gathered all to hear You.  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
Now to seek and love and fear You,  
By Your teachings, sweet and holy,  
Drawn from earth to love You solely.
- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight  
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
Till Your Spirit breaks our night  
With the beams of truth unclouded.  
You alone to God can win us;  
You must work all good within us.
- 3 Gracious Savior, good and kind,  
Light of Light, from God proceeding,  
Open now our heart and mind;  
Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.  
Hear the cry Your Church now raises;  
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

- △ 4 Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,  
Praise to You and adoration!  
Grant that we may trust Your Word,  
Confident of our salvation,  
While we here below must wander,  
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

Text (sts. 1-3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-84; (sts. 1-3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, 1707, Berlin; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.  
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*Stand*

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

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

**C** Amen.

**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*

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

**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  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 1:1–5; antiphon: v. 6*

For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,\*  
but the way of the wicked will | perish.  
Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,\*  
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;  
but his delight is in the law | of the LORD,\*  
and on his law he meditates | day and night.  
He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not | wither.\*  
In all that he does, he | prospers.  
The wicked | are not so,\*  
but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment,\*  
nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous.  
**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.

### Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 204*

**C** 1 To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

**3 For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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

*Micah 6:1-8*

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has an indictment against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>"O my people, what have I done to you?  
How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,  
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

<sup>6</sup>"With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*  
 Extol him, all | peoples!  
 For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*  
 and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.  
 Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\*  
 bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

### 567 Not What These Hands Have Done

- 1 Not what these hands have done  
 Can save this guilty soul;  
 Not what this toiling flesh has borne  
 Can make my spirit whole.
- 2 Not what I feel or do  
 Can give me peace with God;  
 Not all my prayers and sighs and tears  
 Can bear my awful load.
- 3 Thy work alone, O Christ,  
 Can ease this weight of sin;  
 Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,  
 Can give me peace within.
- 4 Thy love to me, O God,  
 Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,  
 Can rid me of this dark unrest  
 And set my spirit free.
- 5 Thy grace alone, O God,  
 To me can pardon speak;  
 Thy pow’r alone, O Son of God,  
 Can this sore bondage break.
- 6 I bless the Christ of God,  
 I rest on love divine,  
 And with unfalt’ring lip and heart  
 I call this Savior mine.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89  
 Text: Public domain

### Epistle

*1 Corinthians 1:18–31*

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.  
<sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

<sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia and Verse

- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- C** These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 5:1–12*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.  
<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:  
<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.  
<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.  
<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.  
<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  
<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.  
<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

- 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 † everlasting. Amen.**

*Sit*

## 842 Son of God, Eternal Savior

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
Hallows all our human race,  
You our Head, who, throned in glory,  
For Your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with Your love and pity,  
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
  
- 2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,  
So may we for others live.  
Freely have Your gifts been granted;  
Freely may Your servants give.  
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,  
Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
We but stewards of Your bounty  
Held in solemn trust will be.
  
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,  
King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion,  
Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By Your patient years of toiling,  
By Your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,  
Stem our selfish greed of gain.
  
- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior,  
Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us  
Hallows all our human race:  
By Your praying, by Your willing  
That Your people should be one,  
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:  
Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855–1932, alt.  
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### Sermon

### 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.

*Sit*

## 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

## I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Ref:  
I love to tell the story, 'Twill be my theme in glory  
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

2 I love to tell the story; More wonderful it seems  
Than all the golden fancies of all my golden dreams,  
I love to tell the story, it did so much for me;  
And that is just the reason I tell it now to thee.

3 I love to tell the story; 'Tis pleasant to repeat  
What seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story; for some have never heard  
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

4 I love to tell the story; for those who know it best  
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'Twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long.

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## Acknowledgments

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