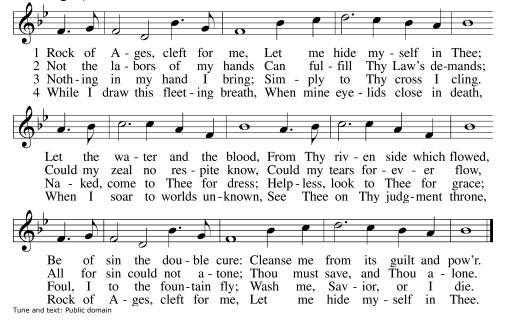
761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- 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.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **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

Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;*
our God is | merciful.
I love the LORD, because | he has heard*
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.
Because he inclined his | ear to me,*
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.
The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;*
I suffered distress and | anguish.
Then I called on the name | of the LORD:*
"O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!"
Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;*
our God is | merciful.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Gracious is the LORD, and | righteous;* our God is | merciful.



LSB 186

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:3–11

³Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the just decrees. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." ⁴And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. ⁶And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. ⁷Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." ⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 9:11-22

¹¹When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹²he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. ¹³For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

¹⁵Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. ¹⁶For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. ¹⁷For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive. ¹⁸Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. ¹⁹For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." ²¹And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. ²²Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.
- **G** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples."" ¹⁹And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

²⁰When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. ²¹And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²²And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?"

Matthew 26:17–30

²³He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." ²⁵Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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

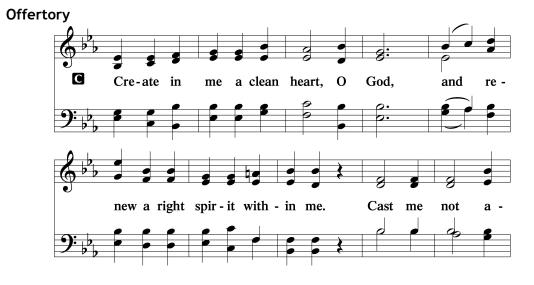
and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

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 + of the world to come. Amen.





Sermon



LSB 192



Prayer of the Church

Strippping of the Altar

¹My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?* Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? ²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,* and by night, but I | find no rest. ³Yet you are holy,* enthroned on the praises of | Israel. ⁴In you our fathers trusted;* they trusted, and you de- | livered them. ⁵To you they cried and were | rescued;* in you they trusted and were not put to shame. ⁶But I am a worm and | not a man,* scorned by mankind and despised by the | people. ⁷All who see me | mock me;* they make mouths at me; they | wag their heads; ⁸"He trusts in the LORD; let him de- | liver him;* let him rescue him, for he de- | lights in him!" ⁹Yet you are he who took me | from the womb;* you made me trust you at my | mother's breasts. ¹⁰On you was I cast | from my birth,* and from my mother's womb you have been my God. ¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near,* and there is | none to help. ¹²Many bulls en- | compass me;* strong bulls of Bashan sur- | round me; ¹³they open wide their | mouths at me,* like a ravening and roaring lion. ¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are | out of joint;*

Psalm 22

my heart is like wax; it is melted with- | in my breast; ¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks | to my jaws;* you lay me in the dust of death. ¹⁶For dogs en- | compass me;* a company of evildoers encircles me: they have pierced my | hands and feet-¹⁷I can count | all my bones—* they stare and gloat over me; ¹⁸they divide my garments a- mong them,* and for my clothing they | cast lots. ¹⁹But you, O LORD, do not be | far off!* O you my help, come quickly | to my aid! ²⁰Deliver my soul | from the sword,* my precious life from the power | of the dog! ²¹Save me from the mouth of the | lion!* You have rescued me from the horns of the wild | oxen! ²²I will tell of your name to my | brothers;* in the midst of the congregation I will | praise you: ²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glo- | rify him,* and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of | Israel! ²⁴For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his | face from him,* but has heard, when he | cried to him. ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congre- | gation;* my vows I will perform before those who | fear him. ²⁶The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall | praise the LORD!* May your hearts live for- | ever! ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD,* and all the families of the nations shall worship be- | fore you. ²⁸For kingship belongs | to the LORD,* and he rules over the nations. ²⁹All the prosperous of the earth eat and | worship;* before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep him- | self alive. ³⁰Posterity shall | serve him;* it shall be told of the Lord to the coming gener- ation; ³¹they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people | yet unborn,* that he has | done it.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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