

HOLY MONDAY

Service of Daily Prayer – Treasure of Daily Prayer p. 40-43



INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

C: **In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch** *Psalm 5:3*

M: My mouth is filled with your praise,

C: **and with your glory all the day.** *Psalm 71:8*

M: O Lord, open my lips,

C: **and my mouth will declare your praise.** *Psalm 51:15*

READING

John 12:1-11

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus^[a] was, the one Jesus had raised from the dead.² So they gave a dinner for him there; Martha was serving them, and Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with him.³ Then Mary took a pound of perfume, pure and expensive nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped his feet with her hair. So the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴Then one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot (who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why wasn't this perfume sold for three hundred denarii^[b] and given to the poor?” ⁶He didn't say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of the money-bag and would steal part of what was put in it.

⁷Jesus answered, “Leave her alone; she has kept it for the day of my burial.” ⁸For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

⁹Then a large crowd of the Jews learned he was there. They came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, the one he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰But the chief priests had decided to kill Lazarus also, ¹¹because he was the reason many of the Jews were deserting them^[s] and believing in Jesus.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 35:1-4a,6,9,10

M: Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;

C: fight against those who fight me!

M: Take hold of your shields – large and small – and come to my aid. Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers.

C: Assure me: “I am your deliverance!” Let those who intend to take my life be disgraced and humiliated.

M: Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them.

C: Then I will rejoice in the LORD; I will delight in his deliverance.

M: All my bones will say, “Lord, who is like you.”

C: “rescuing the poor from one too strong for him, the poor or the needy from one who robs him?”

Silence for meditation on Psalm

CONFESSION OF FAITH *Large Catechism, V:8-11, 13-14, 17-19*

Now, what is the Sacrament of the Altar?

Answer: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in and under the bread and wine which we Christians are commanded by the Word of Christ to eat and to drink. And as we have said of Baptism that it is not simple water, so here also we say the Sacrament is bread and wine, but not mere bread and wine, such as are ordinarily served at the table, but bread and wine comprehended in, and connected with, the Word of God.

It is the Word (I say) which makes and distinguishes this Sacrament, so that it is not mere bread and wine, but is, and is called, the body and blood of Christ. If the Word be joined to the element, it becomes a Sacrament. This saying of St. Augustine is so properly and so well put that he has scarcely said anything better. The Word must make a Sacrament of the element, else it remains a mere element. Now, it is not the word or ordinance of a prince or emperor, but of the sublime Majesty, at whose feet all creatures should fall, and affirm it is as He says, and accept it with all reverence, fear, and humility.

Now here stands the Word of Christ: Take, eat; this is My body; Drink ye all of it; this is the new testament in My blood, etc. Here we abide, and would like to see those who will constitute themselves His masters, and make it different from what He has spoken. It is true, indeed, that if you take away the Word or regard it without the words, you have nothing but mere bread and wine. But if the words remain with them, as they shall and must, then, in virtue of the same, it is truly the body and blood of Christ. For as the lips of Christ say and speak, so it is, as He can never lie or deceive.

For the Word by which it became a Sacrament and was instituted does not become false because of the person or his unbelief. For He does not say: If you believe or are worthy, you receive My body and blood, but: Take, eat and drink; this is My body and blood. Likewise: Do this (namely, what I now do, institute, give, and bid you take). That is as much as to say, No matter whether you are worthy or unworthy, you have here His body and blood by virtue of these words which are added to the bread and wine. Only note and remember this well; for upon these words rest all our foundation, protection, and defense against all errors and deception that have ever come or may yet come.

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 OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work and day.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

C: In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch *Psalm 5:3*

M: My mouth is filled with your praise,

C: and with your glory all the day. *Psalm 71:8*

M: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare your praise. *Psalm 51:15*

READING

John 12:20-36

²⁰Now some Greeks were among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹So they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and requested of him, “Sir, we want to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

²³Jesus replied to them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains by itself. But if it dies, it produces much fruit. ²⁵The one who loves his life will lose it, and the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, he must follow me. Where I am, there my servant also will be. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. What should I say—Father, save me from this hour? But that is why I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.”^[a]

Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

³⁰Jesus responded, “This voice came, not for me, but for you. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be cast out. ³²As for me, if I am lifted up^[b] from the earth I will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate what kind of death he was about to die.

