# Sexagesima February 23, 2025 Divine Service, Setting Four With Holy Communion



# Confession and Absolution

#### Hymn of Invocation





That ev'ryone He chooses, For reasons of His own, Will find in Christ his calling To live His love alone. His presence always leads us Till time no more shall be; Christ's strength, His love, His comfort Give us His victory.

Text: Henry L. Lettermann, 1932-96 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Text: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Hymn no. 10001882

Tune: Public domain

Lord, gather all Your children, Wherever they may be, And lead them on to heaven To live eternally With You, our loving Father, And Christ, our brother dear, Whose Spirit guards and gives us The joy to persevere.

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- 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.
- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

# Service of the Word

Introit



Psalm 44:1-2, 7-8; antiphon: vv. 23, 25a, 26a

Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?\*
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!
For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.\*

Rise up; come | to our help!

O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have | told us,\* what deeds you performed in their days, in the | days of old:

you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you | planted;\* you afflicted the peoples, but them you | set free.

But you have saved us | from our foes\*

and have put to shame those who | hate us.

In God we have boasted con- | tinually,\*

and we will give thanks to your name for- | ever.

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.

Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?\*

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!

For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.\*

Rise up; come | to our help!

**Kyrie** 

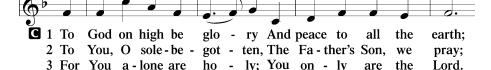


C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

LSB 204

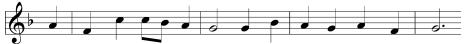




Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing— Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 55:10-13

<sup>10</sup>"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth. making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. 12"For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

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

**Epistle** 2 Corinthians 11:19—12:9

<sup>19</sup>For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! <sup>20</sup>For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. <sup>21</sup>To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. <sup>22</sup>Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. <sup>23</sup>Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. <sup>24</sup>Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. <sup>25</sup>Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; <sup>26</sup>on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; <sup>27</sup>in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. <sup>28</sup>And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. <sup>29</sup>Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

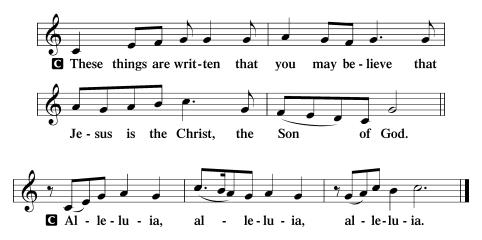
<sup>30</sup>If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. <sup>31</sup>The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. <sup>32</sup>At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, <sup>33</sup>but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

<sup>1</sup>I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup>and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. <sup>7</sup>So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

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

Stand





Holy Gospel Luke 8:4–15

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>4</sup>When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: <sup>5</sup>"A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. <sup>6</sup>And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. <sup>7</sup>And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. <sup>8</sup>And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

<sup>9</sup>And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, <sup>10</sup>he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' <sup>11</sup>Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup>The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup>And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. <sup>14</sup>And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. <sup>15</sup>As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, 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.

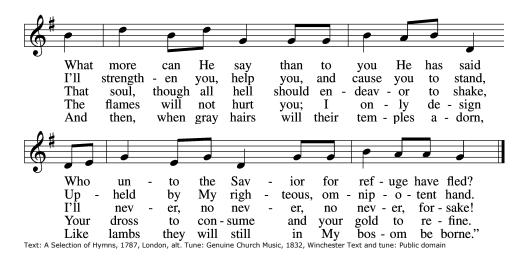
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life T of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

# Hymn of the Day

#### 728 How Firm a Foundation





#### Sermon

Stand

# Prayer of the Church

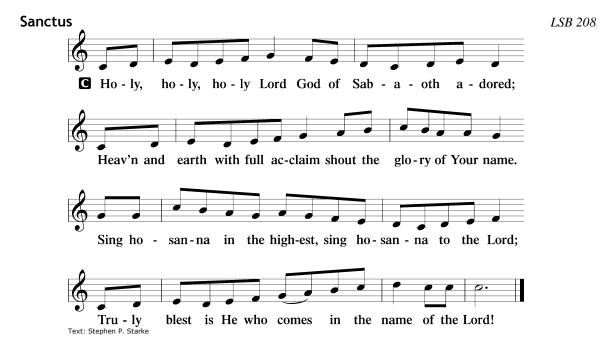
# Service of the Sacrament

St. Paul reminds us to examine ourselves before taking the Lord's Supper. Communicants are required to be members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation. We do this out of pastoral concern and in Christian love. If you have any questions, please see Pastor before worship. Thank you.

Preface LSB 208

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ,

into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## 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.

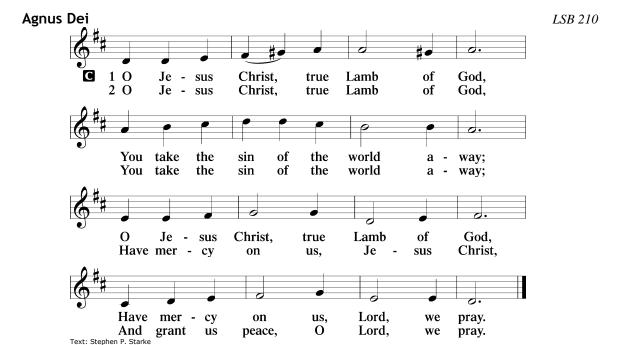
#### The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

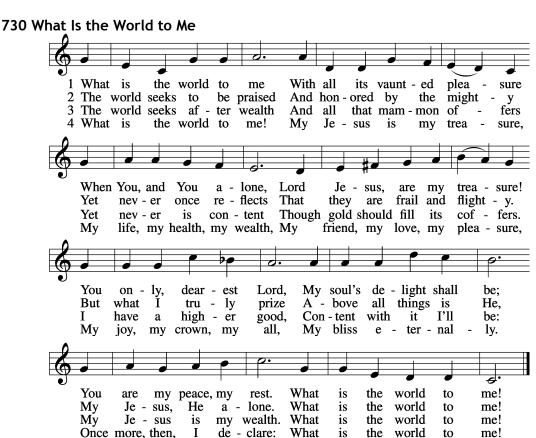
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### Pax Domini

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



# **Distribution and Distribution Hymns**



Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629-1701 Text and tune: Public domain

Once more, then,

is

the world

to

me!

# 587 I Know My Faith Is Founded



Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

A Let us pray...

C Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 212

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

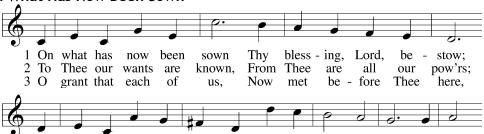
#### Benediction

- 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 T give you peace.
- C Amen.

Sit

## Hymn to Depart

#### 921 On What Has Now Been Sown



The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou Ac - cept what is Thine own And par-don what is ours. Our prais - May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -



in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise! es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless-ing give. low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.

Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89
Text and tune: Public domain

Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen, Pastor Vicar Jacob Stefanec Organist: Sandra Schutte Acolyte: Colin Harr

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#### Acknowledgments

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