

✠ THE ORDER OF SERVICE ✠

March 19, 2023

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us make confession of our sins to God, our gracious, heavenly Father.

C **Eternal God, we confess that we all have sinned and need forgiveness. By nature, we are sinful from the very beginnings of our lives. Through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we continually sin against You. We have lived for ourselves in many ways, breaking Your commands that direct us not to lie, steal, or transgress Your holy will. We have walked in the darkness of bad choices and have left unfulfilled opportunities to do good and be blessings to others. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness and indifference, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and direct us in ways of compassion and love.**

P God promises to hear those who turn to Him with repentant hearts. Upon this your confession, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C **Amen.**

KYRIE

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 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.**

**1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**2 Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.**

SALUTATION & PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 *Isaiah 42:14–21* (The Lord turns darkness into light.)

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 5:8–14* (Walking as children of the light)

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 9:1–41* (Jesus heals a man who had been born blind.)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SONG God Is So Good

**God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, He's so good to me.**

**He cares for me, He cares for me,
He cares for me, He's so good to me.**

**He loves me so, He loves me so,
He loves me so, He's so good to me.**

**He answers prayer, He answers prayer,
He answers prayer, He's so good to me.**

THE 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.

HYMN #571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

- 1** God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.
- 2** Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3** God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- 4** Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

5 **If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.**

6 **Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!**

SERMON

PRAYER ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS ARE GATHERED

OFFERTORY HYMN #422

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

**On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my Life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

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.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son, the perfect substitute, to bring us salvation. Pour out upon us the gift of Your Spirit, that we may receive Your blessings with thankfulness. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our

Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. With all the company around the throne of the Lamb in His kingdom, we join the unending praises:

SANCTUS HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy (Tune LSB #507)

- 1** **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!**
Day and night we join to praise
Your love and majesty.
You alone are holy, worthy, and righteous.
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

- 2** **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!**
We rejoice to join the hymns
Of earth and sky and sea.
Generations praise You, with saints and angels.
Holy and bless'd through all eternity.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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 *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;*
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you**

AGNUS DEI HYMN O Lamb of God, We Pray (Tune LSB #702)

O Lamb of God, we pray:
Take all our sins away—
Our faith increase.
Have mercy on us all,
Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call
And grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

DISMISSAL OF COMMUNICANTS

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.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As Lord of our lives, strengthen and support us so that we may walk as children of the light, and, sharing that kindly light, proclaim Your love to all the world. Bless us day by day, and keep us hope-filled as we await Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.**

HYMN #700, vv 3 & 4

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

3 **Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.**

4 **Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

POSTLUDE

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