³⁴Then the crowd replied to him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah will remain forever. So how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up?’ Who is this Son of Man?”

³⁵Jesus answered, “The light will be with you only a little longer. Walk while you have the light so that darkness doesn’t overtake you. The one who walks in darkness doesn’t know where he’s going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light so that you may become children of light.” Jesus said this, then went away and hid from them.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 88:3-5, 9b

M: For I have had enough troubles, and my life is near Sheol.

C: I am counted among those going down to the Pit.

M: I am like a man without strength,

C: abandoned among the dead.

M: I am like the slain lying in the grave,

C: whom you no longer remember, and who are cut off from your care.

M: Lord, I cry out to you all day long;

C: I spread out my hands to you.

Silence for meditation on the Psalm

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Large Catechism, V:20-27

Thus we have briefly the first point which relates to the essence of this Sacrament. Now examine further the efficacy and benefits on account of which really the Sacrament was instituted; which is also its most necessary part, that we may know what we should seek and obtain there. Now this is plain and clear from the words just mentioned: This is My body and blood, given and shed for you, for the remission of sins. Briefly that is as much as to say: For this reason we go to the Sacrament because there we receive such a treasure by and in which we obtain forgiveness of sins. Why so? Because the words stand here and give us this; for on this account He bids me eat and drink, that it may be my own and may benefit me, as a sure pledge and token, yea, the very same treasure that is appointed for me against my sins, death, and every calamity.

On this account it is indeed called a food of souls, which nourishes and strengthens the new man. For by Baptism we are first born anew; but (as we said before) there still remains, besides, the old vicious nature of flesh and blood in man, and there are so many hindrances and temptations of the devil and of the world that we often become weary and faint, and sometimes also stumble.

Therefore it is given for a daily pasture and sustenance, that faith may refresh and strengthen itself so as not to fall back in such a battle, but become ever stronger and stronger. For the new life must be so regulated that it continually increase and progress; but it must suffer much opposition. For the devil is such a furious enemy that when he sees that we oppose him and attack the old man, and that he cannot topple us over by force, he prowls and moves about on all sides, tries all devices, and does not desist, until he finally wearies us, so that we either renounce our faith or yield hands and feet and become listless or impatient. Now to this end the consolation is here given when the heart

feels that the burden is becoming too heavy, that it may here obtain new power and refreshment.

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 OF THE DAY

M: Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's passion that we may obtain the forgiveness of our sins; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work and day.

HOLY WEDNESDAY

Service of Daily Prayer – Treasure of Daily Prayer p. 40-43



INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

C: In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch *Psalm 5:3*

M: My mouth is filled with your praise,

C: and with your glory all the day. *Psalm 71:8*

M: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare your praise. *Psalm 51:15*

READING

John 13:21-32

²¹When Jesus had said this, he was troubled in his spirit and testified, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”

²²The disciples started looking at one another—uncertain which one he was speaking about. ²³One of his disciples, the one Jesus loved, was reclining close beside Jesus.^[a] ²⁴Simon Peter motioned to him to find out who it was he was talking about. ²⁵So he leaned back against Jesus and asked him, “Lord, who is it?”

²⁶Jesus replied, “He’s the one I give the piece of bread to after I have dipped it.” When he had dipped the bread, he gave it to Judas, Simon Iscariot’s son.^[b] ²⁷After Judas ate the piece of bread, Satan entered him. So Jesus told him, “What you’re doing, do quickly.”

²⁸None of those reclining at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹Since Judas kept the money-bag, some thought that

Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the festival,” or that he should give something to the poor.³⁰ After receiving the piece of bread, he immediately left. And it was night.

³¹When he had left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him.³² If God is glorified in him,^[c] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 89:20-27

M: I have found David my servant; I have anointed him with my sacred oil.

C: My hand will always be with him, and my arm will strengthen him.

M: The enemy will not oppress him;

C: the wicked ill not afflict him.

