## INVOCATION

*P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.* 

C: Amen.

# CONFESSION

*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.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: 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.

*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 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.** 

Matthew 22:15-22

# SCRIPTURE READING

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle Jesus in His words. And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and You do not care about anyone's opinion, for You are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what do You think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put Me to the test, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin for the tax." And they brought Him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said, "Caesar's." Then He said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard it, they marveled. And they left Him and went away.

# HYMN O Christ, Our True and Only Light

- O Christ, our true and only light,
   Enlighten those who sit in night;
   Let those afar now hear Your voice
   And in Your fold with us rejoice.
- 2 Fill with the radiance of Your grace The souls now lost in error's maze;

Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

O gently call those gone astray
 That they may find the saving way!
 Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed
 In You find peace and heav'nly rest.

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SERMON

PRAYERS

### THE 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.

## **BENEDICTION**

*P:* The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

# C: Amen

 CLOSING Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
 1 Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
 All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore Thee.
 Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

From Thy high celestial home, Judge of all, again returning, We believe that Thou shalt come On that final judgment morning, When Thy voice shall shake the earth And the startled dead come forth.

7 Spare Thy people, Lord, we pray, By a thousand snares surrounded; Keep us without sin today, Never let us be confounded.
Lo, I put my trust in Thee; Never, Lord, abandon me.

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#### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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