

Confession and Absolution

821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

- 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”
- 2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him
When the forty days were o’er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise:
“I am with you evermore”?
- 3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.
As within the veil You entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,
Here on earth both priest and victim
In the eucharistic feast.
- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.

Text: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
P 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.

*Kneel/Stand***Confession of Sins**

LSB 203

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

Absolution

LSB 203

- P** 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.
C **Amen.**

*Stand***Service of the Word****Introit***Psalm 119:89–93; antiphon: v. 105*

- P** Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
C **Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.**
P Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.
C **By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.**
P If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.
C **I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.**
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Kyrie

LSB 204

- C** **Lord, have mercy;**
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

- C** **1 To God on high be glory**
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.
2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,

**You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus;
 Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated
 At God's right hand on high—
 3 For You alone are holy;
 You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever,
 Be worshiped and adored;
 You with the Holy Spirit
 Alone are Lord Most High,
 In God the Father's glory.
 "Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Acts 17:16–31

¹⁶While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for

"In him we live and move and have our being";

as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we are indeed his offspring."

²⁹Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Peter 3:13–22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia

LSB 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse

LSB 205

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia

LSB 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 14:15–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies
 Let the Creator's praise arise;
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Let the Redeemer's name be sung
 Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
 Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
 Till suns shall rise and set no more.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- △ 3 All praise to God the Father be,
 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Whom with the Spirit we adore
 Forever and forevermore:
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text (sts. 1-2): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823-97
 Text: Public domain

Sermon

Grace, Mercy, and Peace to you from God our Father and Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Somehow, I made it into my twenties before I realized how hard nature works to destroy the things that man creates. As I have gotten older, I appreciate nature's destruction of man-made things. The world would be a

cluttered mess if nature didn't reclaim all mankind creates. Yet, well cared for buildings stand up to the test of time. Trinity, Harvel's building was built in 1926, 97 years ago. Zion, Litchfield's building was dedicated in May 1942, 81 years ago. Earth's environment is sufficiently harsh without being too harsh. Recall Adam's curse in Genesis 3:17-19 "cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Adam's sin introduced corruption to the world and with corruption, suffering.

Peter addresses a church enduring suffering and persecution; a church whose diverse members had come from various backgrounds and cultures, bound together by the Roman Empire. Roman Emperors who had declared themselves gods; the people still had deep roots in paganism. A harsh environment to say the least. Not unlike our modern America that declares everyone to be one's own god. Not unlike modern America that decries suffering and persecution and not standing up for one's "rights".

Peter's life was changed by being Jesus's disciple. Led to Jesus by Andrew. Peter argued with Jesus about casting the nets again after Jesus taught the people from Simon's boat and then tells Jesus after the miraculous catch "Depart from me for I am a sinful man". (Luke 5:8) Peter left all behind and follows Jesus. Peter got it right "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16). Peter got it wrong "²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord!^[e] This shall never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance^[f] to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." (Matthew 16:21-24). Peter denied Jesus three times before the rooster crowed. (Matthew 26). Peter is restored and told to "feed my lambs", "tend my sheep", and "feed my sheep" (John 21). Peter spoke and 3,000 souls came became disciples. Peter and John are beaten by the Sanhedrin and "⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name."

Peter saw God's Glory revealed in the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross. Jesus suffered for the sins of the whole world across time, including your sins and my sins. For the times when you and I, like Peter, don't get it right. When you and I place our wants and desires above the needs of others. When worship, devotions, prayer, and Bible Study take a back seat to other activities. When something beside God, some created thing, becomes more important than God, taking God's place in our hearts. When we, like Peter who walked on water, take our eyes off Jesus and begin to sink. When we care more for the fleeting pleasures of this world than of the Kingdom of God. When suffering comes our way, and we begin to question and doubt God's presence and plan for our lives.

Suffering will come. Suffering will come because of sin, your sin or the sin of another. Jesus's suffering was unique. Jesus died for the sins of the world, once and for all. For all the sins committed before His life, death and resurrection, for all the sins committed between His death and today, and for all the sins that will be committed until the last day. This doesn't give us permission to sin. Instead, this assures us that all our sins will be forgiven. Paul writes to the Romans (6:1-2) "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?"

Peter knew that Jesus suffered and that he would suffer. Just as Jesus's suffering brought glory to God, so too did Peter's. Without God, suffering makes no sense. Without God, this life is "eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow you die". Without God, we have no purpose or hope of eternal life. Without God, there is no reason to suffer. Suffering is not for the sake of suffering. Suffering is about enduring all things knowing that God loves you. Knowing that God loves you so much that he sent Jesus as your personal savior. God loves you so much that He would have sent Jesus to save you if you were the only person on earth. God loves you so much that Jesus suffered the most scandalous, inhumane, painful, brutal death to give you forgiveness life and salvation. Jesus suffered and died for your sins because He loves the Father and you.

