

## **THE SERVICE WITHOUT COMMUNION: 28 June, 2020 Augsburg Confession**

### **PREPARATION**

#### **IN THE NAME**

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

#### **HYMN - 436 Come, let us join the joyful songs**

**1** Come, let us join our cheerful songs  
With angels round the throne;  
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,  
But all their joys are one.

**2** 'Worthy the Lamb that died', they cry,  
'To be exalted thus';  
'Worthy the Lamb', our lips reply,  
'For He was slain for us.'

**3** Jesus is worthy to receive  
All honour, power divine;  
And blessings, more than we can give,  
Be, Lord, for ever Thine.

**4** Let all creation join in one  
To bless the sacred name  
Of Him that sits upon the throne,  
And to adore the Lamb.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

### **CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF GRACE**

Friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**He made heaven and earth.**

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord.

**Then he forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we confess to you that by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Most merciful God,**

**you have given your only Son to die for us.**

**Have mercy on us,**

**and for his sake**

**grant us forgiveness of all our sins.**

**By your Holy Spirit**

**increase our knowledge of you and your will,**

**and make us obedient to your word,**

**so that by your grace**

**we may come to eternal life;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in his name he has given the right to become children of God, and has given them his Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

**Amen.**

### **CHOIR - PSALM 46 God's Defense of His City and People**

- G. T. Thalben-Ball LH 690

God is our refuge and strength:

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change:

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Though its waters roar and foam:

Though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us:

The God of Jacob is our refuge.  
 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God:  
 The holy habitation of the Most High.  
 God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved:  
 God will help her right early.  
 The nations rage, the kingdoms totter:  
 He utters His voice, the earth melts.  
 The Lord of hosts is with us:  
 The God of Jacob is our refuge.  
 Come, behold the words of the Lord:  
 How He has wrought desolations in the earth.  
 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth:  
 He breaks the bow and shatters the spear,  
 He burns the chariots with fire.  
 The Lord of hosts is with us:  
 The God of Jacob is our refuge.  
 God to the Father and the Son:  
 And the Holy Spirit;  
 As it was in the beginning is now:  
 And shall be forevermore. Amen.

## **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

Kyrie eleison. **Lord, have mercy.**  
 Christe eleison. **Christ, have mercy.**  
 Kyrie eleison. **Lord, have mercy.**

## **GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST**

Glory to God in the highest.  
**And on earth peace, among those with whom he is pleased. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father. You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the**

**Father; have mercy on us. For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, you alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY (COLLECT)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray

Almighty God, in your unfailing mercy keep your church safe and holy. Rule and guide your people always, so that they remain in peace. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING - Isaiah 55:6-11** The word of God will not return empty

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in Isaiah, chapter 55, beginning at verse 6.

Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
 call upon him while he is near;  
 let the wicked forsake their way,  
 and the unrighteous their thoughts;  
 let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,  
 and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.  
 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
 nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
 so are my ways higher than your ways  
 and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
 and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
 making it bring forth and sprout,  
 giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
 it shall not return to me empty,  
 but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
 and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

*After the reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING - 1 Timothy 6:11b-16** Fight the good fight of faith

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in 1 Timothy, chapter 6, beginning at verse 11.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

*After the reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL – John 18:33-38** Jesus before Pilate

The holy gospel is written in chapter 18 of the Gospel according to St John, beginning at verse 33.

**Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For**

**this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’ Pilate asked him, ‘What is truth?’**

This is the gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: Laudete Nomen Domini** - Christopher Tye (c. 1505- c.1573)  
 Psalm 112: 1, 3 (paraphrase)

Laudate nomen Domini, vos servi Domini;  
 ab ortu solis usque ad occasum ejus.  
 Decreta Dei justa sunt, et cor exhilarant:  
 laudate Deum principes et omnes populi.

Praise the name of the Lord, you servants of the Lord;  
 from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
 The decrees of God are just, and delight the heart:  
 praise God, rulers and all people.

