In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Renew Me, O Eternal Light

Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig
Text and tune: Public domain

Kyrie

Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig
Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 204
Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

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.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

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...  

25Yet 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?

30Therefore 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.

Psalm

Psalm 25:1–7

P  4 Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
    teach me | your paths.

1  To you, | O LORD,*
    I lift | up my soul.

2  O my God, in you I trust;
    let me not be | put to shame;*
    let not my enemies exult | over me.

3  Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
    they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.

P  4 Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
    teach me | your paths.

5  Lead me in your truth and teach me,
    for you are the God of my sal- | vation;*
    for you I wait all the | day long.

6  Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,*
    for they have been | from of old.

7  Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;*
    according to your steadfast love remember me,
    for the sake of your goodness, | O LORD!

P  4 Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
    teach me | your paths.

Epistle

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

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

14  Do all things without grumbling or questioning, 15 that 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,
16 holding 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. 17 Even 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. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C  Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
Holy Gospel

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

23 When [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?” 24 Jesus 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. 25 The 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?’ 26 But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” 27 So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

28 “What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ 29 And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. 30 And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. 31 Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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 \( \frac{1}{\infty} \) of the world to come. Amen.

The Fifth Commandment

**P** What is the 5th Commandment?

**C** You shall not murder.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand
Prayer of the Church

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

Merciful Lord, You founded Your Church upon the proclamation of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Purify the tongues of Your servants, that the tongues of the wicked may be silenced. Turn them from their evil ways, that their sins may be washed away. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, encourage us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may not lose heart. Make us to be of one mind and will, that we may serve You with gladness, doing the works of Your kingdom here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, sustain all fathers, mothers and children; husbands and wives; friends and neighbors; laborers and employers; and teachers and students. Enable us all to serve our neighbors in godly vocations, delighting in the Lord’s lovingkindness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, all the might of man is nothing before You, yet You have appointed earthly realms and rulers to punish evil and honor good. Give us faithful leaders who will serve honorably and well. Bless also those who serve in the armed forces to defend us and protect our liberty. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, grant the encouragement of Christ and the comfort of His love to those who suffer [especially______________]. In every affliction, prove Yourself a ready and worthy Savior, especially to those who believe. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, the name of Jesus stands above all names. Before it we bow our knees and confess Him as Lord and God. Inspire in us true devotion and worship as we approach His altar to receive our humble Savior in these humble means of bread and wine for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

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.

Sit

Offering

956 Create in Me

\[
\text{Create in me a clean heart. O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away.}
\]
Psalm 51:10–12

Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583–1651, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Preface

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for from him and through him and to him are all things, forever and ever. 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 208

Text: Stephen P. Starke
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord’s Prayer

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.
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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 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 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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Agnus Dei

1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;
2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;

LSB 210
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,

Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

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

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.
Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

824 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

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