

AS WE GATHER

“X marks the spot” is a reminder that a cross, whether on a treasure map or on a police investigation site outline, has a special meaning. It indicates what is at the center and is of greatest importance. In the Small Catechism, Dr. Martin Luther directs Christian people to make the sign of the cross to begin their day, as he writes, “In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross” (*LSB*, p. 327). He commends the same sacred action at the close of the day, writing, “In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross” (*LSB*, p. 327). The purpose of making the sign of the cross, whether at home or in conjunction with our worship, is to indicate that all our lives are marked by the redeeming action of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross for us and for our salvation. It is a most blessed sign!

OPENING HYMN “GOD’S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT”

#594



1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap - tized  
2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap - tized  
3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap - tized  
4 Death, you can - not end my glad - ness: I am bap - tized  
5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing To this life - long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,  
in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:  
in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,  
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness  
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's  
Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y  
I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the  
To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in  
E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth  
con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism  
font I've trav - eled, All your might has  
dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance  
waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -



more than an - y That brought me sal -  
did re - lease me In a dear for -  
come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your  
bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the  
tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!  
giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?  
tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!  
strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.  
in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.

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## INVOCATION

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

## EXHORTATION

LSB 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 203

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## INTROIT

Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;  
I will rescue him and honor him.  
With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him my salvation.

Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—  
the Most High, who is my refuge—  
no evil shall be allowed to befall you,  
no plague come near your tent.  
For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.  
On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
You will tread on the lion and the adder;  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

**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.**

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;  
I will rescue him and honor him.  
With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him my salvation.

## KYRIE

LSB 204

**C** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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

*Genesis 3:1–21*

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

<sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

<sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel."

<sup>16</sup>To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;  
in pain you shall bring forth children.  
Your desire shall be for your husband,  
and he shall rule over you."

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife  
and have eaten of the tree  
of which I commanded you,  
'You shall not eat of it,'  
cursed is the ground because of you;  
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

<sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;  
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return."

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.  
<sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Romans 5:12–19*

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— <sup>13</sup>for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PROPER

*Ephesians 6:11*

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

*Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 4:1–11*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple  
<sup>6</sup>and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”

and

“On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God  
and him only shall you serve.”

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## HYMN OF THE DAY “A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD”

#656



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,  
2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,  
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;  
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;  
All ea - ger to de - vour us,  
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
But for us fights the val - iant One,  
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.  
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.  
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
With His good gifts and Spir - it.

The old e - vil foe Now means  
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus  
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce  
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,  
 dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might  
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,  
 as he will, He can harm us none.  
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,  
 Are his dread arms in fight; On earth  
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds  
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -  
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -  
 is not his e - qual.  
 the field for - ev - er.  
 tle word can fell him.  
 dom ours re - main - eth.

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## SERMON

### APOSTLES' CREED

**☩ 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

**P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, You sought Adam and Eve in the garden and called them to repentance. Seek us when we wander from Your Holy Word, and give us contrite hearts to confess our sins and receive the forgiveness and restoration You promise us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Father in heaven, Your Son trampled the serpent underfoot and freed us from sin and death by His own death on the cross. Protect and preserve all called to preach Christ and Him crucified. Command Your angels to guard them in all their ways and bear them up for the sake of Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lord, You created the home as the place where we are brought up in the ways of truth, goodness and mercy. Sustain parents in their sacred charge, and grant that our homes would be places of confession and forgiveness of sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lord, You have established earthly authorities to punish evil and praise those who do good. Grant our rulers humble hearts to resist the allure of power and to worship You alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, Your Son was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to suffer temptation for our sake. Strengthen us when we are tempted, and teach us to rely upon Your Word as our defense against the evil one. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, send Your holy angels to protect and keep us in Your ways, that no evil may befall us. Graciously behold the needy, the sick and the troubled *especially Hedy, Jean, Ray, Rose, Sue, Wally, Dana, Diane, Kaylee, Kris, Jen, John, Leah, Regan, Rod, Sadie and Tim.* Satisfy us with long life, and show us Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, You have given us a refuge from the world in the Body of Christ. Protect us from all evils of body and soul, that we would find rest in this life and eternal rest in Your heavenly embrace; 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.**



## 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.

## BENEDICTION

**P** 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 “O CHRIST, YOU WALKED THE ROAD”

#424



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.  
2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.  
3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.  
4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,  
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.  
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.  
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swerv-ing love.  
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.  
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

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