M: I will crush his foes before him

C: and strike those who hate him.

M: My faithfulness and love will be with him,

C: and through my name his horn will be exalted.

M: I will extend his power to the sea

C: and his right hand to the rivers.

M: He will call to me, “You are my Father, my God, the rock of my salvation.”

C: I will also make him my firstborn,

M: greatest of the kings of the earth.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Large Catechism, V:28-32

But here our wise spirits contort themselves with their great art and wisdom, crying out and bawling: How can bread and wine forgive sins or strengthen faith? Although they hear and know that we do not say this of bread and wine, because in itself bread

is bread, but of such bread and wine as is the body and blood of Christ, and has the words attached to it. That, we say, is verily the treasure, and nothing else, through which such forgiveness is obtained. Now the only way in which it is conveyed and appropriated to us is in the words (Given and shed for you). For herein you have both truths, that it is the body and blood of Christ, and that it is yours as a treasure and gift. Now the body of Christ can never be an unfruitful, vain thing, that effects or profits nothing. Yet, however great is the treasure in itself, it must be comprehended in the Word and administered to us, else we should never be able to know or seek it.

Therefore also it is vain talk when they say that the body and blood of Christ are not given and shed for us in the Lord's Supper, hence we could not have forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament. For although the work is accomplished and the forgiveness of sins acquired on the cross, yet it cannot come to us in any other way than through the Word. For what would we otherwise know about it, that such a thing was accomplished or was to be given us if it were not presented by preaching or the oral Word? Whence do they know of it, or how can they apprehend and appropriate to themselves the forgiveness, except they lay hold of and believe the Scriptures and the Gospel? But now the entire Gospel and the article of the Creed: I believe a holy Christian Church, the forgiveness of sin, etc., are by the Word embodied in this Sacrament and presented to us. Why, then, should we allow this treasure to be torn from the Sacrament when they must confess that these are the very words which we hear everywhere in the Gospel, and they cannot say that these words in the Sacrament are of no use, as little as they dare say that the entire Gospel or Word of God, apart from the Sacrament, is of no use?

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 OF THE DAY

M: Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare your only Son but delivered him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be fixed with steadfast faith in him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work and day.

HOLY THURSDAY

Service of Daily Prayer – Treasure of Daily Prayer p. 40-43



INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

C: In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch *Psalm 5:3*

M: My mouth is filled with your praise,

C: and with your glory all the day. *Psalm 71:8*

M: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare your praise. *Psalm 51:15*

READING

John 13:1-15

Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

²Now when it was time for supper, the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas, Simon Iscariot's son,^[a] to betray him. ³Jesus knew that the Father had given everything into his hands, that he had come from God, and that he was going back to God. ⁴So he got up from supper, laid aside his outer clothing, took a towel, and tied it around himself. ⁵Next, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet and to dry them with the towel tied around him.

⁶He came to Simon Peter, who asked him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus answered him, "What I'm doing you don't realize now, but afterward you will understand."

⁸"You will never wash my feet," Peter said.

Jesus replied, “If I don’t wash you, you have no part with me.”

⁹ Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.”

¹⁰ “One who has bathed,” Jesus told him, “doesn’t need to wash anything except his feet, but he is completely clean. You are clean, but not all of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who would betray him. This is why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

¹² When Jesus had washed their feet and put on his outer clothing, he reclined again and said to them, “Do you know what I have done for you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are speaking rightly, since that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done for you.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 37:3-7

M: Trust in the LORD and do what is good.

C: dwell in the land and live securely.

M: Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart’s desires.

C: Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act,

M: making your righteousness shine like the dawn,

C: your justice like the noonday.

