

Confession and Absolution

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

Invocation

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.

"When I urge you to go to confession, I am simply urging you to be a Christian."

(Large Catechism, Brief Exhortation, 32)



THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS

Service of the Word

Though All Our Life Is like a Scroll

Wilfred L. Karsten

SOLA
Jeffrey Blersch

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/2 time signature. It consists of five systems of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are:
All 1 Though all our life is like a scroll Un -
All 2 Though pomp - ous - ly we try to dress In
Choir 3 Though earth's deep wa - ters foam and roar As
All 4 Though crit - ics cut out Scrip-ture's claims And
All 5 Now sing a high dox - ol - o - gy To
rolled with blem-ished pa - ges; Though sin has shred - ded
cos - tumes of our mak - ing; Though fig leaves of self -
surg - ing waves are roll - ing; Though all the na - tions
treat them with de - ri - sion; Though they con-duct their
God who gives sal - va - tion. Both here and in e -
what was whole And death is now our wa - ges; Yet
righ-teous-ness Are fu - tile and heart - break - ing; Yet
rage with war While bells of doom are toll - ing; Yet
hos - tile aims With scal - pels of sus - pi - cion; Yet
ter - ni - ty Let this be our vo - ca - tion. To
here we stand in con - fi - dence, With Je - sus as our
filth - y rags Christ glad - ly wore So we would per - ish
God gives peace - ful for - ti - tude, He nur - tures us with
how the liv - ing, two-edged sword Pro - claims the dead and
Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it raise A sym - pho - ny of
sole de - fense, For He a - lone still saves us.
nev - er - more. His grace a - lone still clothes us.
Heav - en's food. True faith a - lone still an - chors.
ris - en Lord! God's Word a - lone: still truth - ful.
grate - ful praise, For He a - lone is wor - thy.

Oh! how great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his destruction.

-Martin Luther

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Kyrie

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

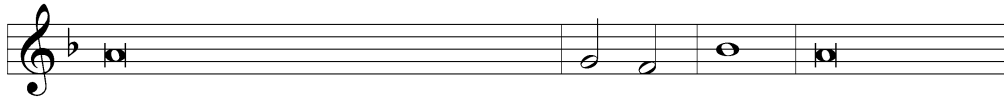
Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

C 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.



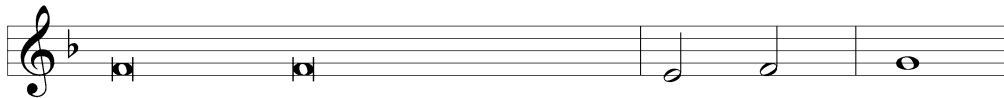
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



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.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; 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

A Christian must be well armed, grounded, and furnished with sentences out of God's word, that so he may stand and defend religion and himself against the devil, in case he should be asked to embrace another doctrine. – Martin Luther



First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19–28

Augustine, Ambrose, and Jerome held nothing at all of purgatory. Gregory, being in the night-time deceived by a vision, taught something of purgatory, whereas God openly commanded that we should search out and inquire nothing of spirits, but of Moses and the prophets.

- Martin Luther

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put

forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

Wherefore it ought to be the first concern of every Christian to lay aside all confidence in works and increasingly to strengthen faith alone and through faith to grow in the knowledge, not of works, but of Christ Jesus, who suffered and rose for him.

Martin Luther
Freedom of the Christian

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

The Gospel Procession

On Reformation and other High Feasts of the Church Year it is customary for the Gospel to be read from the midst of the Congregation. This is the confession of the Church that the Word made flesh is truly present with His Church according to His promise given to the Office of the Holy Ministry, "The one who hears you hears me" As the Organ plays the introduction to the following hymn, please stand and direct your attention to the cross and the Holy Scriptures as they are carried into the midst of the Congregation.

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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Tune: Public domain

Anyone who looks will find many passages in Scripture to set his mind at ease, for Paul fairly screams, as it were, that sins are freely forgiven for Christ's sake. He says, "We are justified by his grace as a gift" (Rom. 3:24) "in order that the promise may be guaranteed" (Rom. 4:16). That is, if the promise were conditional on our works, it would not be guaranteed. If the forgiveness of sins were given on account of our works, when would we know that we had attained it, when would a terrified conscience find a work that it thought adequate to placate the wrath of God?

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.

P **G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear. ¹⁶ "But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, ¹⁷ "'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.' ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

He who will have, for his master and king, Jesus Christ, the Son of the Virgin, who took upon himself our flesh and our blood, will have the devil for his enemy.

- Martin Luther

To make the way smoother for the unlearned—for only them do I serve—I shall set down the following two propositions concerning the freedom and the bondage of the spirit:

A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.

A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.

**Martin Luther
Freedom of the Christian**

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,

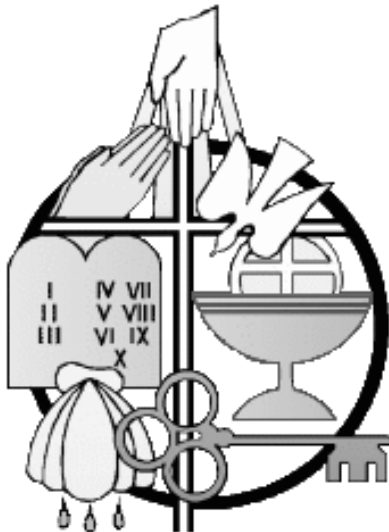
the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

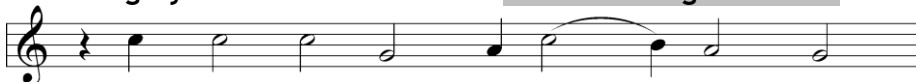
the resurrection of the body,

and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

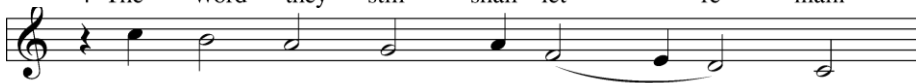
Sit



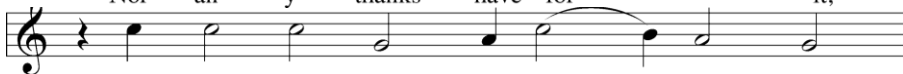
656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God - Choir will sing Stanza #2



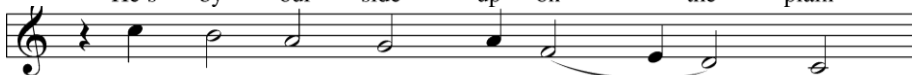
1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



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



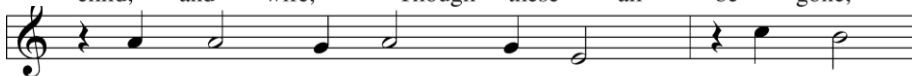
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



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.

Sermon

Stand

Offertory



■ 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

Choir - "O Lord, I Love the Habitation of Your House" - Mark Bender

Stand

Prayer of the Church



Luther is forever the practical theologian and lays down a procedure for the Christian who has no interest in prayer. First he should pray the Lord's Prayer and then he should be prepared to throw every possible slander against Satan. Where there is no desire to pray, there the heart is hardened against God.

Service of the Sacrament

Dear Guests of our congregation, this congregation practices Closed Communion. Please read our statement concerning this practice on Page 2 of this Service Folder

Preface



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.

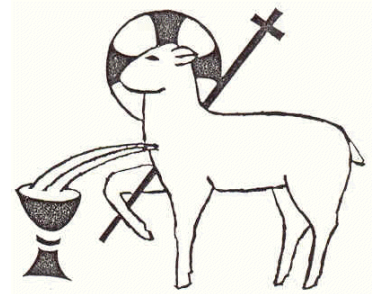


P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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:



Sanctus



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,



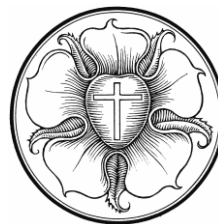
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



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

Who then can comprehend the riches and the glory of the Christian life? It can do all things and has all things and lacks nothing. It is lord over sin, death, and hell, and yet at the same time it serves, ministers to, and benefits all men.

Martin Luther
Freedom of the Christian



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.

But those who refuse to learn, are to be told that they are denying Christ and do not belong to Him. They are not to be admitted to the Sacrament, accepted as sponsors at Baptism, or allowed to exercise Christian liberty in any way.
Preface to the Small Catechism
Martin Luther

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 ✠ 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



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



C A - men.



Agnus Dei



□ 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.



The greatest mistake parents can make is to indulge their children and make every kind of provision for their physical wants and temporal needs while neglecting to provide for their souls. If parents cannot or will not make such provision, they should seek out those who will.

Martin Luther

For a person not to prize highly the Sacrament is tantamount to saying that he has no sin, no flesh, no devil, no world, no death, no danger, no hell.

Preface to the Small Catechism – Martin Luther

Distribution

The members come forward to receive the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Distribution Hymns

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

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Tune and text: Public domain

APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION

John 8:36 says, “If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” Therefore reason cannot free us from our sins or merit for us the forgiveness of sins. And in John 3:5 it is written, “Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, one cannot enter the kingdom of God.” But if we must be born again through the Holy Spirit, then the righteousness of reason does not justify us before God, it does not keep the law.

562 All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall



1 All man - kind fell in Ad - am's fall; One com - mon
2 Through all our pow'rs cor - rup - tion creeps And us in
3 From hearts de - praved, to e - vil prone, Flow thoughts and
4 But Christ, the sec - ond Ad - am, came To bear our



sin in - fects us all. From one to all the
dread - ful bond - age keeps; In guilt we draw our
deeds of sin a - lone; God's im - age lost, the
sin and woe and shame, To be our life, our



curse de - scends, And o - ver all God's wrath im - pends.
in - fant breath And reap its fruits of woe and death.
dark - ened soul Seeks not nor finds its heav'n - ly goal.
light, our way, Our on - ly hope, our on - ly stay.

- 5 As by one man all mankind fell
And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
So by one Man, who took our place,
We all were justified by grace.
- 6 We thank You, Christ; new life is ours,
New light, new hope, new strength, new pow'rs.
This grace our ev'ry way attend
Until we reach our journey's end.

Text and tune: Public domain



566 By Grace I'm Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.
God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

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Our faith in Christ does not free us from works but from false opinions concerning works, that is, from the foolish presumption that justification is acquired by works.

Martin Luther
Freedom of the Christian

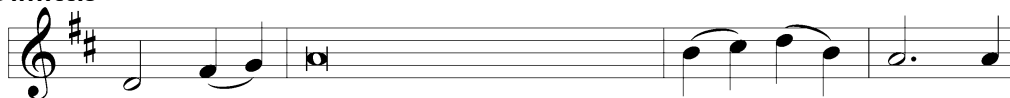
Stand

Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the one, true Christian faith unto life everlasting. Depart ✠ in the joy of His peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis



C 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

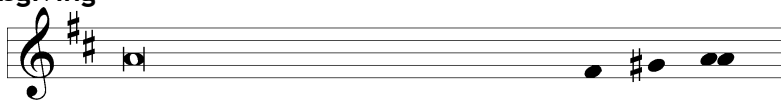


to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

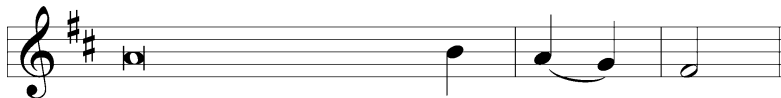


is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving



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



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

P 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.



C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

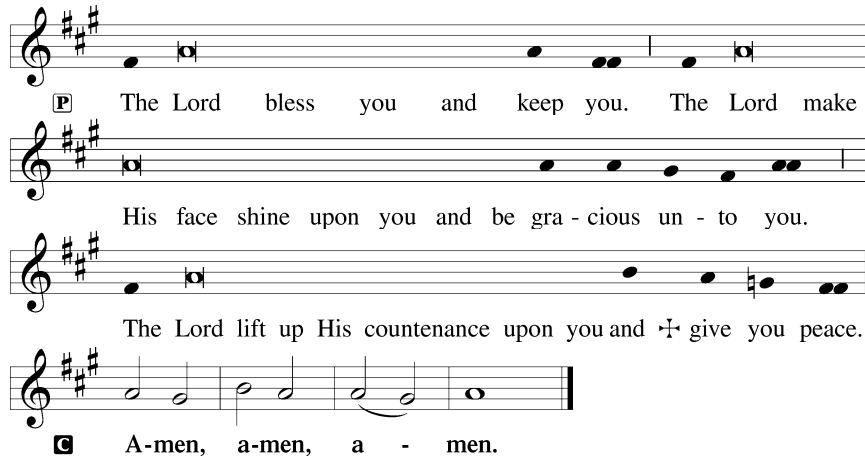


A Bless we the Lord.

Hence the liturgy is to be given the same place in the life of a Christian as models and plans have among builders and artisans. They are prepared, not as a permanent structure, but because without them nothing could be built or made.

Martin Luther
Freedom of the Christian

Benediction



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.



We want to show first that faith alone makes a righteous man out of an unrighteous one, that is, that it receives the forgiveness of sins.

The particle “alone” offends some people, even though Paul says (Rom. 3:28), “We hold that a man is justified by faith apart from works of law,” and again (Eph. 2:8, 9), “It is the gift of God, not because of works, lest any man should boast,” and again (Rom. 3:24), “They are justified by his grace as a gift.” If they dislike the exclusive particle “alone,” let them remove the other exclusive terms from Paul, too, like “freely,” “not of works,” “it is a gift,” etc., for these terms are also exclusive. We exclude the claim of merit, not the Word or the sacraments, as our opponents slanderously claim. We said earlier that faith is conceived by the Word, and we give the highest praise to the ministry of the Word.

Love and good works must also follow faith. So they are not excluded as though they did not follow, but trust in the merit of love or works is excluded from justification. This we shall clearly show.

Apology of the Augsburg Confession Art. IV