

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Hebrews. 12:1–2*

P: Let us confess our sins, recognizing the forgiveness we receive because of our Lord's sacrifice in our place. Gracious Lord,

C: You tell us in Your Word that when we know the good we ought to do and fail to do it, we are in sin. Furthermore, we do what we know You command us not to do. Can we truly know the extent of our need for Your grace? Are we conscious of the multitude of missed opportunities and instances where we failed to respond to Your call? We take this moment to pause and consider together our need for Your forgiveness. We silently confess to you the times when we have failed to go where you have sent us...

Time of silent reflection and confession

P: After His resurrection Jesus said to His disciples, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem" (Luke 24:46–47).

What Christ has commanded I proclaim to you. Having repented of your sin, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven; in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "Be Strong in the Lord" (video)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ.

C: United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace and courage to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way;

P: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The OLD TESTAMENT READING for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost is from Psalm 62.

For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.
He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

How long will all of you attack a man
to batter him,
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?
They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.
They take pleasure in falsehood.
They bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse.

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.
He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The EPISTLE to the Hebrews, chapters 11 and 12. *Hebrews 11:17–40; 12:1–3*

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets--- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Psalm 27:1

L: Alleluia! The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear?

C: The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?

Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:25–34 *(Do Not Be Anxious)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 850 **“God of Grace and God of Glory”**

**God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow’r;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.**

Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

SERMON "Godly Courage" Psalm 62:6-8 and Deuteronomy 31

CONFESSION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED *stand*

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

P: Lord God, as You led Your people Israel to the Promised Land, so lead us in this life until we come into Your eternal presence and into the joys of heavenly peace. Gracious Lord,

C: Give us courage to live by faith in Your promise to lead us, to fight for us and to never leave us or forsake us.

P: Jesus Savior, You have given us the Sword of the Spirit to fight against the powers of darkness. By Your death and resurrection we have received the Good News of Salvation which we have been commanded to share. Gracious Lord,

C: Give us courage to trust in Your Word of victory and to go forth without fear, eagerly and freely sharing the Good News so that all may believe, hear, and be saved.

P: Holy Spirit, Your dwelling in us empowers us to speak out and act on behalf of those who are deprived of justice and live without hope of deliverance. Gracious Lord,

C: Give us courage to stand up for the vulnerable, the oppressed and victims of injustice that they might be renewed in Spirit and find hope in Christ.

P: Father in heaven, You care for all people, especially those who are poor, sick or injured. Uplift the families, health professionals, mental health agencies, and all who are charged with caring for the helpless. Gracious Lord,

C: Give us all Godly courage to attend to and support the needs of others with the abundance of Your blessings toward us.

P: Victorious Lord, who cried at Lazarus' tomb fully knowing He would raise His friend to new life; this morning we mourn with Janice Paulsmeyer whose Baptismal Sponsors Wayne and Marlene Maschhoff suffered a tragic car accident which took Marlene's life and has Wayne in rehab while he recovers from his injuries while mourning the death of his wife.

- P:** We also mourn the sudden and unexpected death of Col. Zachary Hall, Dave Couture's next door neighbor, and pray for his wife Katie and four children: Sophia, Asher, Francesca, and Evangeline. Gracious Lord,
- C:** Give us all courage to support the grieving in their overwhelming sadness with the comfort that we ourselves have received through Your resurrection and Your promise to raise us up with You on the Last Day.
- P:** Giver of Life, this week we ask for Your blessing upon George Kruse, Diane Schefelker, Emily Sanchez, Janet Satrom, Patty Gruhn, John Lundeby, and Jared Brockmeyer, who celebrate their birthdays this week. And we ask also for Your Spirit to rest upon Dan & Rachel Schmidt and Eric & Mary Stake on the occasion of their wedding anniversaries that their joy may be complete in knowing You. Gracious Lord,
- C:** Give courage to those who celebrate and to all of us, that we may ever enjoy Your heavenly blessing and live out our days in celebration of Your divine favor and never-ending love.
- P:** These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.
- C:** Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

- P:** Remember us in Your kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray:
- All:** 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.

BLESSING OF THE LORD *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 smile upon you and + give you peace.
- C:** Amen.

HYMN No. 816 "From All That Dwells Below the Skies"

**From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

SENDING

**P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.**