

Confession and Absolution

Please stand for the last stanzas

981 To Your Temple, Lord, I Come

LSB 981



1 To Your tem - ple, Lord, I come, For it
2 I through Him am rec - on - ciled, I through
3 While Your glo - rious praise is sung, Touch my
4 While the prayers of saints as - cend, God of
5 While I lis - ten to Your Law, Fill my



is my wor - ship home. This earth has no
Him be - come Your child. Ab - ba, Fa - ther,
lips, un - loose my tongue That my joy - ful
love, to mine at - tend. Hear me, for Your
soul with hum - ble awe Till Your Gos - pel



bet - ter place, Here I see my Sav - ior's face.
give me grace In Your courts Your love to trace.
soul may bless Christ the Lord, my righ - teous - ness.
Spir - it pleads; Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.
bring to me Life and im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 While Your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear You speaking from the sky.

7 From Your house when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
"I have walked with God today."

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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.

G 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.**

Kneel/Stand

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.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 100; antiphon: Is. 6:1; Rev. 19:6



I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and | lifted up;*
and the train of his robe filled the | temple.

Then I heard the voice of a great multitude, | crying out,*
"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Al- | mighty reigns."

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!*

Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with | singing!

Know that the LORD, | he is God!*

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his | courts with praise! *
Give thanks to him; | bless his name!

**For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures for- | ever,*
and his faithfulness to all gener- | ations.**

**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.**

**I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and | lifted up;*
and the train of his robe filled the | temple.**

Then I heard the voice of a great multitude, | crying out,*
"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Al- | mighty reigns."

Kyrie

LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



R And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You and grant that they both perceive and know what things they ought to do and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 8:6–13

⁶Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the Most Holy Place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. ⁷For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. ⁸And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the Holy Place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day. ⁹There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. ¹⁰And when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, ¹¹so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

¹²Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. ¹³I have indeed built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 72:18, 3



Blessèd be the LORD, the God of | Israel,*
who alone does | wondrous things.

**Let the mountains bear prosperity for the | people,*
and the hills, in | righteousness!**

Epistle

Romans 12:1–5

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one

body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



G Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:41–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

☩ 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.

410 Within the Father's House

LSB 410



1 With-in the Fa-ther's house The Son has found His home,
 2 The doc-tors of the Law Gaze on the won-drous child,
 3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might-y truth to know,
 4 The se-cret of the Lord Es-capes each hu-man eye,



And to His tem-ple sud-den-ly The Lord of life has come.
 And mar-vel at His gra-cious words Of wis-dom un-de-filed.
 To lift the earth-ly veil that hides In-car-nate God be-low.
 And faith-ful pon-d'ring hearts a-wait The full e-piph-a-ny.

5 Lord, visit Thou our souls
 And teach us by Thy grace
 Each dim revealing of Thyself
 With loving awe to trace

6 Till we behold Thy face
 And know as we are known
 Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 Coequal Three in One.

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Sermon: Christ is in His House.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-



new a right spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

***** Prayer of the Church Response *****

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
 glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

- 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 † 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 † 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

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

Distribution

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart $\cdot\ddot{\iota}$ in peace.

C Amen.

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

LSB 622

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel
3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y
4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious

our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence
hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent
Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y

and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.
and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.

As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by
This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
 and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
 an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
 pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

5 Though reason cannot understand,
 Yet faith this truth embraces:
 Your body, Lord, is even now
 At once in many places.
 I leave to You how this can be;
 Your Word alone suffices me;
 I trust its truth unfailing.

6 Lord, I believe what You have said;
 Help me when doubts assail me.
 Remember that I am but dust,
 And let my faith not fail me.
 Your supper in this vale of tears
 Refreshes me and stills my fears
 And is my priceless treasure.

7 Grant that we worthily receive
 Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
 And, truly grieving for our sins,
 May prove by our behavior
 That we are thankful for Your grace
 And day by day may run our race,
 In holiness increasing.

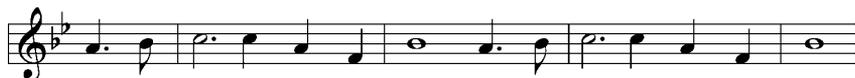
8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
 Be praised throughout all ages!
 Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
 The world against it rages.
 Grant that this sacrament may be
 A blessèd comfort unto me
 When living and when dying.