M: Be silent before the LORD

C: and wait expectantly for him;

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Large Catechism, V:39-44

In conclusion, since we have now the true understanding and doctrine of the Sacrament, there is indeed need of some

admonition and exhortation, that men may not let so great a treasure which is daily administered and distributed among Christians pass by unheeded, that is, that those who would be Christians make ready to receive this venerable Sacrament often. For we see that men seem weary and lazy with respect to it; and there is a great multitude of such as hear the Gospel, and, because the nonsense of the Pope has been abolished, and we are freed from his laws and coercion, go one, two, three years, or even longer without the Sacrament, as though they were such strong Christians that they have no need of it; and some allow themselves to be prevented and deterred by the pretense that we have taught that no one should approach it except those who feel hunger and thirst, which urge them to it. Some pretend that it is a matter of liberty and not necessary, and that it is sufficient to believe without it; and thus for the most part they go so far that they become quite brutish, and finally despise both the Sacrament and the Word of God.

Now, it is true, as we have said, that no one should by any means be coerced or compelled, lest we institute a new murdering of souls. Nevertheless, it must be known that such people as deprive themselves of, and withdraw from, the Sacrament so long a time are not to be considered Christians. For Christ has not instituted it to be treated as a show, but has commanded His Christians to eat and drink it, and thereby remember Him.

And, indeed, those who are true Christians and esteem the Sacrament precious and holy will urge and impel themselves unto it. Yet that the simple-minded and the weak who also would like to be Christians be the more incited to consider the cause and need which ought to impel them, we will treat somewhat of this point. For as in other matters pertaining to faith, love, and patience, it is not enough to teach and instruct only, but there is need also of daily exhortation, so here also there is need of continuing to preach that men may not become weary and

disgusted, since we know and feel how the devil always opposes this and every Christian exercise, and drives and deters therefrom as much as he can.

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 OF THE DAY

M: O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament you have left us a remembrance of your passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of your body and blood that the fruits of your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work and day.

GOOD FRIDAY

Service of Daily Prayer – Treasure of Daily Prayer p. 40-43



INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Christ became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

C: O come, let us worship him.

RESPONSORY

M: He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth

C: and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. *Isaiah 53:7,6*

M: He was despised and rejected by men;

C: a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. *Isaiah 53:3*

M: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,

C: yet he opened not his mouth *Isaiah 53:7*

M: He poured out his soul to death

C: and was numbered with the transgressors. *Isaiah 53:12*

M: He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,

C: even death on a cross.

M: He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth

C: and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

¹³ See, my servant^[a] will be successful;^[b]
he will be raised and lifted up and greatly exalted.

¹⁴ Just as many were appalled at you^[c]—
his appearance was so disfigured
that he did not look like a man,
and his form did not resemble a human being—

¹⁵ so he will sprinkle many nations.^[d]
Kings will shut their mouths because of him,
for they will see what had not been told them,
and they will understand what they had not heard.

53 Who has believed what we have heard?^[e]
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

² He grew up before him like a young plant
and like a root out of dry ground.

He didn't have an impressive form
or majesty that we should look at him,
no appearance that we should desire him.

³ He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of suffering who knew what sickness was.
He was like someone people turned away from;^[f]
he was despised, and we didn't value him.

⁴ Yet he himself bore our sicknesses,
and he carried our pains;
but we in turn regarded him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced because of our rebellion,
crushed because of our iniquities;
punishment for our peace was on him,
and we are healed by his wounds.

⁶ We all went astray like sheep;
we all have turned to our own way;

and the LORD has punished him
for^[a] the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth.
Like a lamb led to the slaughter
and like a sheep silent before her shearers,
he did not open his mouth.

⁸ He was taken away because of oppression and judgment;
and who considered his fate?^[b]

For he was cut off from the land of the living;
he was struck because of my people's rebellion.

⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
but he was with a rich man at his death,
because he had done no violence
and had not spoken deceitfully.

¹⁰ Yet the LORD was pleased to crush him severely.^[c]
When^[d] you make him a guilt offering,
he will see his seed, he will prolong his days,
and by his hand, the LORD's pleasure will be accomplished.

¹¹ After his anguish,
he will see light^[k] and be satisfied.

By his knowledge,
my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will carry their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will give him^[l] the many as a portion,
and he will receive^[m] the mighty as spoil,
because he willingly submitted to death,
and was counted among the rebels;
yet he bore the sin of many
and interceded for the rebels.

M: The Word of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 22:1-11, 14-21

M: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

C: Why are you so far from my deliverance, and from my words of groaning?

