

# Confession and Absolution

## 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so  
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be  
en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,  
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee  
Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O  
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the  
is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!  
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

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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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

### Exhortation

*LSB 184*

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**  
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### Confession of Sins

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,

*LSB 184*

- C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

### Absolution

LSB 185

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8*



The LORD is merciful and | gracious,\*  
 slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.  
 As for man, his days | are like grass;\*  
 he flourishes like a flower | of the field;  
 for the wind passes over it, and | it is gone,\*  
 and its place knows | it no more.  
 But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who | fear him,\*  
 and his righteousness to children's | children,  
 to those who keep his | covenant\*  
 and remember to do his com- | mandments.  
 The LORD has established his throne in the | heavens,\*  
 and his kingdom rules | over all.  
**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.**  
 The LORD is merciful and | gracious,\*  
 slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

### Kyrie

LSB 186

- C **Lord, have mercy upon us.  
 Christ, have mercy upon us.  
 Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

- P Glory be to God on high:  
 C **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
 We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
 For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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

*Isaiah 55:10–13*

<sup>10</sup>“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup>“For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual

*Romans 11:33, 36*



Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!\*

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are | all things.\*

To him be glory forever. | Amen.

### Epistle

*Romans 8:12–17*

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23*

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

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup>but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

<sup>18</sup>“Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, 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*

## 577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like  
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This  
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The  
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of  
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in  
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a  
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.  
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.  
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.  
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

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### Sermon

### Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.  
C **Amen.**

*Stand*

### Offertory

C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

*LSB 192*

*Sit*

### Offering

*Stand*

## 785 We Praise You, O God



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.  
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,  
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.  
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

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## Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, hear the prayers of Your people, grant to us all things needful and beneficial, and keep from us all things harmful.

### *Brief silence*

Holy Lord, mighty God, You are the strength of the hills and the hope of the ends of the earth. Give to our hearts Your perfect peace, that we may not be anxious nor live in fear but rest all our hopes, dreams and desires upon Your merciful goodness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, mighty God, You send forth water upon the earth, that it may bring forth abundant fruit and feed our bodies with all that we need. Help us to be wise and faithful in the use of the rich bounty of the earth, that the poor may be supplied and that we never fail to give thanks to You for all You have given us for this body and life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, mighty God, Your Word will not return to You empty but will accomplish Your purpose in sending it. By Your Holy Spirit, make our hearts good soil for Your Word to be planted, that we may give evidence of a sturdy faith and show forth in our lives the good works You have called us to do. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, mighty God, Your Spirit accompanies the witness of Your people who speak Your Word before the world. Grant success to the missionary and mission planter and to every pastor and church worker, that those who hear may believe and those who believe may bear the good fruit of faith in their lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, You have given power to the nations and those who govern to act for the good of Your people. Bless our president, the Congress, our governor and all those elected and appointed to lead us, that justice may prevail and Your people may be free to live at peace with all people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, You know how weak and frail we are. Give to those afflicted in mind, body or soul the fullness of Your healing grace, that according to Your will they may be restored to health. Hear us for all those suffering or recovering from the pandemic's ravages, for those who have requested our prayers [*especially \_\_\_\_\_*], and for those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, You have granted us great riches and gifts. Keep our hearts from being overburdened by the things of this mortal life, whether in time of plenty or in time of want. Deliver us from persecution and sustain us from all tribulation, that our hearts may ever be fixed upon the true treasure of Your grace. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring as part of our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for all Your goodness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, mighty Lord, Your Word endures forever. Keep us from being tossed about by every wind of change and chance, and help us to endure upon the firm foundation of Your Word and Sacraments toward the day when we shall be reunited with all who have gone before and dwell in Your presence forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In Him, with Him and through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, both now and forevermore. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- P 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.
- C **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## Salutation

LSB 201

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And with thy spirit.**

## Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A Bless we the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

LSB 202

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.  
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

## 545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth



- 1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from  
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our  
4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth  
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;  
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the  
Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in  
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.  
world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.  
pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.  
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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