Confession and Absolution

571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

- 1 God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save, That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death; All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3 God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh; His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done; And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- 5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally! Text: Public domain

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

- \mathbf{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?
- **G** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- ▶ 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.
- **G** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- 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.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 34:4-8; antiphon: v. 1

I will bless the LORD at | all times;* his praise shall continually be | in my mouth. I sought the LORD, and he answered me* and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are | radiant,* and their faces shall never | be ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD | heard him* and saved him out of all his | troubles. The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear him,* and de- livers them. Oh, taste and see that the | LORD is good!* Blessèd is the man who takes ref- | uge in him! 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. I will bless the LORD at | all times;* his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

Kyrie

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

Gloria in Excelsis

- 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. LSB 204

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Job 38:4–18

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk. or who laid its cornerstone. ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸"Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors. ¹¹and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed'? ¹²"Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶"Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,* for those who fear him lack | nothing! Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,* but the LORD delivers him out | of them all. Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Epistle

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

G These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22–33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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.

717 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

- Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave, Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.
- 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain, O'er which our traffic runs amain By mountain pass or valley low; Wherever, Lord, Thy people go, Protect them by Thy guarding hand From ev'ry peril on the land.
- 3 O Spirit, whom the Father sent To spread abroad the firmament; O Wind of heaven, by Thy might Save all who dare the eagle's flight, And keep them by Thy watchful care From ev'ry peril in the air.
- O Trinity of love and pow'r,
 Our people shield in danger's hour;
 From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
 Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
 Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
 Glad praise from air and land and sea.

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Sermon

Offering

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

 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

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.
 Amen.

919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

- 1 Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with Your grace That Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.
- 2 Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with Your Word, And thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford.
- Abide with heav'nly brightness Among us, precious Light;
 Your truth direct and keep us From error's gloomy night.
- Abide with richest blessings Among us, bounteous Lord; Let us in grace and wisdom Grow daily through Your Word.
- Abide with Your protection Among us, Lord, our strength, Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.
- Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with Your love;
 Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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