

Confession and Absolution

940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

sts. 1–5

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 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 5



The LORD is your | keeper;*
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.
I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*
From where does my | help come?
My help comes | from the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.
He will not let your | foot be moved;*
he who keeps you will not | slumber.

Behold, he who keeps | Israel*
 will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.
 The LORD will keep you from all | evil;*
 he will | keep your life.
 The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in*
 from this time forth and for- | evermore.
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 your | keeper;*
 the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.


☐ 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


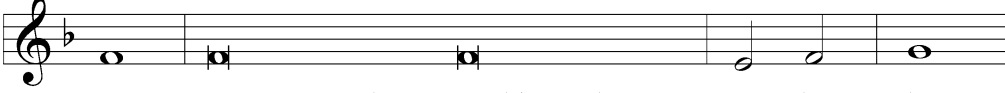
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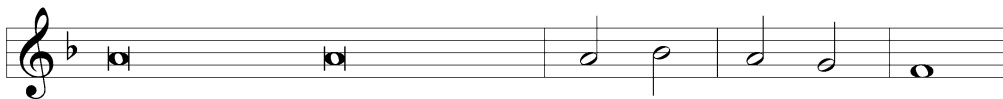

☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

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

Gloria in Excelsis

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P Glory be to God on high:


☐ and on earth peace, good - will toward

 men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



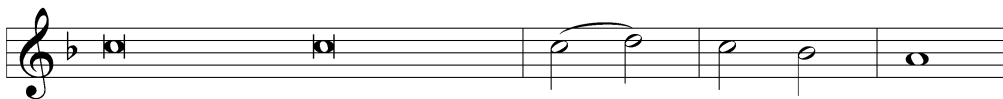
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



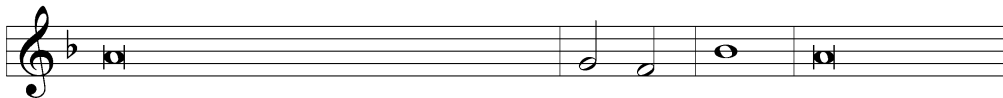
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



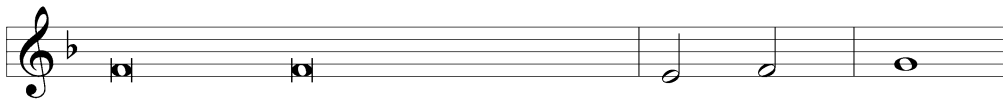
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 45:1-7

Cyrus, God's Instrument

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,

⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create calamity,
I am the LORD, who does all these things.”

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

Gradual

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

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

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Greeting

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

The Thessalonians' Faith and Example

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,
³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and
steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he
has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in
the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among
you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the
word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all
the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded
forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so
that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of
reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and
true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who
delivers us from the wrath to come.

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

Alleluia

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Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15–22

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



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Paying Taxes to Caesar

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “**Why put me to the test, you hypocrites?** ¹⁹**Show me the coin for the tax.**” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, “**Whose likeness and inscription is this?**” ²¹They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “**Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.**” ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ 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 T everlasting. Amen.

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

Sermon delivered by Pastor Scott Stewart

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

C Amen.

Offertory

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

God of our salvation, You deliver Your Son's work through Your Word in power and in the Holy Spirit. Strengthen the Church's pastors to proclaim Your truth. Increase the

faith of all who hear, that they may respond in love, steadfast in their hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of all truth, from the rising of the sun to its setting, You make known Your salvation in Christ. Bless fathers and mothers as they teach their children Your Word and Your ways. Let them know that there is no God besides You and so rejoice in Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God our Father, You appointed Cyrus as Your instrument to return Your people to Jerusalem. Uphold the authorities of our nation in wisdom and integrity, that we might live in peace with a good conscience. Grant that they would make salutary use of the taxes we render, and lead us to recognize them as Your instruments, honoring them as You command. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, our help comes from You, who made heaven and earth. You preserve our life. Have mercy on [*and*] all who are afflicted. Keep them from all evil and shade them from all harm. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, guard those who travel. Keep their going out and their coming in. Protect them from every trouble, prosper their journey according to Your will and make their homecomings joyful. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P True and living God, You have turned us from idols to serve You and live. As we await Your Son's return in glory, grant that we would faithfully receive Him at this altar with repentance and joy. 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

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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.

Prayer

O God, Your infinite love restores to the right way those who err, seeks the scattered, and preserves those whom You have gathered. Of Your tender mercy pour out on Your faithful people the grace of unity that, all schisms being ended, Your flock may be gathered to the true Shepherd of Your Church and may serve You in all faithfulness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Benediction

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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.

919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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