

Confession and Absolution

392 God Loves Me Dearly

- 1 God loves me dearly,
Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me. Refrain
- ref Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.
- 2 I was in slav'ry,
Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working
To make me free. Refrain
- 3 He sent forth Jesus,
My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus
And set me free. Refrain
- 4 Jesus, my Savior,
Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior,
Paid all I owed. Refrain
- 5 Now I will praise You,
O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You
All my life long. Refrain

Text: August Rische, 1819-1906; tr. composite
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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 184

- 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us

true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Grace

LSB 185

- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 67:4–7; antiphon: v. 3

- P** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!
C Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
P Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!
C The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.
P God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!
C Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

Gloria Patri

LSB 186

- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 186

- C** Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

- P** Glory be to God on high:
C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
 We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
 For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.
P Let us pray.

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through

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

Exodus 19:2–8

²[The people of Israel] set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, ³while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: ⁴You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

⁷So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ⁸All the people answered together and said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do.” And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 5:6–15

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:35—10:20

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

¹And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. ²The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. ⁹Acquire no gold nor silver nor copper for your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, nor two tunics nor sandals nor a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. ¹¹And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

¹⁶“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C 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 † everlasting. Amen.

Sit

801 How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain

ref Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain

- 3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain
- 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” Refrain

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

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Sermon by Pastor Elect (Seminarian) Jonathan Sharp

Celebrations are great, aren't they? I mean, you've got your holidays, your graduations, your special occasions. We're kind of in a season of celebrations right now. Who doesn't love a wedding? But at the end of the ceremony, at the end of the reception and honeymoon, what is there? The marriage. And years of common, everyday life, ordinary things. But that's where the best stuff is. On my mind right now is my impending ordination. After the ordination and installation, my family and friends and congregation will celebrate. But afterwards, I'll be a pastor and the real work of ministry will begin. The highs and lows, times of joy and times of hardship. Certainly there will be extraordinary times, but there will also be everyday life and ordinary things. But that's where the best stuff is.

We have just come out of a whole season of the Church Year where we have been celebrating and remembering the high points of Christ's life and work. From Christmas to Epiphany, Lent to Easter, Transfiguration, Pentecost, and Trinity. All these festivals are wonderful celebrations. But life can't be all celebrations and major events and holidays. There has to be some downtime, right? And that's what we're in right now, sort of. It's during this time of the Church Year we really focus on the life and ministry of Christ: his teachings, his healings, his miracles, and his commissioning of the Apostles. The season after Pentecost is called “ordinary” time, but it is anything but ordinary, because in the life of Christ, there is very little that can be called “ordinary,” but Ordinary Time, this is where some of the best stuff is. This is where we really learn about Jesus, who He is, what He taught, and what that means for you and me.

Our text this morning is the Epistle Reading, and I'd like to back up a few verses and really take it in. [Read Romans 5.1-15]. This. This is the good stuff. The Best Stuff. This right here, is the Gospel, the Good News spelled out for you and me in plain, black ink. How can this in any sense be considered “ordinary”? But as I was preparing to preach this text, I was trying to figure out how I was going to preach this creatively? This is not only clear, but fundamental to our faith, our very salvation. Christ died for you. While you were still dead in your sin, unable to come to the Father, while you were stained with not only your own sins, but the Sin of Adam and deserving nothing from God, Christ gave himself freely to bridge the gap between you and the Father and give you His righteousness, freely and without cost. What I realized, there's no need to try to preach on this text “creatively.” Paul delivered this message better than I ever could.

So when did you get this gift? It was given to you in your baptism. It is given to you every time you hear the Word Proclaimed. It is given to you every time you come to the altar and receive the Body and Blood of Christ; in, with, and under the bread and the wine and have just a taste of the Age to Come, when Christ returns and all the dead are raised, and those who put their faith in Him celebrate at the marriage feast. From the moment you first believed, this gift was yours, free and clear. But from that moment, from that moment when you first believed Christ's promises, that was just the beginning of your new life. What comes after the moment of salvation? The life that lives out your faith. Learning and growing to be more like Christ. The Holy Spirit working to change who you were, the Old Adam, a slave to sin, into the New Adam, living out the vocations God has put you in and as His representative to the world. In many ways, an ordinary life. But extraordinary because you have been redeemed and your relationship with God has been restored.

But how often do we take the fundamentals for granted? How often do we take the “ordinary” things of life for granted? Those times in our lives we spend preparing for the celebrations? Or remembering those special moments of our lives? But a marriage is not just the wedding. It is every day after. The work of ministry is not

an Ordination: it is every day after. The life of faith isn't just your baptism or your confirmation, it is every day after. Life is made up of everyday moments, each one just as important and special as the big celebrations and special occasions and holidays. As a Christian, every day you live as one redeemed by Christ and that is no ordinary thing. And this gift of salvation, of redemption, of reconciliation, this is no ordinary thing. And it is not something we can or should take for granted. Sure, sometimes we need a reminder. But this gift, this Good News, that you don't have to earn or pay for your salvation, that it is a gift given freely, that's something special. Because in it, we are given **everything**.

After all the major celebrations and festivals of the first half of the Church Year, "Ordinary" Time is just as special and meaningful. It's a time of reflection, a time to really deepen your faith and your relationship with God after coming down from the mountaintop. This is what it's all about. Everything. Christ was born to die for your sins. Everything He did during his earthly ministry, was to bring forth the reign of God and remove the stain of **your** sin. And of course, by dying on the cross, Jesus took the debt of your sin and wiped it away. His blood cleansed you of all unrighteousness. And when Jesus was raised from the Dead, well, that proved that he was who he said he was: the Son of God. And he has made you one with himself, he has restored your relationship and communion with the Father and given you the Holy Spirit. And that means that everything which is His, is also yours. And it's not because of anything you did. It's because you heard the promise, and **believed**. This is a great thing to celebrate. But don't let your salvation be a one-time celebration. Let it be lived out every day of your life as you follow after Christ and live your everyday, ordinary lives as His disciples. It's in these seemingly ordinary things that you find that that's where the best stuff is.

Votum

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

C Amen.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

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

For glad obedience, that we who are treasured by God for Christ's sake may do all He has spoken, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the spread of the Gospel among all nations; for the labor of pastors, missionaries and all who share His Word; and that all the peoples would praise Him, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the fathers and sons of the Church, that they would be perfectly united in faith, hope and love after the example of Christ and His heavenly Father, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For [and] all who make, execute and judge our laws, that their eyes may be turned toward the Lord, and that they would receive wisdom and strength to faithfully carry out their duties, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For daily bread and wisdom as stewards of the earth, that God would bless us with this world's increase, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and afflicted, [*especially* ,] that God who is able to heal every disease and affliction would deliver them according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who commune, that as the Lord welcomed Moses into His presence at Mount Sinai, He would also welcome us to receive Christ's body and blood for our forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

O blessed Lord, through Moses You called a people to Yourself, and from them You delivered up Your own Son to be our Savior. By His sufferings and death, He has redeemed us sinners from our sins. By His resurrection, He has released us from the fear of death. Help us to live as Your people, doing the good works for which we were created, and praying with confidence the petitions and supplications of our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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 glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing Collect

A Let us pray.
 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.

C **Amen.**

Salutation

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

LSB 202

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 ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
 O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
 Let all who hear
 Now to His temple draw near,
 Joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
 And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
 Have you not seen
 All that is needful has been
 Sent by His gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
 Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
 What need or grief

Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.

- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

Ponder anew

What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.

- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen

Sound from His people again;

Gladly forever adore Him!

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