

Jesus,
whom you killed,
God exalted

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. James Harris, Pastor

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00 a.m. April 12, 2026

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR: Page 203

Thoughts as we gather

Christ Jesus Breathes His Spirit and His Life into Us by the Ministry of the Gospel

The crucified and risen Lord Jesus establishes the ministry of the Gospel in order to bestow His life-giving Holy Spirit and His peace upon the Church. To those who are called and ordained to this office, and to those they serve in His name, He grants the Holy Absolution of all sins. By the fruits of His cross, He replaces fear and doubt with peace and joy, and thus gives “*repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins*” (Acts 5:31). Through the preaching of His sent ones, He calls us to believe that He “*is the Christ, the Son of God,*” so that by such faith we “*may have life in His name*” (John 20:31). In His resurrection, we have the “*living hope*” to which we have been “*born again*” and by which we are guarded “*for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time*” (1 Peter 1:3, 5). Until then, “*though you have not seen Him, you love Him,*” and by the mercies of God “*you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory*” (1 Peter 1:8).

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won



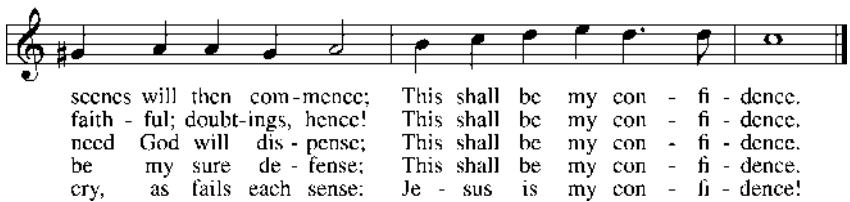
1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er can ap -
2 Je - sus lives! To Him the throne High a - bove all things is
3 Je - sus lives! For me He died, Hence will I, to Je - sus
4 Je - sus lives! I know full well Noth - ing me from Him shall
5 Je - sus lives! And now is death But the gate of life im -



pall me; Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
 giv - en, I shall go where He is gone,
 liv - ing, Pure in heart and act a - bide,
 sev - er, Nei - ther death nor pow'rs of hell
 mor - tal; This shall calm my trem - bling breath



From the grave will Christ re - call me. Bright - er
 Live and reign with Him in heav - en. God is
 Praise to Him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I
 Part me now from Christ for - ev - er. God will
 When I pass its gloom - y por - tal. Faith shall



scenes will then com-mence; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 faith - ful; doubt-ings, hence! This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 need God will dis - pense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 be my sure de - fense; This shall be my con - fi - dence.
 cry, as fails each sense: Je - sus is my con - fi - dence!

Text: Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715-69; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812-97, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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

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

C Amen.

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, 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

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

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

**Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;
make known His deeds among the peoples!**

Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;
tell of all His wondrous works!

**Glory in His holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!**

Seek the LORD and His strength;
seek His presence continually!

**Remember the wondrous works that He has done,
His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.**

He remembers His covenant forever,
the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.

**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.**

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

KYRIE

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

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.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging Him on a tree. ³¹God exalted Him at His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.” ³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 148; antiphon: v. 13

¹Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise Him in the heights!

²**Praise Him, all His angels;
praise Him, all His hosts!**

³Praise Him, sun and moon,
praise Him, all you shining stars!

⁴**Praise Him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!**

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD!

For He commanded and they were created.

⁶**And He established them forever and ever;
He gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

**⁸fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling His word!**

⁹Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

**¹⁰Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!**

¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**¹²Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!**

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for His name alone is exalted;
His majesty is above earth and heaven.

**¹⁴He has raised up a horn for His people,
praise for all His saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to Him. Praise the LORD!**

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

A The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into His side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, His disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Je-

sus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

A 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

470 O Sons and Daughters of the King



1 O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6 "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be."
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord God, like Thomas we wrestle with faith amid doubts and fears. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that believing, we may see, and seeing, we may rejoice in Your Son and the power of His resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Gracious Lord, give courage to all pastors as they preach and teach the Word, that all who hear may believe and that, believing, they may live in righteousness and godliness until the day Christ returns as Judge and Lord of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Give peace, Lord, to our homes and enliven them by Christ's resurrected life. Let the forgiveness of sins reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Assure those who live alone that they, too, are Your children, upheld by Your right hand. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Lord God of hosts, You have added believers to the Lord Jesus in all times and places, from those receptive and hostile alike. Shepherd the nations, and bring all peoples to embrace the Gospel of the resurrected Christ. Curb wicked rulers and break their power, that all would be brought to the feet of Jesus in worship. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Gracious Father, as Your Son's wounds brought gladness and peace to the troubled disciples, give Your presence and comfort to the troubled in our midst [*especially* _____]. Comfort also those who weep [*and especially* _____] with the blessed joy of Easter morning. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- A** Heavenly Father, Your Son suffered on our behalf to win salvation for us. Grant that we may have the privilege not only of believing in Him, but also of suffering for His sake. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

A O Lord, heavenly Father, give us all things good and beneficial to us and to our salvation, and keep us from all things harmful; through Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

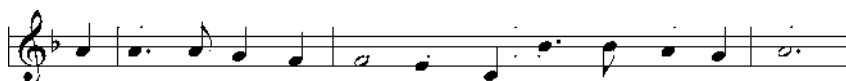
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

A 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.

