

✠ THE ORDER OF SERVICE ✠

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 31:24; Hebrews 10:23; Psalm 39:7*

P Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
C **all you who wait for the Lord!**

P Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,
C **for He who promised is faithful.**

P And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
C **My hope is in You.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 130:5*

P Let us confess to the Lord our sins and trust in His salvation.
C **“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope.”**

P Almighty God, You spoke a perfect world into being, yet now Your creation bears the stains and scars of our failure.
C **“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope.”**

P We bear responsibility for the suffering around us, filling the world with evil and failing to do the good we ought.
C **“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope.”**

P Our hearts are crushed beneath the burden of our sin and with longing for the world to be made right.
C **“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope.”**

P Forgive us, O God, for You are faithful and just and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
C **“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope.”**

P Your hope is met by the redemption and renewal of our God found in His Son, Jesus Christ, who was given to die for you, and for whose sake God 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.**

✠ WORD ✠

HYMN #821, v 1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

**1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood."**

SALUTATION / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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 44:6–8*
(The unrivaled Lord reinforces His power, peace, and purpose for His people.)

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 8:18–27*
(Creation groans in hope for the glory yet to be revealed.)

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Matthew 13:35b*

P Alleluia. I will open My mouth in parables;
C **I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43*
(Jesus shares and interprets His story of harvest and final judgment.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth 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.

CREED *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 #644 The Church's One Foundation

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 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.

4 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.**

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

✠ 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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HYMN #821, v 3 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

3 **Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Ever-speaking Spirit, flood our hearts with gratitude, that our thoughts, words, and actions would overflow with thankfulness for a God who sets His people free and seals them in hope. Bring us near to Your glory, that given a glimpse of our God's surpassing grace, we might live to declare His name and the redemption won for us by Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

HYMN #821, v 4 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, heav'n Your throne.
As within the veil You entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,
Here on earth both priest and victim
In the eucharistic feast.

DISTRIBUTION

(after all have received the Sacrament)

Dismissal

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.

HYMN #821, v 2 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

**2 Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise:
"I am with you evermore"?**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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 #578 Thy Strong Word

**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!**

**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!**

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