

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

HYMN 686: COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

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

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Brief Silence for Inward Confession)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C 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.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 74:18–19, 21, 20a, 22a; antiphon: v. 2a*

Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old,
which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage!
Remember this, O LORD, how the enemy scoffs,
and a foolish people reviles your name.

Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts;
do not forget the life of your poor forever.
Let not the downtrodden turn back in shame;
let the poor and needy praise your name.

Have regard for the covenant;
arise, O God, defend your cause.
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.

Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old,
which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage!

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.
C O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Kings 3:5–15

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

GRADUAL

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

EPISTLE

James 3:13–18

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

VERSE

John 6:68

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:10–17

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

After the Reading

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

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 \dagger everlasting. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN 526: YOU ARE THE WAY; THROUGH YOU ALONE

SERMON

OFFERTORY

- C** **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

BENEDICTION

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- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and \dagger give you peace.
C **Amen.**

HYMN 917: SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE RAISE

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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