



## OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: When the children of Israel lived in Egypt and were slaves,

**People: God sent ten plagues upon Egypt to set His people free and give them rest.**

Pastor: When the children of Israel had their backs to the Red Sea,

**People: they saw God part the Red Sea and they walked across on dry ground as He gave them rest from their enemy.**

Pastor: When there was no way out for us because of our sin,

**People: God sent His Son to the cross, that all who believe would have eternal life and rest in that hope.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Hebrews 1:1–2*

Pastor: Almighty and eternal God, You see things from an eternal perspective,

**People: and we see things from a limited human perspective.**

Pastor: You are omniscient, knowing all;

**People: we are but mortal.**

Pastor: In many and various ways You spoke to Your people in the past, using the prophets as Your mouthpieces.

**People: Your people often disobeyed and provoked Your wrath.**

Pastor: When You bid them enter the Promised Land, they would not,

**People: and You denied that generation any rest, sending them wandering for forty years.**

Pastor: Today, in these last times, You have spoken to us through Your Son.

**People: When we fail to believe in Him, and the message of the cross, we put ourselves in danger of missing out on the rest You desire to give us.**

Pastor: We need rest from our enemies,

**People: from the devil, all his works and ways, and from our own sinful flesh.**

Pastor: Forgive us for rebelling against You, Lord,

**People: for the sins of thought, word, and deed. Forgive us; wash us clean in Holy Baptism and the blood of the cross.**

Pastor: I now ask you before God, who searches the heart: is this your sincere confession?

**People: Yes, it is my sincere confession.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I bring you Good News from the King of kings Himself. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. Thank You, Lord, for Your loving kindness and for Your forgiveness.**

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, Your divine wisdom sets in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful and give us those things that are beneficial for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Ecclesiastes 5:10–20*

<sup>10</sup> Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless.

<sup>11</sup> As goods increase, so do those who consume them.

And what benefit are they to the owners except to feast their eyes on them?

<sup>12</sup> The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether they eat little or much, but as for the rich, their abundance permits them no sleep.

<sup>13</sup> I have seen a grievous evil under the sun: wealth hoarded to the harm of its owners,

<sup>14</sup> or wealth lost through some misfortune,

so that when they have children

there is nothing left for them to inherit.

<sup>15</sup> Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb,

and as everyone comes, so they depart.

They take nothing from their toil that they can carry in their hands.

<sup>16</sup> This too is a grievous evil:

As everyone comes, so they depart,

and what do they gain,

since they toil for the wind?

<sup>17</sup> All their days they eat in darkness,

with great frustration, affliction and anger.

<sup>18</sup> This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot. <sup>19</sup> Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God. <sup>20</sup> They seldom reflect on the days of their life, because God keeps them occupied with gladness of heart.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## **EPISTLE**     *Hebrews 4:1–13*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. <sup>2</sup> For we also have had the good news proclaimed to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not share the faith of those who obeyed.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>3</sup> Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, “So I declared on oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’”<sup>[b]</sup>

And yet his works have been finished since the creation of the world. <sup>4</sup> For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: “On the seventh day God rested from all his works.”<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>5</sup> And again in the passage above he says, “They shall never enter my rest.”

<sup>6</sup> Therefore since it still remains for some to enter that rest, and since those who formerly had the good news proclaimed to them did not go in because of their disobedience, <sup>7</sup> God again set a certain day, calling it “Today.” This he did when a long time later he spoke through David, as in the passage already quoted: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”<sup>[d]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. <sup>9</sup> There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; <sup>10</sup> for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from their works,<sup>[e]</sup> just as God did from his. <sup>11</sup> Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.

<sup>12</sup> For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

**Pastor:**     This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:**     **Thanks be to God.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**     *Mark 10:23–31*

**Pastor:**     The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

**People:**     **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup> Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!” <sup>24</sup> The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is<sup>[a]</sup> to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>26</sup> The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?” <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

<sup>28</sup> Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!”

<sup>29</sup> “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel <sup>30</sup> will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

**Pastor:**     This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:**     **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN** LSB 644 THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

- 1 The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word.  
From heav'n He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With ev'ry grace endued.
- 3 Though with a scornful wonder  
The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; >>>

- Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
Shall be the morn of song.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union  
With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.  
O blessèd heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us,  
May see You face to face.