Suffering is testimony. Suffering for righteousness is a witness to God. Suffering witnesses the suffering of Jesus. Suffering is never easy. It is crucial that you understand suffering. The innocent bitter suffering and death of Jesus opened the doors of heaven to you. Without Jesus's suffering and death, you would have

remained a slave to sin and an enemy of God. Yet because Jesus suffered and died for you, you too can suffer for another. The Holy Spirit gives you courage to face the suffering, challenges, and temptations of this world knowing that eternal life is yours. Rejoice in your suffering knowing that God will indeed provide. Paul tells the Romans (5:3-5) “³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into your heart through the Holy Spirit. That is the hope in which you live, and the hope you are to speak to those who ask. While this sounds like a call to have a brief speech to confess and proclaim Jesus is Lord, Peter is telling you to recognize opportunities and be ready, willing, and able to be a faithful witness, to express what you know, not necessarily a deep theological dissertation, spoken with love, gentleness and respect. For Jesus warns against a canned speech in Luke (21:14-15) “¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict.” The Holy Spirit will guide your words and actions and with work faith in the hearer, as the Holy Spirit alone does.

As you suffer for doing right, know that the Holy Spirit comforts, protects, and defends you from the harshness of this world. Know that your suffering is noticed. Faithfully seek to speak your hope in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Jesus is working all things for the good of those who believe in his Holy Name, that you may be with God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit both now and for all eternity. Amen.

And now, may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. Amen.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church, that the Lord would bless and protect His people in a world where many false gods, known and unknown, are worshiped; and that He would give His saints a clear and bold proclamation of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For patience and endurance in Christ, that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him but also of suffering for His sake, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation and its catechumens, who have received the Spirit of truth in Holy Baptism, that they may not slip into sin and unbelief but always praise God before the world, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the leaders of all nations, that those who seek peace and serve justice would be sustained in their service; and that all who cause evil, violence or oppression would be frustrated, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of mothers who raise their children in all things good, a mirror of God's love, that they may be strengthened in their calling and sustained through weary and difficult times, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the lonely, the destitute and the homeless, that they would rejoice in the presence of the Lord and trust Him for their daily bread; and that the Lord, who has promised not to abandon nor leave them as orphans, would make us messengers of His mercy to reach out to those in need, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the needy, the sick and those who have requested our prayers, [*especially _____,*] let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who receive Holy Communion today, that they would know Christ who does not leave us as orphans, but strengthens the faith and equips the love of His penitent children with His very body and blood, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sit

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

- 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, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
 Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
 Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
 Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** 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. For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him. Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.
 Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- C** **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

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 ✠ 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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Left Column

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.

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

1 Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
With exultation springing,
And with united heart and voice
And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done,
How His right arm the vict'ry won.
What price our ransom cost Him!

2 Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay;
Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day;
In sin my mother bore me.
But daily deeper still I fell;
My life became a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.

3 My own good works all came to naught,
No grace or merit gaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought,
Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair

- Left only death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.
- 4 But God had seen my wretched state
Before the world's foundation,
And mindful of His mercies great,
He planned for my salvation.
He turned to me a father's heart;
He did not choose the easy part
But gave His dearest treasure.
- 5 God said to His beloved Son:
"It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of My crown,
And bring to all salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free;
Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with You forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed His Father's will,
Was born of virgin mother;
And God's good pleasure to fulfill,
He came to be my brother.
His royal pow'r disguised He bore;
A servant's form, like mine, He wore
To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I Myself will be;
For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, and you are Mine,
And where I am you may remain;
The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood,
Me of My life bereaving,
All this I suffer for your good;
Be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict'ry win;
My innocence shall bear your sin,
And you are blest forever.
- 9 "Now to My Father I depart,
From earth to heav'n ascending,
And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
The Holy Spirit sending;
In trouble He will comfort you
And teach you always to be true
And into truth shall guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have done and taught
Guide all your life and teaching;
So shall the kingdom's work be wrought
And honored in your preaching.
But watch lest foes with base alloy
The heav'nly treasure should destroy;
This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.
Text: Public domain

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!
- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957
Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001274

Stand

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*

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
 Depart in heav'nly peace,
 For I have seen the glory
 Of Your redeeming grace:
 A light to lead the Gentiles
 Unto Your holy hill,
 The glory of Your people,
 Your chosen Israel.

2 All glory to the Father,
 All glory to the Son,
 All glory to the Spirit,
 Forever Three in One;
 For as in the beginning,
 Is now, shall ever be,
 God's triune name resounding
 Through all eternity.

Post-Communion Collect

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.

C Amen.

Benedicamus*LSB 212*

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P 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.

C Amen.

779 Come, My Soul, with Every Care

- 1 Come, my soul, with ev'ry care,
 Jesus loves to answer prayer;
 He Himself has bid thee pray,
 Therefore will not turn away.
- 2 Thou art coming to a King,
 Large petitions with thee bring;
 For His grace and pow'r are such
 None can ever ask too much.
- 3 With my burden I begin:
 Lord, remove this load of sin;
 Let Thy blood, for sinners spilt,
 Set my conscience free from guilt.
- 4 Lord, Thy rest to me impart,
 Take possession of my heart;
 There Thy blood-bought right maintain
 And without a rival reign.

- 5 While I am a pilgrim here,
Let Thy love my spirit cheer;
As my guide, my guard, my friend,
Lead me to my journey's end.
- 6 Show me what is mine to do;
Ev'ry hour my strength renew.
Let me live a life of faith;
Let me die Thy people's death.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.