

# Confession and Absolution

## 802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

- 1 Immortal, invisible,  
God only wise,  
In light inaccessible  
hid from our eyes,  
Most blessèd, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious,  
Thy great name we praise.
  
- 2 Unresting, unhasting,  
and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting,  
Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains  
high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.
  
- 3 To all life Thou givest—  
to both great and small—  
In all life Thou livest,  
the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish  
as leaves on the tree  
And wither and perish—  
but naught changes Thee.
  
- 4 Great Father of glory,  
pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee,  
all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render:  
O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor  
of light that hides Thee.

Text: W. Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3*

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may | lay her young,\*  
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.

How lovely is your | dwelling place,\*

O | LORD of hosts!

Behold our shield, | O God,\*

look on the face of your a- | nointed!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand | elsewhere.\*

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of | wickedness.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and | honor.\*

No good thing does he withhold from those who walk up- | rightly.

O | LORD of hosts,\*

blessèd is the one who | trusts in you!

**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.**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may | lay her young,\*  
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.

### 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.  
Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Amos 5:18–24*

<sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!  
Why would you have the day of the LORD?  
It is darkness, and not light,  
<sup>19</sup>as if a man fled from a lion,  
and a bear met him,  
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,  
and a serpent bit him.  
<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?  
<sup>21</sup>"I hate, I despise your feasts,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
<sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them;  
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,  
I will not look upon them.  
<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.  
<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

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

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.\*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,\*

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

#### 461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives;  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;  
He lives, my ever-living head.
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;  
He lives eternally to save;  
He lives all-glorious in the sky;  
He lives exalted there on high.
- 3 He lives to bless me with His love;  
He lives to plead for me above;  
He lives my hungry soul to feed;  
He lives to help in time of need.
- 4 He lives to grant me rich supply;  
He lives to guide me with His eye;  
He lives to comfort me when faint;  
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.
- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;  
He lives to wipe away my tears;  
He lives to calm my troubled heart;  
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;  
He lives and loves me to the end;  
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;  
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
He lives, and I shall conquer death;  
He lives my mansion to prepare;  
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99, abr.

Text: Public domain

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

<sup>13</sup>But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

- 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 25:1–13*

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

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

- 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*

**516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying**

- 1 “Wake, awake, for night is flying,”  
The watchmen on the heights are crying;  
“Awake, Jerusalem, arise!”  
Midnight hears the welcome voices  
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
“Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?  
The Bridegroom comes, awake!  
Your lamps with gladness take!  
Alleluia!  
With bridal care  
Yourselves prepare  
To meet the Bridegroom, who is near.”
  
- 2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
And all her heart with joy is springing;  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.  
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,  
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;  
Her star is ris’n, her light is come.  
Now come, Thou Blessèd One,  
Lord Jesus, God’s own Son,  
Hail! Hosanna!  
We enter all  
The wedding hall  
To eat the Supper at Thy call.
  
- 3 Now let all the heav’ns adore Thee,  
Let saints and angels sing before Thee  
With harp and cymbals’ clearest tone.  
Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where, joining with the choir immortal,  
We gather round Thy radiant throne.  
No eye has seen the light,  
No ear has heard the might  
Of Thy glory;  
Therefore will we  
Eternally  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608  
Text: Public domain

**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.

### 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.

*Sit*

### 763 When Peace, like a River

- 1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;  
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul. Refrain
- ref It is well (It is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul),  
It is well, it is well with my soul.
- 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain
- 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
My sin, not in part, but the whole,  
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain
- 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt.  
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