# **Confession and Absolution**

## 725 Children of the Heavenly Father

- 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

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\* and call on the name | of the LORD.
What shall I render | to the LORD\* for all his bene- | fits to me?
I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation\* and call on the name | of the LORD.
Precious in the sight | of the LORD\*

Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

is the death | of his saints.

O LORD, I am your | servant;\*

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

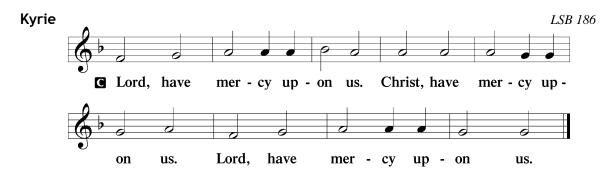
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*

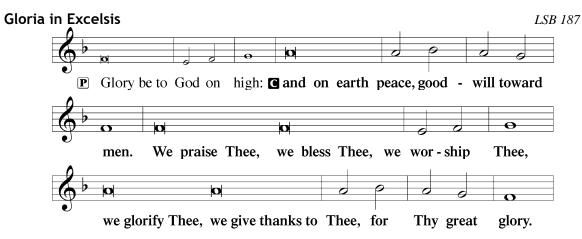
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\* and call on the name | of the LORD.











## Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 55:6–9

<sup>6</sup>"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

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.

## Epistle

#### The Advance of the Gospel

<sup>12</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear...

<sup>19</sup>for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. <sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.



## C Thanks be to God.

#### Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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



#### Laborers in the Vineyard

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him,

'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' <sup>8</sup>And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**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.

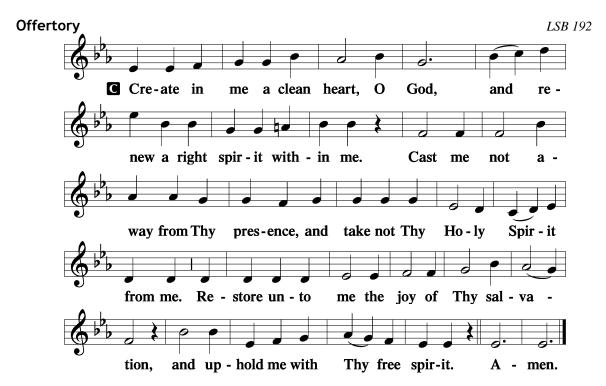
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ⊤ everlasting. Amen.

Come and See

Performed by Mark Woolley on the guitar

## Sermon delivered by Pastor Ken Sinclair

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



## Offering

#### Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, grant that we would rejoice in the light of Christ and His salvation, and that sinners would find refuge in His mercy and comfort in His forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P Heavenly Father, embolden our congregation and all sister churches throughout the world to confess the truth steadfastly and to witness boldly to our only Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Merciful Lord, we give You humble thanks for instituting the estate of holy marriage and for the blessing of family. Grant that these gifts would be cherished and honored in our society and especially within the household of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Almighty Lord, bless this nation and all people in their rightful callings. Grant that we may serve our neighbors in love, and that all authorities would exercise their callings with humility and wisdom on behalf of the defenseless. Lord, in Your mercy,

### C hear our prayer.

P Loving God, we thank You for the gift of health. Hear our prayers on behalf of the sick, the aged, the infirm, the mourning or the dying *[especially\_\_\_\_\_]*. Grant them healing in accord with Your will and grace to sustain them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,

### C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, we thank You for the witness of the faithful who lived and died in Christ. Grant that at the last we, too, may be joined with them in the marriage supper of the Lamb in His kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

#### C hear our prayer.

- P Merciful Lord, grant that, in Christ, we may seek You while You may be found and call upon You while You are near, forsaking all wicked ways and unrighteous thoughts. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

# Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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;



#### Prayer

Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Benediction

- 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.

## 537 Beautiful Savior

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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LSB 202