

## **CONFESSIONAL SERVICE**

The pre-service music is muted and quiet. Please be silent and meditate on Jesus' Passion.

#### **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

#### CHORAL PSALMODY

- 1. Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true; In your presence let me stay, by your Spirit show the way; Your salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.
- 2. So shall sinners be restored and return to you, their Lord; Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing your love; Touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.
- 3. Not the formal sacrifice has acceptance in your eyes; Broken hearts are in your sight more than sacrificial rite; Contrite spirit, pleading cries, you, O God, will not despise.
- 4. Prosper Zion in your grace and her broken walls replace: Then our righteous sacrifice shall delight your holy eyes; Freewill offerings, gladly made, on your altar shall be laid.

#### Silence for meditation

#### EXHORTATION

M Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

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Psalm 51

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Be seated

#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M Most holy and merciful Father:
- C We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
- M We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.
- C Have mercy on us, O Lord.
- M We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.We have not been true to the mind of Christ.We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
- C Have mercy on us, O Lord.
- M We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,
- C Have mercy on us, O Lord.
- M Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
- C Lord, have mercy.

- M Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
- C Lord, have mercy.
- M Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith in us,
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **M** Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- C Forgive us, O Lord.
- **M** For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- C Forgive us, O Lord.
- M For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,
- C Forgive us, O Lord.
- M Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
- C Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.
- M Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, you do not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore you to hear our cries for mercy, to forgive our sins, and to grant us the gift of your Holy Spirit, that we may amend our sinful lives and do those things that please you until at last we come to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

Time for silent confession

## ABSOLUTION

- **M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Sing:

Grant that I your passion view With repentant grieving. Let me not bring shame on you By unholy living. How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure? Graciously, my faith renew; Help me bear my crosses, Learning humbleness from you, Peace mid pain and losses. May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Savior, That I may in heav'n above Sing your praise forever.

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

#### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 59:12-20

Sin is a dreadful burden to bear

ISAIAH 59:12 For our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities: <sup>13</sup> rebellion and treachery against the LORD, turning our backs on our God, fomenting oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived. <sup>14</sup> So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter. <sup>15</sup> Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The LORD looked and was displeased that there was no justice. <sup>16</sup> He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm worked salvation for him. and his own righteousness sustained him. <sup>17</sup> He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head:

he put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak.
<sup>18</sup> According to what they have done, so will he repay wrath to his enemies
and retribution to his foes; he will repay the islands their due.
<sup>19</sup> From the west, men will fear the name of the LORD, and from the rising of the sun,
they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood
that the breath of the LORD drives along.
<sup>20</sup> "The Redeemer will come to Zion,
to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD

#### **CHOIR RESPONSE**

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Lord, I ask a blessing for my soul today; Give me peace from heaven as I kneel and pray. Forty days did Jesus face temptation strong; give me strength to conquer knowing right from wrong.

Lord, I ask a blessing for my soul today; Give me peace from heaven as I kneel and pray. I would be like Jesus turning from all sin, With His love to keep me true and faithful within.

Lord, I ask a blessing for my soul today; Give me peace from heaven as I kneel and pray. When I look to Jesus, He will show the way; Help me come to meet Him pure on Easter Day



#### SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:2

The solution for sin is the action of the LORD in sending Jesus to reconcile us to God.

<sup>2</sup> CORINTHIANS 5:20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.<sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6:1</sup> As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain.  $^{2}$  For he says,

"In the time of my favor I heard you,

and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

#### REPSONSE

Search me, God, and know my heart, Lord of truth and mercy. From afar, O Lord, you know All my thoughts, my secrets. And if any wicked way Should be found within me. Cleanse, forgive me by your grace; By your Spirit guide me. (307:2)

#### **GOSPEL OF THE DAY**

Luke 18:9-14

Jesus' parable exposes the self-righteous and the penitent heart.

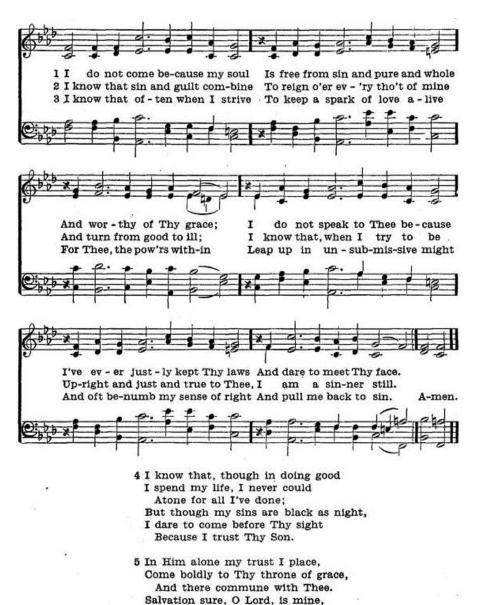
LUKE 18:9 To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: <sup>10</sup> "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

<sup>13</sup> "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

<sup>14</sup> "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

[Ash Wednesday – page 7]

HYMN OF THE DAY



And, all unworthy, I am Thine, For Jesus died for me.

[Ash Wednesday – page 8]

#### SERMON

## Jesus Is Our Great High Priest

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED**

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and THE GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

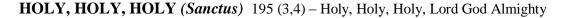
#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Spoken by the presiding minister



# CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

- **M** The Lord be with you.
- C (spoken) And also with you.
- M Lift up your hearts.
- C (spoken) We lift them up to the Lord.
- **M** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C (spoken) It is good and right so to do.
- **M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who willingly died under the curse of this world's sin, so that we may live forever in the light of God's blessing. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:





Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Tune: NICAEA (11 12 12 10) John B. Dykes, 1823–76.

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**M** Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

[Ash Wednesday – page 11]

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C (spoken) Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- **M** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C (spoken) Amen.

#### O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)



Be Seated

#### DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** 



Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

[Ash Wednesday – page 14]

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M Almighty God, because it was your will that your Son should bear the pains of the cross for us and thus remove from us the power of the adversary, help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's Passion, that we may receive remission of sins and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- **C** (*spoken*) **Amen**.

#### BENEDICTION

- **M** The grace of the Lord + Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- **C** (*spoken*) **Amen.**

#### HYMN

272 - Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God



Tune: SCHAFFE IN MIR, GOTT (PM) Johann G. Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.

[Ash Wednesday – page 15]

#### **EXHORTATION**

- M Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world
- C By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.
- M Remember his words,
- C For they are our light.
- M Remember his works,
- **C** For they are our example.
- M Remember his grace,
- **C** For it is ours to receive.
- M Remember his glory,
- C For it is the brilliance of God.
- M Remember his pain,
- C For it was not deserved.
- M Remember his sorrow,
- C For it was for our hardness of heart.
- M Remember his life,
- C For it was perfect before God.
- M Remember his death,
- C For it was ours.
- M Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.
- C By his holy cross he has redeemed the world.

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