

+ PRELUDE +

+ WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS +

+ OPENING HYMN +

578 *THY STRONG WORD*

sts. 1–3

1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;

At Thy speaking it was done.

For created light we thank Thee,

While Thine ordered seasons run.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,

Dark as night and deep as death,

Broke the light of Thy salvation,

Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;

Bright with Thine own holiness,

Glorious now, we press toward glory,

And our lives our hopes confess.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

**+ INVOCATION +**

*(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.

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

**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.**

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

**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.**

**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.

**+ 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.

4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining  
 Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;  
 From the cross forever beameth  
 All Thy bright redeeming light.  
 Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
 Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.  
 Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send  
 Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 To Thee laud and honor be.  
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 Praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.  
 Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

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### *SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Isaiah 58:3–9a

<sup>3</sup>“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,

and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day

will not make your voice to be heard on high.

<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose,

a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed,

and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast,

and a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>“Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of wickedness,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?”

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover him,  
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

<sup>8</sup>Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up speedily;  
your righteousness shall go before you;  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*EPISTLE*

1 Corinthians 2:1–16

<sup>1</sup>And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come  
proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or  
wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except  
Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I was with you in  
weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup>and my speech  
and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but

in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. <sup>7</sup>But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to

understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

<sup>15</sup>The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. <sup>16</sup>“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*HOLY GOSPEL*

Matthew 5:13–20

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

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

<sup>13</sup>[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

<sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is

accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*MESSAGE*

**+ HYMN OF RESPONSE +**

*702 MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE*

- 1 My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!
- 2 May Thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me,  
Oh, may my love to Thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

- 3 While life's dark maze I tread  
And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day,  
Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.
- 4 When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love,  
Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87

Text: Public domain

### *APOSTLES' CREED*

**☩ 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.**

*OFFERING*

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH*

*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.**

*BENEDICTION*

LSB 166

**☩** 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.**

**+ CLOSING HYMN +**

*912 CHRIST IS OUR CORNERSTONE*

1 Christ is our cornerstone, On Him alone we build;  
With His true saints alone

The courts of heav'n are filled.

On His great love Our hopes we place

Of present grace And joys above.

2 Here may we gain from heav'n

The grace which we implore,

And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us evermore

Until that day When all the blest To endless rest

Are called away.

△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise

These hallowed courts shall ring;

Our voices we will raise The Three in One to sing

And thus proclaim In joyful song, Both loud and long,

That glorious name.

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.

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**+ POSTLUDE +**

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