

# Confession and Absolution

## 346 When All the World Was Cursed

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

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.**

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.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b*

In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;\*  
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

Seek the LORD | and his strength;\*

seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,\*

his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,\*

children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!  
 He is the | LORD our God;\*  
 his judgments are in | all the earth.  
 He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
 the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.  
**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.**  
 In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;\*  
 make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Kyrie

LSB 186

**G** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 11:1–10*

### The Righteous Reign of the Branch

- <sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- <sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
- <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
- <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.
- <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
- <sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;

for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; \*  
righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

## Epistle

*Romans 15:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

### Christ the Hope of Jews and Gentiles

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him.”

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 3:1–12*

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

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

### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.

<sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,**

begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
 God of God, Light of Light,  
 very God of very God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father,  
 by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
 and ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### 359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

#### Sermon

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

#### Offertory

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it  
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-  
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

## Offering

### Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Holy Church, that God would continually feed her with His Word and Sacraments as she looks for Christ's return, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church, that pastors would continually prepare the way for Jesus' return in glory by preaching Law and Gospel; and that congregations would hear their words in faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For families, that they would faithfully fulfill their vocations to love and forgive one another, even as they grow in the fear, love and trust of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For civil authorities, that they would govern with justice and righteousness as leaders appointed by God to protect the innocent, punish the wicked and work for the common welfare of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick and suffering, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that as the day draws near when the wolf will dwell alongside the lamb and pain and destruction will be no more, God would grant them patience, comfort and healing according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who commune this day, that their hearts would be stirred up to make ready the way of the Lord Jesus, who comes in His body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Grant, heavenly Father, that we may be kept in joy and sustained in hope through every trouble and trial of this mortal 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.**

## 633 Verses 1,2,4,6,8 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



☐ A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## Distribution

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.

C **Amen.**

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-

cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

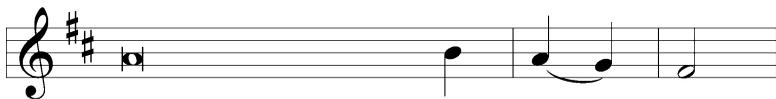


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



☐ and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

P The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

## 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** A-men, a-men, a - men.

### 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

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