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GATHERING

Confession and forgiveness or thanksgiving for baptism may begin the service.

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OR

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.
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 our Lord.

Amen.

One of the following or another confession is prayed.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

OR

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly
repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

[96] The presiding minister announces God’s forgiveness with these or similar words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained 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. 

Amen.

OR

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

The assembly stands. The service continues with gathering song.
Thanksgiving for Baptism

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OR

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was
baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

The service continues with gathering song. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing.

[156] **Gathering Song**

One or more of the following may be sung: hymns, psalms; a Kyrie; a canticle of praise.

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

A Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between an assisting minister and the assembly.
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

[157] 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.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

[158] One of the following or another canticle of praise may be sung.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,**
**almighty God and Father,**
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**
**O Lord God, Lamb of God,**
you take away the sin of the world:
**have mercy on us;**
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
**receive our prayer.**
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OR

All glory be to God on high, and peace to earth be given!
Let angels sing, let all reply;
goodwill breaks forth from heaven!
Lord God Almighty, heaven’s king,
we worship you, our thanks we sing,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, creation’s author,
O Lamb of God, your death alone
takes sin away forever.
Stretch out your arms to ev’ry land,
and, as you reign at God’s right hand,
receive our prayer; have mercy.

To you alone, O God, we cry,
the Holy One we name you;
for you alone are God most high,
one living God we claim you:
we worship you, Lord Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit ever blest,
in God the Father’s glory. Amen.

Prayer of the Day
Response after the prayer: Amen.

The assembly is seated.
**Readings and Psalm**
Response after the conclusion of the first and the second reading: *Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation**
The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

The proper verse may be sung, or all may sing this verse.

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**
*You have the words of eternal life.*
*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

**OR**

**During Lent:**

*Glory and praise to you,*
*O Lord Jesus Christ.*

A proper verse may be sung; then “Glory and praise” is repeated.

**Gospel**
Response after the announcement: *Glory to you, O Lord.*
Response after the conclusion: *Praise to you, O Christ.*
Psalms

1
1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.
1 Why are the nations in an uproar? Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the LORD and against the LORD’s anointed?

3 “Let us break their yoke,” they say; “let us cast off their bonds from us.”

4 God whose throne is in heaven is laughing; the LORD holds them in derision.

5 Then in wrath God speaks to them, and in rage fills them with terror.

6 “As for me, I have anointed my king upon Zion, my holy mountain.”

7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD, who said to me, “You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance and the ends of the earth for your possession.

9 You shall crush them with an iron rod and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”

10 And now, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.
11 Submit to the LORD with fear,  
and with trembling I bow in worship;

12 lest the LORD be angry,  
and you perish in a sudden blaze of wrath.  
Happy are all who take refuge in God!

3  
1 LORD, how many are my foes!  
How many there are who rise up against me!

2 How many there are who say to me,  
"Your God cannot help."

3 But you, O LORD, are a shield about me;  
you are my glory, the one who lifts up my head.

4 I call aloud to you, O LORD,  
and you answer me from your holy hill;

5 I lie down and go to sleep;  
I wake again, because you sustain me.

6 I do not fear the multitudes of people  
who set themselves against me all around.

7 Rise up, O LORD; set me free, O my God;  
surely, you will strike all my enemies across the face,  
you will break the teeth of the wicked.

8 Deliverance belongs to the LORD.  
Your blessing be upon your people!
Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Service Music #151–238
Hymns #239–555

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1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev’ry heart prepare him room  
and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain
All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

1 You are the king of Israel
and David’s royal Son,
now in the Lord’s name coming,
our King and Blessed One. Refrain

2 The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
in chorus make reply. Refrain

3 The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. Refrain

4 To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. Refrain

5 Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. Refrain

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale,
1818–1866, alt.
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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord,  
the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is  
your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,  
joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord,  
who o’er all things is wondrously reigning  
and, as on wings of an eagle,  
uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord,  
who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy  
shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
if with his love he befriend you.

4 Praise to the Lord!  
Oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now  
with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again.  
Gladly forever adore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth,  
1827–1878, alt.