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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

AS WE GATHER

We always want to know why. The rulers of the people wanted to know why Jesus was saying what He said and doing what He did. But Jesus challenged them with His Word and with the prophetic voice of John the Baptist. Why did they not listen, and why did they not repent? Why do we not listen and repent? Jesus told a parable of two sons—one whose words were yes but his heart was no, and the other whose words were no but whose heart said yes. We are called to listen. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and we shall be saved.

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 25:6-7; 147:6

- **P** The Lord lifts up the humble;
- **G** He casts the wicked to the ground.
- P Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love
- **G** for they have been from of old.
- P Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
- according to Your steadfast love, remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!

543 WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

What won-drous love is this. soul. What 0 my 0 my soul! sink - ing down, sink - ing down, 2 When T was sink-ing down, When will sing, will sing; 3 God the Lamb Ι To and to Ι То when from death I'm free, And I'll sing I'll sing And on, on; O my soul! What won-drous love this, is this That won-drous love is was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -T I will sing; To the Lamb God and to the Lamb. Who God and to when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll То caused the Lord of bliss bear the dread-ful curse for mv neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my mil-lions join the theme, will the great While Ι is Ι AM, through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing His sing love for And me. soul. for the dread-ful curse my soul, To bear for my soul! soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul. While mil-lions join the theme, will sing, Ι will sing, Ι sing. And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing I'll sing on, on. on, Tune and text: Public domain

INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.
- C Amen.
- May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

The congregation exchanges the peace of the Lord.

+ 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.
- Lord, have mercy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LSB 152

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²"What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

²⁵"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GoD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1–10; antiphon: v. 4

- **P** To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.
- Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- **C** Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.
- Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.
- **C** Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!
- **G** Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- **P** He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.
- All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others....

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

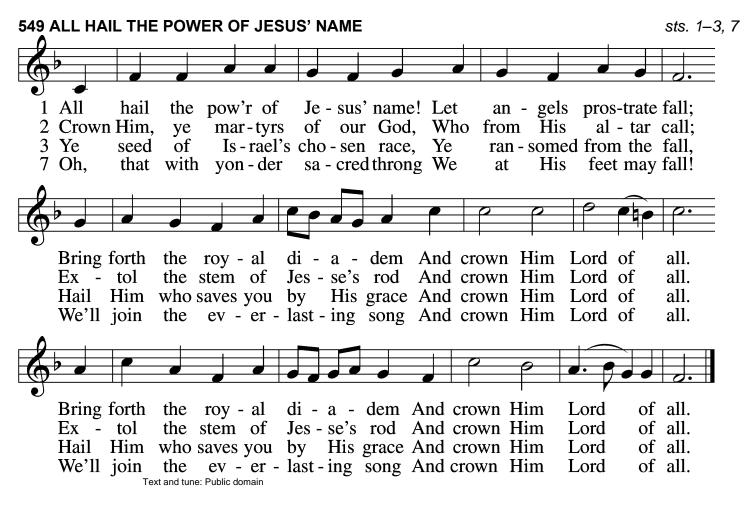
HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **G** Praise to You, O Christ.



SERMON

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life \pm of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As You have promised, Lord, hear Your people when they call, and answer us according to Your mercy.

Almighty Father, You take no pleasure in the death of anyone. As John the Baptist once called a people to repentance and faith, so raise up voices within Your Church today to call a world to turn from their sins and live through faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- Almighty Father, You have given to us the saving name of Jesus. Continue to bless us with faithful pastors who will preach Jesus Christ and His salvation, and bestow upon us faithful church workers who will serve us in Your name. Bless those now preparing for vocations as pastors, deaconesses, teachers, and all other offices as Your Church has established. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- Almighty Father, You are gracious and merciful without end. Deliver us from a spirit of complaint, and keep us from grumbling at Your call to serve You with all that we are and all that we have. Grant us grace to fulfill our baptismal calling where You have placed us and according to the vocations given to us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Almighty Father, Your power continues to uphold all things. Give Your blessing to our president, Congress, governor, and state legislature. Guide all who make, administer, and judge our laws that they be in accord with Your commands and give protection to the unborn, the aged, and the oppressed. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Almighty Father, You know our enemies and those whose purpose is set against Yours. Give Your blessing to all who defend our nation here and abroad and to all emergency personnel and disaster workers who come to our aid in time of need. Guide the nations in the paths of peace and deliver us from terror and violence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Almighty Father, You have given us healing, comfort, and peace in Christ, especially in times of illness, affliction, depression, and sorrow. Hear us on behalf of [names, and] all who suffer any need. Grant them grace sufficient to sustain them in their hour of trouble and at last deliver them into the perfect rest of Your eternal presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Almighty Father, Your Son has set His Table among us and given us the privilege of receiving His own body and blood in this Sacrament. Guard us against anything that would keep us from receiving the full benefit of this communion. Bring us at last to that day when division, false teaching, and impenitence will all be overcome and we shall be one before You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Almighty Father, You give good gifts to Your people. Keep us from ingratitude and guide us to use the resources entrusted to us for the good of the Kingdom. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring to You this day with the worship of our praise and thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

- Almighty Father, You have delivered the saints of old into the perfect rest of Your presence. Keep us in faith that we, too, may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Help us to remember their example and to be encouraged in the struggles of this mortal life by the way You sustained them to the end. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

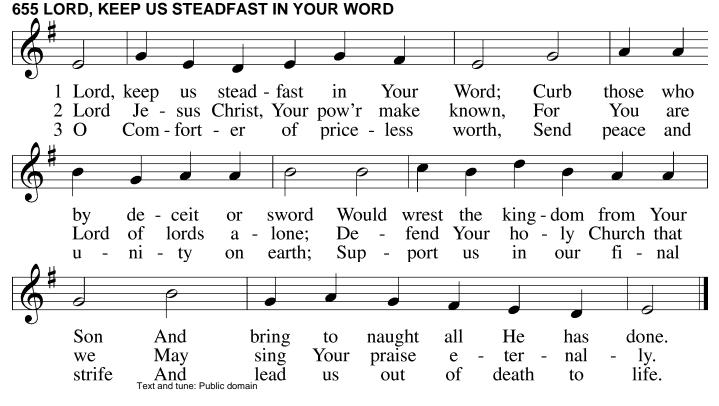
LORD'S PRAYER

 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.

OFFERING

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.



BENEDICAMUS

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

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Prayers

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanks for **Gavin Quarles, Katie Whetzel and Janice Fleming** who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Prayers of thanks for Jeff & Beth Tietjen who recently celebrated their wedding anniversary

Thanksgiving for Bob and Carol Thornton's two new great grandchildren Rylee May and Raidyn Lee.

Thanksgiving for the birth of Isla Summerson

Thanksgiving for the marriage of Joe Hein and Mary Stewart!

Prayers of Comfort and Healing

For all who suffer from **anxiety and depression.**

Prayers for comfort and understanding for all those who are battling cancer.

Healing for Karen Schuster who was experiencing cognitive issues and is now improving.

Healing for all those who have Covid.

Healing for Thornton's great granddaughter Rylee who is a little over a week old and needs heart surgery.

Other Prayers

Safety for all who are traveling.

All who serve in our **armed forces** and their **families**.

For all who are affected by wildfires.

Can we pray for you? Share your prayer requests by email at office@concordiapullman.org or fill out one of the white cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate.