

CORPORATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

HOLY SATURDAY



Messiah Lutheran Church
Keller, Texas
April 30, 2024

Prelude

Stand

606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen
Text and tune: Public domain

Corporate 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, on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, we are gathered here in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death.

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C to God my exceeding joy.
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

Sit

- P** Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you." It is as if He said, "I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat."

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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." Again, it is as if He said, "I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink."

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Stand

C O almighty God, merciful Father, 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 God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.


P Let it be done for you as you believe.

The pastor absolves the penitents individually at the altar, laying his hands on the head of each and pronouncing the following absolution, or he may absolve all the penitents corporately from the altar.

P 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.

After all have returned to their seats, the pastor speaks this blessing.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in  peace.

C Amen.

Remembrance of Baptism

P In Holy Baptism we were clothed with the robe of Christ’s righteousness that covered all our sin. St. Paul says: “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”

© We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.

Introit

Psalm 88:1, 6–7, 8c–9; antiphon: v. 3



For my soul is full of | troubles,*
and my life draws near | to Sheol.

O LORD, God of my sal- | vation;*

I cry out day and night be- | fore you.

You have put me in the depths | of the pit,*
in the regions | dark and deep.

Your wrath lies heavy up- | on me,*

and you overwhelm me with | all your waves.

I am shut in so that I cannot escape; my eye grows dim through | sorrow.*

Every day I call upon you, O LORD; I spread out my hands to you.

**For my soul is full of | troubles,*
and my life draws near | to Sheol.**

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray.

O God, creator of heaven and earth, grant that as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Reading

Ezekiel 36:24-28

A A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 36.

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, by the death and resurrection of Your Son You cleansed our hearts and put a new Spirit within us. Grant that all who are brought to newness of life in the fellowship of the body of Christ may show forth in their lives what they confess with their lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Verse



A If we have | died with Christ,*
we shall also | live with Him;

C if we are faithful | to the end,*
we shall | reign with Him.

Reading

1 Peter 4:1-8

¹Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

²so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. ³The time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. ⁴With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; ⁵but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P Let us pray.

O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C 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

Hymn: 452 O Perfect Life of Love



1 O per - fect life of love! All, all, is fin - ished now,
2 No work is left un - done Of all the Fa - ther willed;
3 No pain that we can share But He has felt its smart;
4 And on His thorn - crowned head And on His sin - less soul



All that He left His throne a - bove To do for us be - low.
His toil, His sor - rows, one by one, The Scrip - tures have ful - filled.
All forms of hu - man grief and care Have pierced that ten - der heart.
Our sins in all their guilt were laid That He might make us whole.

- 5 In perfect love He dies;
For me He dies, for me.
O all-atoning Sacrifice,
I cling by faith to Thee.
- 6 In ev'ry time of need,
Before the judgment throne,
Thy work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,
Thy merits, not mine own.
- 7 Yet work, O Lord, in me
As Thou for me hast wrought;
And let my love the answer be
To grace Thy love has brought.

Tune and text: Public domain

Litany of the Resurrection

- A** O Lord,
C have mercy.
A O Christ,
C have mercy.
A O Lord,
C have mercy.
A Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
C hear us.
A Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us and has taken away the sin of the world,
C have mercy on us.
A Who was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification,
C have mercy on us.
A Who foretold Your passion saying, "The Son of Man must be crucified and on the third day rise again,"
C have mercy on us.
A Who destroyed death by dying, and by rising to life again brought life and immortality to light,
C have mercy on us.

- A** Whose resurrection was first announced by an angel to the women,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to Mary Magdalene and was worshiped by her,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who revealed Yourself to the two disciples on the Emmaus road and made Yourself known to them in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to the disciples, bestowing on them Your peace and Your Spirit,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who showed Your wounded hands and side to the apostle Thomas that he too might believe,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to seven disciples on the Sea of Tiberias, bringing a miraculous catch of fish,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who appeared to Peter and to the Twelve, to over 500 disciples, to James and to all the apostles, and to Paul on the Damascus road,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Who commissioned Your Church to make disciples of all nations by baptizing and teaching them,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** By Your glorious resurrection from the dead,
C **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By Your victory over sin and death,
C **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** By the majesty of Your risen body,
C **good Lord, deliver us.**
- A** We poor sinners implore You
C **to hear us, Lord Jesus.**
- A** That we may daily die and rise with You in our Baptism and walk in the freedom of Your forgiveness,
C **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** That we may set our minds on things above and not on earthly things, serving others as we have been served by You,
C **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** That we may dwell with You forever in the new creation as citizens of the heavenly Jerusalem, together with all the saints,
C **grant us, good Lord.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C **have mercy on us.**
- A** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

A O Lord,

C have mercy.

A O Christ,

C have mercy.

A O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

A "I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."



C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

- A** “I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”

Concluding Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, our shepherd, You gather the lambs of Your flock into the arms of Your mercy and bring them home. Comfort us with the certain hope of the resurrection to everlasting life and a joyful reunion with those we love who have died in the faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, by the death of Your Son Jesus Christ You destroyed death, by His rest in the tomb You sanctified the graves of Your saints, and by His bodily resurrection You brought life and immortality to light so that all who die in Him abide in peace and hope. Receive our thanks for the victory over death and the grave that He won for us. Keep us in everlasting communion with all who wait for Him on earth and with all in heaven who are with Him, for He is the resurrection and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P O God, for our redemption You gave Your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross and by His glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy. Grant that all our sin may be drowned through daily repentance and that day by day we may arise to live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction and Dismissal

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord. Amen.

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Brief Service of the Word from Lutheran Service Book; Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.; Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.



I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees.

Ezekiel 36:24-28