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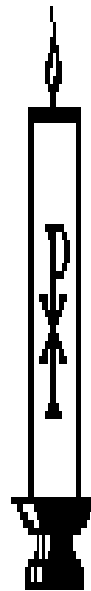
+ DIVINE SERVICE +

Setting One (pg.151)

[PROLOGUE - Preparation]

Opening Hymn - # 467 "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"

- 1) Awake, my heart, with gladness, See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness, Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light Our spirit wings its flight.
- 2) The foe in triumph shouted When Christ lay in the tomb;
But lo, he now is routed, His boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free; In glorious victory
He who is strong to save Has triumphed o'er the grave.
- 3) This is a sight that gladdens— What peace it doth impart!
Now nothing ever saddens The joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake, No foe shall ever take
The hope which God's own Son In love for me has won.
- 4) Now hell, its prince, the devil, Of all their pow'r are shorn;
Now I am safe from evil, And sin I laugh to scorn.
Grim death with all its might Cannot my soul affright;
It is a pow'rless form, Howe'er it rave and storm.
- 5) The world against me rages, Its fury I disdain;
Though bitter war it wages, Its work is all in vain.
My heart from care is free, No trouble troubles me.
Misfortune now is play, And night is bright as day.
- 6) Now I will cling forever To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never, Whate'er He passes through.
He rends death's iron chain; He breaks through sin and pain;
He shatters hell's grim thrall; I follow Him through all.
- 7) He brings me to the portal That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal Is found in script of gold:
"Who there My cross has shared Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with Me has died Shall here be glorified."



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Stand

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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

[THE WORD - Instruction]

INTROIT:(Psalm 81:1,7a,10,16. Antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2a)

Pastor: Like newborn infants, Alleluia!

Congregation: Long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Alleluia!

P: Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

C: In distress you called, and I delivered you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder.

P: I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt;

C: Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.

All: 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.

P: Like newborn infants, Alleluia!

C: Long for the pure spiritual milk of the Word. Alleluia!

Kyrie LSB 152

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

This Is the Feast **LSB 155**

C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sit

+ OLD TESTAMENT READING: EZEKIEL 37:1—14 +

1The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. 2And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. 3And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." 4Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

7So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." 10So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

11Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' 12Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. 14And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

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

(From Quasimodogeniti through the week following Pentecost, the Gradual is omitted and the Alleluia Verse is lengthened)

+ EPISTLE: 1 JOHN 5:4—10 +

4For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

6This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7For there are three that testify: 8the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. 9If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. 10Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son.

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

Lutheran Confessions Reading: The Small Catechism (1529)

P: What is the Office of the Keys?

C: The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

P: Where is this written?

C: This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven' (John 20:22-23).

P: What do you believe according to these words?

C: I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Stand

Verse:(Matthew 28:7, John 20:26)

P: Alleluia! He has risen from the dead, and behold, He is going before you to Galilee; Alleluia!

C: Eight days later Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Alleluia!

Common Alleluia Response: **pg. 156**

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

+ HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19—31 +

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

19On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

22And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

24Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

26Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." 28Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

+ THE APOSTLES' CREED +

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

Sermon Hymn - # 470 "O Sons and Daughters of the King"

- 1) O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2) That Easter morn, at break of day, The faithful women went their way
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3) An angel clad in white they see, Who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4) That night the _apostles met in fear; Among them came their master dear
And said, "My peace be with you here." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5) When Thomas first the tidings heard That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 6) "My piercèd side, O Thomas, see, And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

7) No longer Thomas then denied; He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

8) How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

9) On this most holy day of days Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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Sermon: "Holy Absolution: Easter Peace Applied!" John 20:19-31

Stand

[EPILOGUE - *Response*]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

Almighty God, You brought us up out of the Egypt of hell and into the Zion of Christ's Church through the Red Sea of the baptismal font. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, that as we continue to wend our way through the wilderness of this sinful world, we would long for the pure spiritual milk of Your Word and receive the sustenance we need, until we are brought to the Promised Land of the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Gracious God, Your Son appeared to His disciples in His resurrected flesh to ordain them and to send them out into the world, that repentance and the forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name. Continue to raise up for us faithful men to serve in the Office of the Holy Ministry, and bless their service among Your people who, with St. Thomas, confess Jesus as their Lord and God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, You sent Your Son to proclaim liberty to the captive, and You delivered the apostles from imprisonment according to Your will. Remember those who are imprisoned or held captive, whether justly or unjustly. Deliver them according to Your wisdom and mercy, and grant that they might hear Your Word and rejoice with penitent hearts that they are set free from sin, death and the devil. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Merciful God, remember those who have wandered from the household of faith. Faithful to Your promises, work all things in their lives to remind them of their need for Your unending grace and steadfast love, that they might return to the faith and rejoice in Your Son who has died and is risen for them. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Almighty God, You appoint rulers and officials for the sake of order and peace. Bless those whom You have placed in authority over us at the federal, state and local levels. Give to them the desire to serve with integrity and honor, and to work for the benefit of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Gracious God, look with mercy upon all who suffer in this vale of tears [especially _____]. Provide them with loving and compassionate care, and comfort them with the reminder that everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world, and that, believing that Jesus is the Christ, they have life in His name. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Loving God, as Your risen Son visited His disciples on the eighth day of the resurrection, so He visits us

here in His Holy Church when we are gathered together in His name. Bless those who long to come and receive Him at the holy altar this day. Open their mouths, that they would be filled with the sweet honey of Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of their sins. Preserve them in the faith, that they might, together with all the saints who have gone before them, be raised to live forever in Christ's kingdom, which has no end. Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through faith in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

Offering ---- OFFERTORY - pg. 159-60

C: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Sit

Hymn of Response: #472 *"These Things Did Thomas Count as Real"*

- 1) These things did Thomas count as real: The warmth of blood, the chill of steel,
The grain of wood, the heft of stone, The last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
- 2) The vision of his skeptic mind Was keen enough to make him blind
To any unexpected act Too large for his small world of fact.
- 3) His reasoned certainties denied That one could live when one had died,
Until his fingers read like braille The markings of the spear and nail.
- 4) May we, O God, by grace believe And thus the risen Christ receive,
Whose raw imprinted palms reached out And beckoned Thomas from his doubt.

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Stand

+ THE 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.**

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION **LSB 166**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Hymn To Depart - #488 *"He Is Arisen! Glorious Word"*

- 1) He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord;
The gates of heav'n are open. My Jesus did triumphant die,
And Satan's arrows broken lie, Destroyed hell's fiercest weapon.
O hear what cheer! Christ victorious, Rising glorious, Life is giving.
He was dead but now is living!

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Silent Prayer

+++ "BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO ACCORDING
TO HIS ABUNDANT MERCY HAS BEGOTTEN US AGAIN TO A LIVING HOPE THROUGH THE
RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD,"+++ 1 Peter 1:3

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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