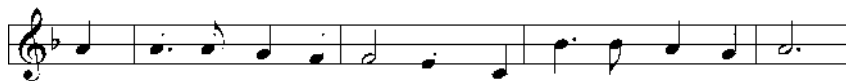
527 O Savior, Precious Savior



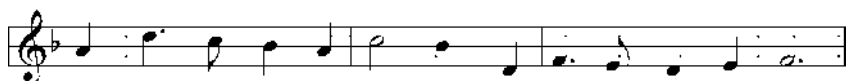
1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, Whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, Who won - drous - ly hast wrought
 3 In Thee all full - ness dwell - eth, All grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 O grant the con - sum - ma - tion Of this our song a - bove



O name of might and fa - vor, All oth - er names a - bove,
 Thy - self the rev - e - la - tion Of love be - yond our thought,
 The glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is Thine.
 In end - less ad - o - ra - tion And ev - er - last - ing love;



We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where per - fect prais - es ring,



We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our ho - ly Lord and King.
 We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our gra - cious Lord and King.
 We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our glo - rious Lord and King.
 And ev - er - more con - fess Thee, Our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
 Tune: Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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SERVING SERVICE TODAY:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| ELDER | Joe Yancho |
| HEAD USHER | Bruce Benson |
| READER | Todd Anton |

SUNDAY READINGS

The readings for Sunday, April 19, 2026 are:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-14 (antiphon: v. 5)

1 Peter 1:17-25

Luke 24:13-35

April 12 – Second Sunday of Easter

1 Peter 1:3-4 – “He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.”

We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Sun. (04/12) | 9:00 a.m. | Service |
| Mon. (04/13) | 4:00 p.m. | Youth Confirmation Class |
| Wed. (04/15) | 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m. | Bible Study Adult Confirmation Class |
| Sat. (04/18) | 8:30 a.m. | Men's Club |
| Sun. (04/19) | 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | Service Bible Study |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome you and invite you to join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall after service. Be sure to check in with Debbie in the Narthex before service. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

YOUTH—Confirmation Class will be held on Monday, April 13, at 4:00 p.m.

ADULT— Confirmation Class will be held on Wednesday, April 15, at 6:00 p.m.

UPCOMING *Events*

Saturday, May 9th – Ladies Gathering “Garden of Friends”

Saturday, June 13th – Men’s Gathering “Bicycling Along”

Sunday, June 28th – Annual Summer BBQ at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 5th - Parish Nurse event “Fall into Cleanliness”

Saturday, September 26th—LWML Zone Celebration at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 18th – Oktoberfest Potluck at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 29th – Advent by Candlelight - immediately after service at approximately 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 13th – Congregational Christmas Party- at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Prayer and Praises” is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at www.ascensionav.org. Otherwise, names will be removed after **TWO** months.

ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Angela Alder | Mary Beuerle | Charles Blake |
| Tricia Blake | Devin Coole | Judy Cutler |
| Durfee Family | Jennifer Millgate | Beverly Moglich |
| Gaylon Pastella | Mildred Sears | Kevin Smith |
| Gwen Strasburg | Rory Tighe | Mike Adams |
| Bob Albert | Brendan Anderson | Dave Anderson |
| Red & MaryAnn Beck | Marilyn Belka | Vivian Bingham |
| Bill Blanton | Grayson Blomberg | Sue Boers |
| Sue Brooks | Karrie Burke | Kyle Burton |
| Gabrielle Butcher | Marcia Byron | Caregivers |
| Mari Caroland | Dan Catherwood | Lane Ceballos |
| Maddie Cervantes | Carolyne Chaney | David Chavez |
| Cathy Connors | Patrick Coole | Robert Coole |
| Scott Crawley | William Creek | Kathy Davis |
| Nick & Julie DeRose | Matt DeWitt | Mary Diaz |
| Christine Dunne | Kelley Dunne | John & Ann Duran |
| Egger Family | Don Eliason | Leland Eudy |
| Heidi Evans | Lynn Fairgrief | Charity Frash |
| Christian Frash | Chrissie Gates | Faigie Gawn |
| Zoey Gilman | Grace Glass | Government |
| Raquel Gudino | Roger Hall | Pastor Harris |
| Kelly Havens | Jace Haynes | Jeanne Hecksel |
| Harry Heike | Stephen Hodges | Kareem Jacobs |
| Emma Kraus | Randy Lam | Addison Lange |
| Debbie Lange | Melody LeGray | Anthony Lopez |
| Kelly Marscheider | Tom & Joan Mason | David McDonald |
| Brian McMahan | Linda Merkle | Dave Meyer |
| Military | Grace Miskimen | Herb Moran |
| Adam Nieto | Eddie & DeRenda Oden | David Parker |
| Glenn & Nancy Pastella | Richard & Alice Pastella | Seung-Hee Pastella |
| Tim & Marguerite Pastella | Mel & Mary Quecke | Michele Rawlins |
| Dave Riffel | Bill Robertson | Ronnie |
| Pam Scott | Noreen Selle | Bea Shelby |
| Short Family | Larry & Robin Thompson | Curtis & Cyndy Todd |
| Joshua Todd | Richard Torrez | Sheryl Truslow |
| Brandon Vess | Donna Wagers | Joni Wangeman |
| Curtis Wise | John Worstell | Cynthia Yancho |



About the Cover: Peter's convicting words that were given to the leadership to bring about repentance are applied to us as well. For God exalted Christ to deliver the forgiveness of sins by faith in Him. All of us have been born into and contributed to the sin that put Christ to death. When we are convicted of our sin by the work of God's Law on our hearts, it is always in order to bring about repentance and faith in Christ, our Savior, who has been raised for our justification.