



Order for Public Confession

HYMN

Leader: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C Make haste to help me, O Lord.

Leader: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

C A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You wilt not de - spise.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

C As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with -

out end. A - men.

PSALM 51:1-13, 15 *(May be said or sung)*

Have mercy on me, O God,
 according to your steadfast love;
 according to your abundant mercy
 blot out my transgressions.
 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
 and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions,
 and my sin is ever before me.
 Against you, you only, have I sinned
 and done what is evil in your sight,
 so that you may be justified in your words
 and blameless in your judgment.
 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
 and in sin did my mother conceive me.
 Behold, you delight in truth in the
 inward being,
 and you teach me wisdom in the
 secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
 wash me, and I shall be whiter
 than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;
 let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins,
 and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
 and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
 and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
 and sinners will return to you.

O Lord, open my lips,
 and my mouth will declare your praise.

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.

LESSONS *(May be said or sung)*

Exodus 20:1-17

Luke 13:1-9

Isaiah 1:11-18

Luke 15:1-2, 11-31

Isaiah 57:14-21

John 13:1-17

Daniel 9:4-9, 17-19

John 20:19-23

Matthew 5:21-29

1 Corinthians 11:23-29

Matthew 11:25-30

1 John 1:5-9

Mark 12: 28-31

SERMON**HYMN***Stand*

When this service is used as preparation for Holy Communion, the minister continues with the following exhortation. When used for other occasions, the service continues with the prayer below.

EXHORTATION

Brothers and sisters in Christ, to receive this Holy Sacrament in a worthy manner, consider what we must now believe and do.

We should believe that Jesus Christ himself is truly present in the bread and wine as his words declare: "This is my body, which is given for you; this is my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sin."

We should also trust that Jesus Christ forgives our sins as his words promise: "for the forgiveness of sin."

Finally, we should do as Christ commands when he says: "Take. Eat. Drink. Do this in remembrance of me."

When we repent, believe these words, and do as Christ commands, then we have rightly examined ourselves and may worthily come to the Lord's table for the forgiveness of all our sins.

Together, we should also give thanks to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for this great gift. We should love one another with a pure heart, and with the whole Christian church take comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. May our heavenly Father grant us his grace; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

- OR -

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Apostle Paul admonishes us: Examine yourselves before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

Scripture hereby encourages us to come to the Lord's table, believing that Jesus Christ is himself present in the bread and the wine as his words declare: "This is my body. This is my blood."

Scripture also encourages us to come trusting in the forgiveness of sins, as Jesus says, "For you, for the forgiveness of sin."

Finally, we are encouraged to do as Christ commands when he says: "Take. Eat. Drink. Do this in remembrance of me."

When we repent of sin, believe his words, and do as he commands, we come in a worthy manner, and join the whole Christian church on earth in giving thanks to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for so great a gift. We also pray that his love will renew our love for one another and that we, with the whole Christian church, may know the comfort and joy that is in Christ our Savior and Lord. Receive now his grace with believing hearts. Amen.

PRAYER

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

I ask you in the presence of Almighty God, who searches the heart:

Do you confess that you are by nature sinful and that by what you have done and by what you have left undone you have in thought, word, and deed, offended God and thereby deserve His condemnation? If this is your confession, answer Yes.

Response: Yes.

Do you believe that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners and that all who believe on his name receive the forgiveness of sins? Do you desire to be delivered from all your sins, and are you confident that it is the gracious will of your heavenly Father, for Jesus' sake, to forgive you? If so, answer Yes.

Response: Yes.

Is it your intention, henceforth, to be obedient to the Holy Spirit so as to forsake all manner of sin, to live in God's presence, and to strive daily after holiness in life? If so, answer Yes.

Response: Yes.

All may be seated or kneel.

PRAYER

O God, our heavenly Father, I confess to you that I have grievously sinned against you in many ways, not only by outward transgressions, but also by secret thoughts and desires, which I cannot fully understand, but which are all known to you.

I do earnestly repent and am heartily sorry for these my offenses, and I ask you of your great goodness to have mercy on me and, for the sake of your dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to forgive my sins and graciously to help my infirmities. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Then shall the minister rise and say:

Almighty God our heavenly Father has had mercy upon us and for the sake of the sufferings, death, and resurrection of his dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord forgives us all our sins. As a minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

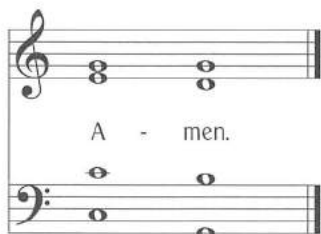
On the other hand, by the same authority, I declare to the impenitent and unbelieving, that so long as they continue in their impenitence God has not forgiven their sins and will surely visit their iniquities upon them if they do not turn from their ways and come to repentance and faith before the day of grace is ended.

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.

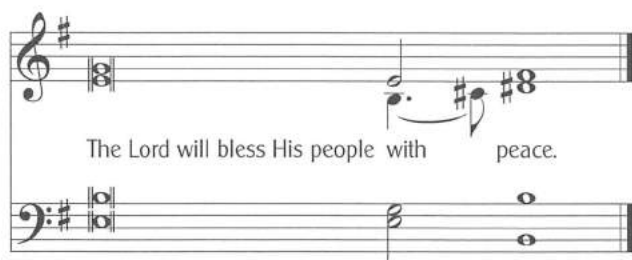
- OR -

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever.

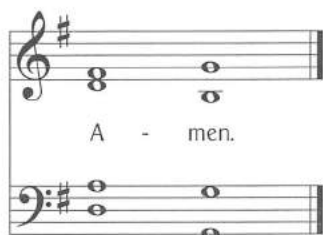


COLLECT FOR PEACE

Leader: The Lord will strengthen his people.



Leader: O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do come, give to your servants that peace which the world cannot give that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments, and also that, being defended from fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICTION

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