M: My God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,

C: by night, yet I have no rest.

M: But you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

C: Our fathers trusted in you; they trusted, and you rescued them.

M: They cried to you and were set free;

C: They trusted in you and were not disgraced.

M: But I am a worm and not a man,

C: scorned by mankind and despised by people.

M: Everyone who sees me mocks me;

C: they sneer and shake their heads:

M: "He relies on the LORD; let him save him;

C: let the LORD rescue him, since he takes pleasure in him."

M: It was you who brought me out of the womb,

C: making me secure at my mother's breast.

M: I was given over to you at birth;

C: you have been my God from my mother's womb.

M: Don't be far from me, because distress is near

C: and there's no one to help.

M: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are disjointed.

C: my heart is like wax, melting within me.

M: My strength is dried up like baked clay; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.

C: You put me in the dust of death.

M: For dogs have surrounded me; a gang of evildoers has closed in on me;

C: they pierced my hands and my feet.

M: I can count all my bones; people look and stare at me.

C: They divided my garments among themselves, and they cast lots for my clothing.

M: But you, LORD, don't be far away.

C: My strength, come quickly to help me.

M: Rescue my life from the sword, my only life from the power of these dogs.

C: Save me from the lion's mouth, from the horns of wild oxen.

Silence for meditation on the Psalm.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Large Catechism, II:26-31, 33

Here we learn to know the Second Person of the Godhead, so that we see what we have from God over and above the temporal goods aforementioned; namely, how He has completely poured forth Himself and withheld nothing from us that He has not given us. Now, this article is very rich and broad; but in order to expound it also briefly and in a childlike way we shall take up one word and sum up in that the entire article, namely (as we have said), that we may here learn how we have been redeemed; and we shall base this on these words: In Jesus Christ, our Lord.

If now you are asked, What do you believe in the Second Article of Jesus Christ? answer briefly: I believe that Jesus Christ, true Son of God, has become my Lord. But what is it to become Lord? It is this, that He has redeemed me from sin, from the devil, from death, and all evil. For before I had no Lord nor King, but was captive under the power of the devil, condemned to death, enmeshed in sin and blindness.

For when we had been created by God the Father, and had received from Him all manner of good, the devil came and led us into disobedience, sin, death, and all evil, so that we fell under His wrath and displeasure and were doomed to eternal damnation, as we had merited and deserved. There was no counsel, help, or comfort until this only and eternal Son of God in His unfathomable goodness had compassion upon our misery and wretchedness, and came from heaven to help us. Those

tyrants and jailers, then, are all expelled now, and in their place has come Jesus Christ, Lord of life, righteousness, every blessing, and salvation, and has delivered us poor lost men from the jaws of hell, has won us, made us free, and brought us again into the favor and grace of the Father, and has taken us as His own property under His shelter and protection, that He may govern us by His righteousness, wisdom, power, life, and blessedness.

Let this, then, be the sum of this article that the little word Lord signifies simply as much as Redeemer, i.e., He who has brought us from Satan to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and who preserves us in the same. But all the points which follow in order in this article serve no other end than to explain and express this redemption, how and whereby it was accomplished, that is, how much it cost Him, and what He spent and risked that He might win us and bring us under His dominion, namely, that He became man, conceived and born without [any stain of] sin, of the Holy Ghost and of the Virgin Mary, that He might overcome sin; moreover, that He suffered, died and was buried, that He might make satisfaction for me and pay what I owe, not with silver nor gold, but with His own precious blood. And all this, in order to become my Lord; for He did none of these for Himself, nor had He any need of it. And after that He rose again from the dead, swallowed up and devoured death, and finally ascended into heaven and assumed the government at the Father's right hand, so that the devil and all powers must be subject to Him and lie at His feet, until finally, at the last day, He will completely part and separate us from the wicked world, the devil, death, sin, etc.

Yes, the entire Gospel which we preach is based on this, that we properly understand this article as that upon which our salvation and all our happiness rest, and which is so rich and comprehensive that we never can learn it fully.

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 OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, graciously behold this your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

M: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Now, go joyfully about your work and day.

