Confession and Absolution

913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

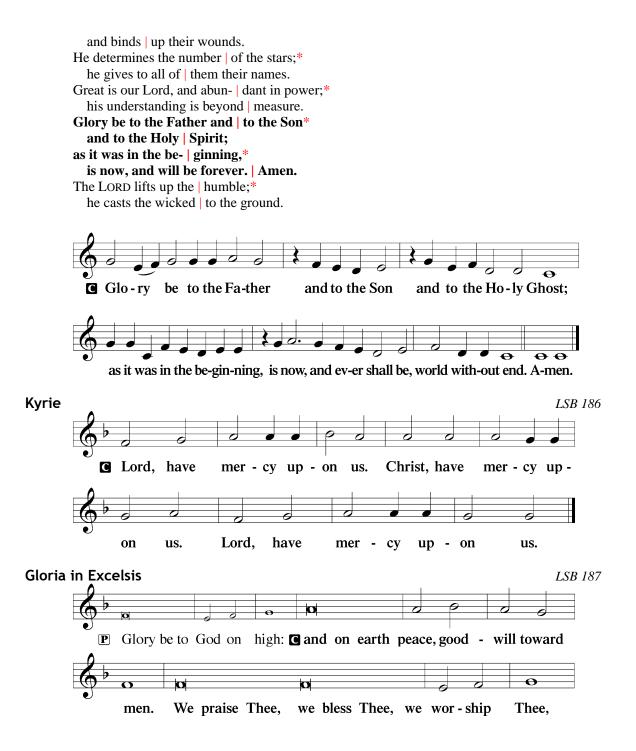
- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- 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 147:1-5; antiphon: v. 6

The LORD lifts up the | humble;* he casts the wicked | to the ground. Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;* for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting. The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;* he gathers the outcasts of | Israel. He heals the broken- | hearted*





Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading The Soul Who Sins Shall Die

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²"What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die....

²⁵"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

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

Gradual

He will command his angels con- | cerning you* to guard you in | all your ways. Bless the LORD, | O my soul,* and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

Christ's Example of Humility

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

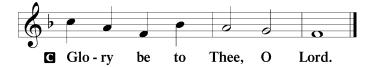
- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23–27

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



The Authority of Jesus Challenged

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among

themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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,

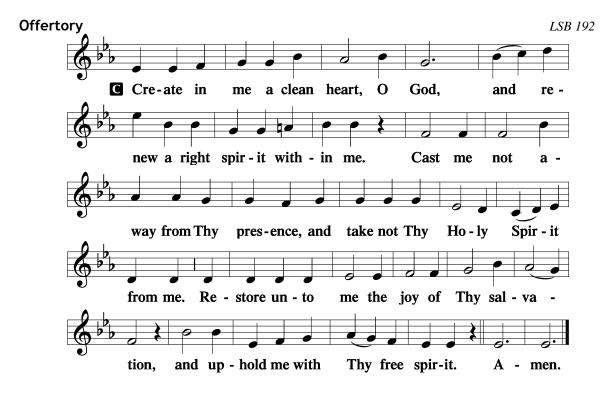
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \top of the world to come. Amen.

527 O Savior, Precious Savior

Sermon delivered by Pastor Wayne Schueler

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



Offering

Prayer of the Church

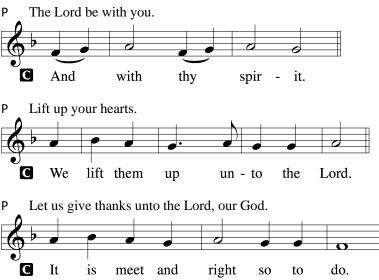
- P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- P For the proclamation of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, that by the pure tongues of Christ's servants, the tongues of the wicked may be silenced, their evil ways cast aside and their sins washed away, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the kingdom of God, that with one mind and will we may serve the Lord with gladness, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all people in their vocations, that delighting in the Lord's lovingkindness, they may joyfully serve their neighbors, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For our leaders and those who serve in our armed forces, that having been appointed by Him before whom the might of man is nothing, they might serve honorably and well, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the comfort of God's Love and the encouragement of His Christ, that all who suffer[<u>, especially</u>,] would find Him a ready and worthy Savior in every affliction let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who confess the name of Jesus Christ as Lord, that receiving our humble Savior in the humble means of His Supper, we may give Him our worship and thanks, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Merciful Lord, in You there is no shadow due to change. Enkindle Your divine light in us, that we may stand united as Christ's own body, holding fast to the word of life and shining brightly in the midst of this world's darkness; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

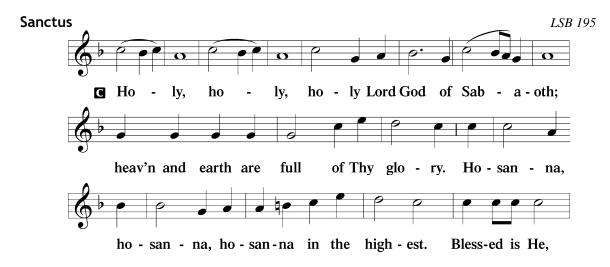
625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

Service of the Sacrament

Preface



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, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





The Words of Our Lord

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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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

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Distribution

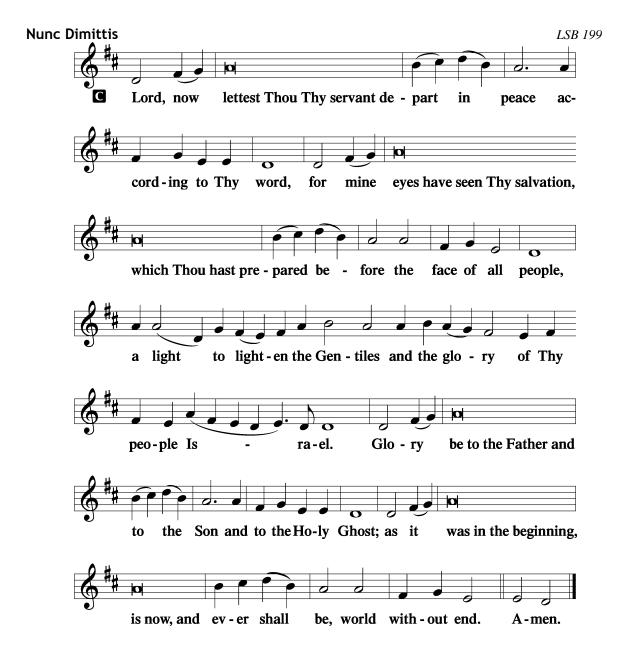
Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

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

Amen.

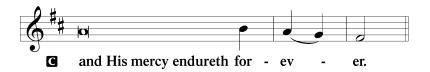
- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.
- C Amen.



Thanksgiving

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

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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.



P The Lord be with you.



Benedicamus

A Bless we the Lord.



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.



918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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