

Confession and Absolution

Please stand as you are able. 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.

Exhortation

- 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,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- **P** 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.

Absolution LSB 213

- 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.

Sharing the Peace

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

sung by soloist - LSB 942, LSB 943 (stanza 2), LSB 942 (public domain)

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies



Salutation and Collect of the Day

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

O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

Verse of the Month

- P Our service continues as we speak our Verse of the Month from Malachi, chapter three, verse seventeen.
- "They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him." Malachi 3:17

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

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

Psalmody Psalm 98:1-9

- P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
- The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- P Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!
- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!
- P Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!
- Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together
- **P** before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle 2 Thessalonians 3:1–13

¹Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ²and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. ³But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. ⁴And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. ⁵May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

⁶Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. ⁹It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹²Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

¹³As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

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

Please stand as you are able out of respect for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:5–28

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.
 - Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, ⁶"As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." ⁷And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things

are about to take place?" ⁸And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. ⁹And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

¹⁰Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. ¹²But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. ¹³This will be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all for my name's sake. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your lives.

²⁰"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, ²²for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. ²³Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. ²⁴They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

²⁵"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

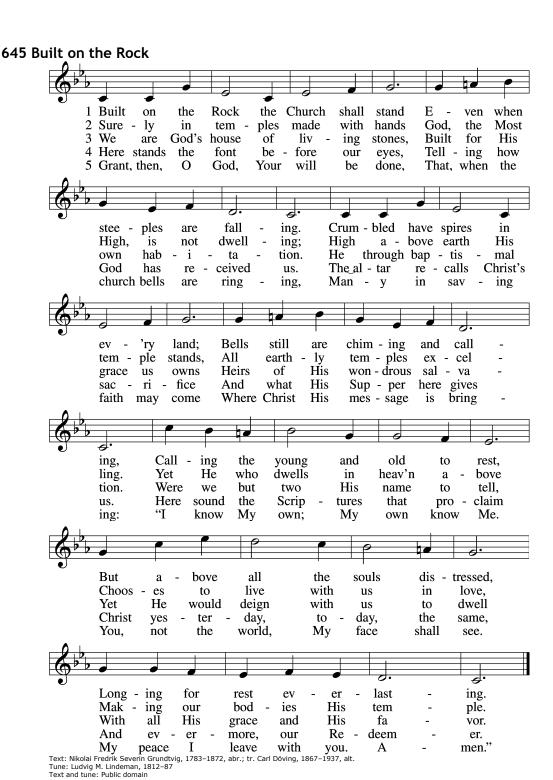
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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.

Please be seated.

Sermon



Rite of the Reception of New Members

- P Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.
- **P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- \mathbb{R} Yes, I do.
- **P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
- **R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?
- **R** Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- **P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- R I do.
- **P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- **R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- **P** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?
- \mathbb{R} I do.
- Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?
- **R** *I will, with the help of God.*
- P Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are <u>[a member/members]</u> of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The pastor may extend the right hand of fellowship, greeting each by name. The rite concludes with the following blessing:

- P The grace of our + Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
- C Amen.

The new members return to their places.

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent

love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

- **C** hear our prayer.
- May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- E Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer
- And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

Please be seated.

Service of the Sacrament

Please stand as you are able.

Preface LSB 216

- **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.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to 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. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

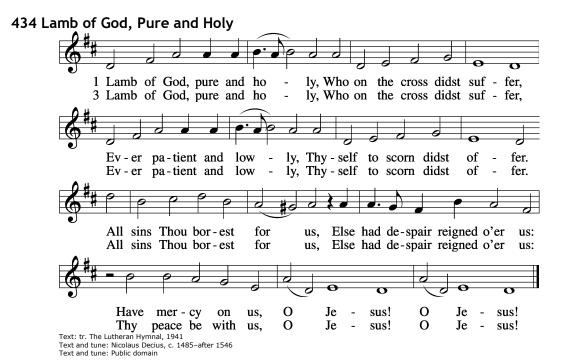
The Words of Our Lord

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 always.
- C Amen.



Please be seated.

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Distribution 217

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

sts. 1, 3

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

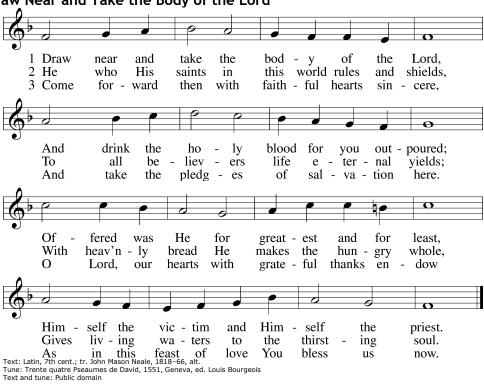
Dismissal Statement

The body and blood of our lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace and joy.

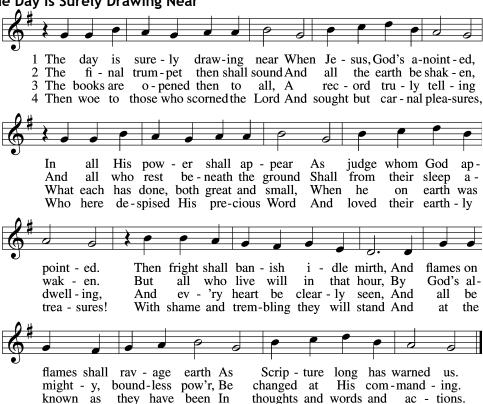
218

C Amen.

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord



508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



Sa - tan

be

de - liv - ered.

5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know
My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

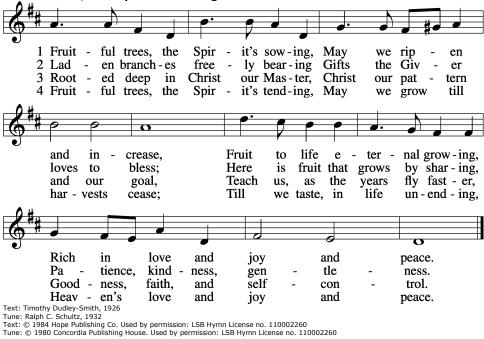
judg - e's stern com - mand To

6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.

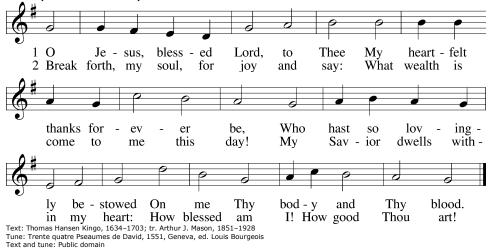
Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.

691 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing



632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee



Post-Communion Collect

A 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.

C Amen.

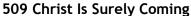
Benedicamus 218

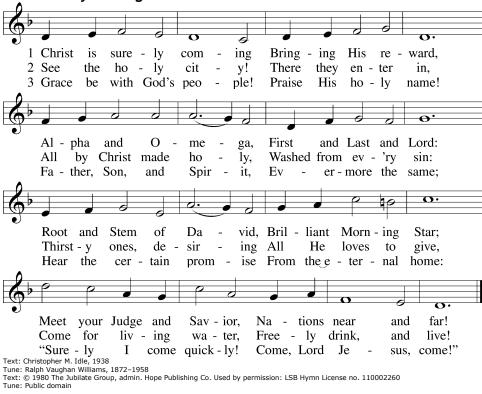
- Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.

 \mathbf{C} Amen.





Acknowledgments

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