

Confession and Absolution

644 The Church's One Foundation

sts. 1–5

- 1 The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation:
One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder
The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt.
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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 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel/Stand**Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.***Confession of Sins**

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

LSB 151

- 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****Kyrie**

LSB 152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

This Is the Feast

LSB 155

- C** **This is the feast of victory for our God.**
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, You did not spare Your own Son but gave Him up for us all. Grant that by faith we may trust in Your promises and live according to Your will; 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

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

³and many peoples shall come, and say:
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 24:7-10

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

⁸Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!

Epistle*1 Peter 2:4–10*

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse*LSB 156*

C Alleluia.

**Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel*Matthew 11:25–30*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, 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 † everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

575 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. Refrain
- ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.
- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

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Sermon

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and from the Holy Spirit, who calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, and keeps us in the one true faith, until that glorious reappearing of our great God and coming King, Jesus, the Christ! Amen!

In the Garden of Eden, the serpent tempted Adam and Eve with the knowledge of Good and Evil. They already knew good. They were part of God's perfect creation, in a perfect relationship with God. But they wanted to be like God. They wanted to be god. And so, sin entered the world corrupting God's perfect creation. God is a just God who must punish sin and evil. Yet even as God pronounces the curses that resulted from sin, God promised a redeemer to save mankind from sin. Throughout the Old Testament, God foreshadows Jesus our Redeemer and our redemption. God saves Israel throughout the Old Testament, pointing to Jesus, our Savior, in the New Testament. God foreshadows saving His people through David, who saves God's people from their enemies.

David wrote Psalm 24 possibly to celebrate the moving of the ark of the covenant into Jerusalem. A worship entry Psalm, the last four verses celebrate the King of Glory entering the city of David where the Temple will be built as God's dwelling among His people. This foreshadows Jesus's three comings. First, His Nativity, his being born of Mary. Second, Jesus comes to us in his Word and Sacraments. Third, Jesus will come again on the Last day to judge the living and the dead, as we just confessed.

We need to be rescued. Brokenness, destruction, disease, and death surround us. We add to the brokenness through our selfish ambitions, hatred of others, and self-centered greed. Genesis 6:6 tells us, "And

the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart". We cannot free ourselves from sin. We need Jesus. We His Salvation. Those around us need His Salvation. John 3:16 "16 "For God so loved the world,^[i] that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." God sent Jesus on a mission to save souls for all eternity. Jesus gave the Church that mission in Matthew 28:18-20 "18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

That's were LWML comes in. By collecting mites, leftover change, LWML funds mission projects around the world, \$2,350,000 worth. The ladies take small things like pocket change and turn it into \$2,350,000 of mission grants, partnerships to share Jesus's love with others. By serving God's church, these ladies are God's hands and feet to serve God and one another. These ladies support and encourage one another as they grow spiritually through devotions and bible studies.

The Law accuses. The Law convicts us that we can never be holy as God is holy. The Gospel is our only hope. The King of Glory comes in, with and through the Gospel. The Holy Spirit calls us to come to faith, be baptized and be born anew/again in Christ. 2 Cor. 5:17 *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."* God provides us with grace to fight off every kind of evil. Through Word and Sacrament, God provides temporal and eternal means for receiving the King of Glory right now and into eternity. Romans 1:16-17 *"The Gospel is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith".* The Gospel is the life-changing message of God. It changed Martin Luther from one seeking to appease the wrath of God, by doing good works, to one who received the grace of God in Christ, and who brought the Gospel back to the Church.

The world has been in the throes of sin since the 'Fall.' Oftentimes we believe our times are the worst of times. Yes, we have seen horrific and horrible atrocities: wars, senseless killing of babies, children and adults; poverty, homelessness, addictions, every kind of evil one can imagine. Without Christ, these evils lead to hopelessness and despair, to giving up. With Christ, we have God's grace and mercy. We have found favor in the eyes of God for the sake of Jesus, our great Prophet, Priest and King. We find favor and grace in our King, Jesus, as we look beyond the brokenness to the blessed hope of His coming again.

Like King David, we look to a heavenly King. David knew the dark, sinful world, even in his own life and family. But David, a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22), found hope from the darkness in the light of God's grace.

How do you respond to God's love, grace and mercy? You join in God's Mission. You tell others about Jesus and His impact on your life. You pray for others as Paul writes in 1 Timothy 2:1-7:

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

You show God's love for you in your day-to-day life. You support this church and organizations like LWML, a part of God's Mission

A little fearful girl, sleeping alone in the darkness of her room, cried out to mom and dad as a storm rolled across her Midwest-town. "Mom, dad, come in here," she cried in the dark of night, as the storm rolled and roared as if it was in the room with her. Mom and dad consoled her and reminded her that they were in the next room and God is in the room with her so she need not fear. They encouraged her to go back to sleep. Awakened

again and again by the rolling and roaring storm, she said to her parents the last time they entered her room, "I know you said God is in here with me, but I need someone in here with skin. "

God shows you your sins through the Law. God shows you the sinful darkness of the world. God has given us Jesus, God in the flesh, God with skin.. God gives you His grace and love by the power of the Holy Spirit who keeps you and the whole church in the one true faith. Jesus suffered and died for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Rejoice and be glad. Be about God's Mission as the LWML is, sharing the good news of Jesus as you await His coming again and spending eternity with Him in His Kingdom. Amen.

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

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159

☞ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Stand

Prayer of the Church

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

For all the faithful, that we may know and do God's Will, and walking in His paths, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of faith you have given us, saving us from sin, death and the devil, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That we might remain faithful unto death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For this nation, that the Lord would bless all people in their callings and in service to their neighbors; and for all authorities, that they would serve on behalf of the defenseless, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick, aged, infirm, mourning or dying, [*especially _____,*] and those who mourn Charlie's death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would stir their hearts and lead them back to the Church, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, Heavenly Father you know our needs more deeply than we do. We ask that you grant these petitions and whatever else we and those for whom we pray might need. In Jesus's Name. Amen

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.

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

LSB 166

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.

653 In Christ There Is No East or West

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 With God there is no tribe or race;
In Him we all are one.
He loves us as His children through
Our faith in His dear Son.
- 3 So, brothers, sisters, praise His name
Who died to set us free
From sin, division, hate, and shame,
From spite and enmity!
- 4 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be;
Who serves my Father as His child
Is surely kin to me.
- 5 In Christ now meet both east and west;
In Him meet south and north.
All Christian souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

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