



# Individual Confession and Absolution

*If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld. John 20:23*

*Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Matthew 18:18*

*The person seeking forgiveness may say:*

I confess to you and to almighty God that I am by nature sinful and unclean, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that I cannot escape the consequences of my sin. I can only implore God's mercy in Jesus Christ, who has made full satisfaction.

*The penitent confesses in his/her own words.*

*The pastor, with laying-on of hands, says:*

Upon your confession, and speaking according to the council of God, I declare you in God's stead free from all your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## PSALM 130:1-8

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,

and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord

more than watchmen for the morning.

more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love  
and with him is plentiful redemption.

And he will redeem Israel  
from all his iniquities.

Glory be to the Father, and + to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.