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Confession and Absolution

Opening Hymn: "O Lord, throughout These Forty Davs" I SB 418 O Lord, throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast; Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past. 2 You strove with Satan, and You won: Your faithfulness endured; Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust In God's eternal Word. 3 Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed And fixed Your mind above; So teach us to deny ourselves, Since we have known God's love. Be with us through this season, Lord, 4 And all our earthly days, That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven's praise. Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838-98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003002 ■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

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.
- ☑ 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.

Service of the Word

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 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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; 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

¹²"Yet even now," declares the LORD,

"return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the LORD, your God,

for he is gracious and merciful,

slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;

and he relents over disaster.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, Joel 2:12–19

a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God? ¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast: call a solemn assembly: ¹⁶gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" ¹⁸Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people. ¹⁹The LORD answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations."

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

Psalm

 ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
 according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
 ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Psalm 51:1–13

⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. ⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity. and in sin did my mother conceive me. ⁶Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness: let the bones that you have broken rejoice. ⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,

and sinners will return to you.

Gloria Patri

C 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.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

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We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

"In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and

for the left; ⁸through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem: "Without His Cross"

Vocal Choir

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Holy Gospel

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ²"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. . . .

¹⁶ And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness"

Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,For songs of praise for food and harvest press,While of Your richer gifts we're unaware:

- Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace, For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
 For Christ Your Son, and for each human face That shows Your message ever new and near.
- 3 Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise, For words that speak at variance with deeds; Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways Unmindful of a broken brother's needs:
- Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine, That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost, That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine," Assured that only what's withheld is lost.
- 5 Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast, For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul, For walls and wars that hide Your mercies vast And blur our vision of the Kingdom goal:
- Open our eyes to see Your love's intent, To know with minds and hearts its depth and height; May thankfulness be days in service spent, Reflection of Christ's life and love and light.

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Sermon

Apostles' Creed

1

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.

Prayer of the Church

- **L** O Lord.
- **C** have mercy.
- **L** O Christ,
- **C** have mercy.
- **L** O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.
- **L** O Christ,
- **C** hear us.
- **L** God the Father in heaven,
- **C** have mercy.
- **L** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- **C** have mercy.
- **L** God the Holy Spirit,
- **C** have mercy.
- **L** Be gracious to us.
- **C** Spare us, good Lord.
- **L** Be gracious to us.
- **C** Help us, good Lord.
- **I** From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
 - From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death; From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
 - From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:



C Good Lord. deliver us.

- **L** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
 - By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;

By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

I In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:



- **C** Help us, good Lord.
- **L** We poor sinners implore You
- **C** to hear us, O Lord.
- L To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

- **C** We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- **L** To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:
- **C** We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them; To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

- L To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:
- **C** We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- L Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- **C** we implore You to hear us.
- L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- **C** have mercy.
- L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- **C** have mercy.
- L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- **C** grant us Your peace.
- L O Christ,
- **C** hear us.
- **L** O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.
- L O Christ,
- **C** have mercy.
- L O Lord,
- **C** have mercy. Amen.

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Offertory

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- **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.
- 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

 Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

LSB 161

LSB 161

LSB 160

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Words of Our Lord

- 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 O 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

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		LSB 163
I	The peace of the Lord be with you always.	
	Amen.	
Agnus D	ei	LSB 163
	Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.	
	Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.	
	Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.	

Distribution Hymns:

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

 Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander! Here is hope for all who grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

 We deserve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich grace revealing, Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here our ills have perfect healing. Firmly in these words believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

- Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
 Weary souls that lost their way Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh In His arms that they may live: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.
 Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.
 Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression, It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter passion; For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- Now my conscience is at peace;
 From the Law I stand acquitted.
 Christ hath purchased my release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven; And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven. Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.
Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756 Text: Public domain

"Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing"

Jesus, grant that balm and healing In Your holy wounds I find,
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin, Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.

2 Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind, Draw me to Your cross and passion, And new courage I shall find. Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard, Saying, "Christ for me was wounded," That the tempter flee confounded.

3 If the world my heart entices With the broad and easy road, With seductive, sinful vices, Let me weigh the awful load You were willing to endure. Help me flee all thoughts impure And to master each temptation, Calm in prayer and meditation.

Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord, is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross revives me, Granting new life to my soul. Yes, Your comfort renders sweet Ev'ry bitter cup I meet; For Your all-atoning passion Has procured my soul's salvation. LSB 421

5 O my God, my rock and tower, Grant that in Your death I trust, Knowing death has lost its power Since You crushed it in the dust. Savior, let Your agony Ever help and comfort me; When I die be my protection, Light and life and resurrection.
Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. composite, alt. Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:

A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. 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.

Post-Communion Collect

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

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: "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

- 1 Lord Jesus, think on me
 - And purge away my sin; From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.
- Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;
 Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.

LSB 166

LSB 610

- Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle's strife;
 In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!
- Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;
 Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.
- Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past,
 I may the_eternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 365–c. 414; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–96, alt. Text: Public domain

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