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

LSB 761



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un - known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



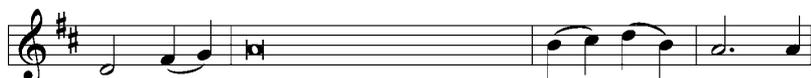
Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

G and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

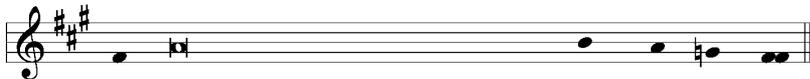
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra-cious un-to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel

LSB 936



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,
oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,
lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - pish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing; Rich mer - cy and
And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.
foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

A Confession of Faith Presented in Augsburg
by Certain Princes and Cities to His
Imperial Majesty Charles V

Ps. 119:46

"I will also speak of thy testimonies before kings, and shall not be put to shame."

Introduction to the Augsburg Confession

Under date of Jan. 21, 1530, Emperor Charles V summoned an imperial diet to meet the following April in Augsburg, Germany. He desired a united front in his military operations against the Turks, and this seemed to demand that an end be made of the religious disunity which had been introduced at home as a result of the Reformation. Accordingly he invited the princes and representatives of free cities in the empire to discuss the religious differences at the forthcoming diet in the hope of overcoming them and restoring unity. In keeping with this invitation the elector of Saxony asked his theologians in Wittenberg to prepare an account of the beliefs and practices in the churches of his land. Since a statement of doctrines, known as the Schwabach Articles, had already been prepared in the summer of 1529, all that seemed to be needed now was an additional statement concerning the changes in practice which had been made in the churches of Saxony. Such a statement was therefore prepared by the Wittenberg theologians, and since it was approved at a meeting in the Torgau at the end of March, 1530, it is commonly referred to as the Torgau Articles.

Together with other documents, the Schwabach and the Torgau Articles were taken to Augsburg. There it was decided to make a common Lutheran statement, rather than merely a Saxon statement, of the account which was to be submitted to the emperor. Circumstances also demanded that it be made clear in the statement that Lutherans were not casually to be lumped together with all the other opponents of Rome, and other considerations suggested the desirability of emphasizing the agreements with Rome rather than the differences from Rome. All these factors played a part in determining the character of the document which was now prepared under the hands of Philip Melancthon. The Schwabach Articles became the principal basis for the first part and the Torgau Articles became the principal basis for the second part of what came to be the Augsburg Confession. Luther, who was not present in Augsburg, was consulted through correspondence, but revisions and recommendations were made to the very eve of the formal presentation to the emperor on June 25, 1530. Signed by seven princes and the representatives of two free cities, the confession immediately achieved peculiar importance as a public declaration of faith.

In accordance with the emperor's instructions, texts of the confession were prepared and presented in both German and Latin. The actual reading before the diet was from the German text, which may therefore be regarded as more official. Unfortunately neither the German nor the Latin text is extant in the exact forms in which these were submitted. However, more than fifty copies dating from the year 1530 have been found, including drafts which represent various stages in the preparation before June 25 as well as copies with a variety of new changes in wording made after June 25. These versions have been the object of extended critical study on the part of many scholars, and a German and a Latin text have been reconstructed which can claim to be close to, even if not identical with, the documents presented to the emperor. There are differences between the two texts, and therefore both are here reproduced in translation, the German at the top of the page and the Latin below it.

continued next week . . .



*** First Sunday after Epiphany ***

The Glory of the Lord Returns to the Temple in the Boy Jesus

In the days of Solomon, the Lord dwelt among His people in the temple. The glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord in the form of a cloud (1 Kings 8:6–13). Now Jesus, who is the glory of the Lord in the flesh, enters the temple to show that He Himself is the everlasting temple and dwelling place of God (Luke 2:41–52). Our young Lord, true man, subject to Mary and Joseph, reveals Himself also to be true God, whose father is not Joseph but the Almighty Father in heaven. Jesus does this at the time of the Passover. For He came to be the sacrificial Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Even as He was found by His parents after three days, so He would later rise from the dead on the third day that the favor of God might rest also upon us. It is by these mercies of God that we present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God through Christ (Rom. 12:1–5).

*** "Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life ***

"[E]very human life, no matter the size, level of development, environment, or degree of dependency, is indispensable in fulfilling God's plans." Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

*** For Daily Devotions ***

Jan. 9: Ezek. 3:12-27; Rom. 2:1-16; **10:** Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32; Rom. 2:17-29;
11: Ezek. 33:1-20; Rom. 3:1-18; **12:** Ezek. 34:1-24; Rom. 3:19-31;
13: Ezek. 36:13-28; Rom. 4:1-25; **14:** Ezek. 36:33-37:14; Rom. 5:1-21;
15: Ezek. 37:15-28; Rom. 6:1-23.