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**THE SERMON** "Word(s)" Hebrews 4:1-13

**CREED** *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. 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.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**OFFERING** Praise the Lord

**OFFERTORY SONG** Build My Life

Verse 1)

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing

Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring

Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe

We live for You

**(Chorus)**

**Holy there is no one like You**

**There is none beside You**

**Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are**

**And fill me with Your heart**

**And lead me in Your love to those around me**

(Verse 2)

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name >>>>

Jesus the only one who could ever save

Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe We live for You

We live for You

**(Sing Chorus again)**

(Bridge)

I will build my life upon Your word

It is a firm foundation

I will put my trust in You alone

And I will not be shaken

(Repeat Bridge)

**(Sing Chorus 2x)**

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## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: 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. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a Second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS LSB 636 SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS vv. 1-6

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| <p><b>1</b> Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,<br/>Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,<br/>Come into the daylight's splendor,<br/>There with joy your praises render.<br/>Bless the One whose grace unbounded<br/>This amazing banquet founded;<br/>He, though heav'nly, high, and holy,<br/>Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.</p> <p><b>2</b> Hasten as a bride to meet Him,<br/>And with loving rev'ence greet Him.<br/>For with words of life immortal<br/>He is knocking at your portal.<br/>Open wide the gates before Him,<br/>Saying, as you there adore Him:<br/>Grant, Lord, that I now receive You,<br/>That I nevermore will leave You.</p> <p><b>3</b> He who craves a precious treasure<br/>Neither cost nor pain will measure;<br/>But the priceless gifts of heaven<br/>God to us has freely given.<br/>Though the wealth of earth were proffered,<br/>None could buy the gifts here offered:<br/>Christ's true body, for you riven,<br/>And His blood, for you once given.</p> | <p><b>4</b> Now in faith I humbly ponder<br/>Over this surpassing wonder<br/>That the bread of life is boundless<br/>Though the souls it feeds are countless:<br/>With the choicest wine of heaven<br/>Christ's own blood to us is given.<br/>Oh, most glorious consolation,<br/>Pledge and seal of my salvation!</p> <p><b>5</b> Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,<br/>Truest friend, and dearest treasure,<br/>Peace beyond all understanding,<br/>Joy into all life expanding:<br/>Humbly now, I bow before You;<br/>Love incarnate, I adore You;<br/>Worthily let me receive You<br/>And, so favored, never leave You.</p> <p><b>6</b> Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,<br/>Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,<br/>Jesus, joy of my desiring,<br/>Fount of life, my soul inspiring:<br/>At Your feet I cry, my maker,<br/>Let me be a fit partaker<br/>Of this blessed food from heaven,<br/>For our good, Your glory, given.</p> |
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## LSB 628 YOUR TABLE I APPROACH

- 1 Your table I approach;  
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.  
Let not an unrepentant heart  
Prove hurtful to me there.
- 2 Lord, I confess my sins  
And mourn their wretched bands;  
A contrite heart is sure to find  
Forgiveness at Your hands.
- 3 Your body and Your blood,  
Once slain and shed for me,  
Are taken at Your table, Lord,  
In blest reality.
- 4 Search not how this takes place,  
This wondrous mystery;  
God can accomplish vastly more  
Than what we think could be.
- 5 O grant, most blessed Lord,  
That earth and hell combined  
May not about this sacrament  
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail  
To thank You day and night  
For Your true body and true blood,  
O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. | Text: Public domain

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

**Pastor:** 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 ✠ give you peace.

**People:** Amen.



**CLOSING SONG** Praise the Lord

(Verse 1)

Awaken my soul arise and sing  
For all that my Savior's done for me  
Oh give Him your praise worship His name  
All that I am sing hallelujah

(Verse 2)

Forever I'm free forever I'm changed  
Forever my life defined by His grace  
With every step every breath  
All that I am sing hallelujah

**(Chorus )**

**Oh my whole heart oh my soul  
Let everything within me praise the Lord  
Through the shadow through the storm  
Let everything within me praise the Lord  
We praise the Lord**

(Verse 3)

Faith is my shield Your word is my sword  
The greater the fight the louder I'll roar  
The Spirit that raised Him from the grave  
Living in me sing hallelujah

**(Sing Chorus again)**

(Bridge)

I won't stop singing of all He's done for me  
I won't stop singing of all He's done for me  
He heard my cry set me on a rock  
Saved me from the hand of the enemy  
I won't stop singing about my Savior

(Repeat Bridge)

**(Sing Chorus and Ending)**

**Oh my whole heart oh my soul  
Let everything within me praise the Lord  
Through the shadow through the storm  
Let everything within me praise the Lord  
Let everything within me praise the Lord  
Let everything within me praise the Lord  
We praise the Lord  
We praise the Lord  
We praise the Lord!**