**CHILDREN’S ADDRESS** - Pastor Joshua Pfeiffer

**HYMN - 189 One is our God**

**1 One is our God and Father!  
 The flock and all the shepherds cry;  
 One Spirit us doth gather,  
 One is our Lord who reigns on high,  
 One well of life doth lave us,  
 One hope our souls inspires,  
 One faith, our stay, doth save us,  
 One love us ever fires,  
 One peace our spirits blesses,  
 One fight for our reward,  
 One end of all distresses,  
 One life in Christ our Lord.**

**2 One in the Spirit's union,  
 We onward march, a pilgrim throng,  
 And sing in sweet communion  
 The ransomed Zion's victor-song;  
 Through night and tribulation,  
 Through death our way we wend,  
 With hope and expectation  
 To see our journey's end.  
 The cross, the grave, death's prison,  
 We leave behind, and rise  
 To meet our Saviour risen,  
 And enter Paradise.**

En Gud og alles Fader  
 Bernhard Severin Ingemann (1789-1862)  
 Carl Doving, 1911, alt.

**SERMON** - Pastor Joshua Pfeiffer

## **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, dead, and 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 catholic\* church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen**

*\*or: Christian; 'catholic' here means 'universal'*

**HYMN - 183 The saints on earth**

**1 The saints on earth and those above  
But one communion make;  
Joined to their Lord in bonds of love,  
All of His grace partake.**

**2 One family we dwell in Him,  
One Church above, beneath;  
Though now divided by the stream,  
The narrow stream of death.**

**3 One army of the living God,  
To His command we bow;  
Part of the host have crossed the flood,  
And part are crossing now.**

**4 Lo! thousands to their endless home  
Are swiftly borne away;  
And we are to the margin come,  
And soon must cross as they.**

**5 Lord Jesus, be our constant guide;  
Then, when the word is given,  
Bid death's cold flood its waves divide,  
And land us safe in heaven.**

Cento in T. Cotterill's 'Selections', 1815

St. 1: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) alt

Sts. 2-5: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

**OFFERTORY**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and 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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Loving Father, thank you that throughout the history of the church you have raised up reformers to proclaim your word. Continue to bless you church with pastors and teachers who can properly distinguish law and gospel, so that your people may know the truth and receive salvation by your grace, for Christ's sake, through faith. *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Bless all theological colleges and places of Christian learning. Bless the Australian Lutheran College and all who teach and study there, and be with the aboriginal pastors and evangelists who serve in central Australia. Guide us all in our Christian walk, so that we may live confident in your mercy, free from the law's condemnation, and eager to please you in all that we do. *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Thank you for the unity of confession that we have in the Lutheran Church of Australia. Keep us united in the faith; bless our Bishops John Henderson and David Altus; guide our theologians; and give us unity in confession with all those baptized in Christ. *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Please give your Spirit of wisdom to our prime minister, Scott Morrison, to our premier, Stephen Marshall, and to all those who serve in positions of authority in our nation and State, so that we may have peace and cohesion to our community, and so that your Gospel may be proclaimed freely. *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Please have mercy on those who struggle with burdens of any sort, including those we know personally to be in need and whom we now name silently in our hearts...*(brief silence)* *Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Father, you are the only true Ruler. Give us the courage to stand before the rulers of the world and to speak your word in the name of your beloved Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

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 favour,† and give  
 you\* peace. **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## **HYMN - 266 God's Word is our great heritage**

**God's Word is our great heritage,  
 And shall be ours for ever;  
 To spread its light from age to age  
 Shall be our chief endeavour.  
 Our guide on life's way,  
 In death 'tis our stay.  
 Lord, while worlds endure,  
 May we retain it pure  
 Throughout all generations.**

Guds Ord det er vort Arvegods Nikolaj Frederik  
 Severin Grundtvig (1783-1872) Tr. Ole G.  
 Belsheim, 1909, alt.