

Suffrages

Midweek Lent 5, Apr 9 | (LSB Responsive Prayer 1)

Opening Hymn: 886 The Day Thou Gavest (Noon service: Stzs. 1, 2, 4 only)

Opening Versicles

- L** Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
C have mercy and hear us.

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.



- L** Remember what the Catechism says about Confession?
- C** Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven. **L** What sins should we confess? **C** Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.
- L** Which are these?
- C** Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?
- L** Where is it written about the Office of the Keys?

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) **L** *What do you believe according to these words?* 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.

Reading

1 John 4:7–19

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us.

L O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Matthew 9:1–8

Getting into a boat [Jesus] crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.” And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.” And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

L O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, Hymnwriter and Theologian (1090-1153)

Collect: O God, by whose grace your servant Bernard of Clairvaux, kindled with the flame of your love, became a burning and a shining light in your Church: Grant that we also may be aflame with the spirit of love and discipline, and walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: 554 O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

by St. Bernard of Clairvaux



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful!
 2 When once You vis - it dark - ened hearts,
 3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,
 4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess Your name,
 5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless,



O Con - quer - or re - nowned! O Source of peace in -
 Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -
 The fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the
 For - ev - er You a - dore, And, seek - ing You, it -
 May we love You a - lone And ev - er in our



ef - fa - ble, In whom all joys are found:
 ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.
 joys we know, All that we can de - sire:
 self in - flame To seek You more and more!
 lives ex - press The im - age of Your own!

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76
 Text and tune: Public domain

Afternoon/Evening

Pss. 85:7, 132:9, 67:4-5. 9:18, 51:10, 102:1

- L** Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
- C** and grant us Your salvation.
- L** Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness;
- C** and let Your saints shout for joy.
- L** Lord, keep this nation under Your care,
- C** and guide us in the way of justice and truth.
- L** Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
- C** for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.
- L** Let the peoples praise You, O God;

- C** let all the peoples praise You!
- L** For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
- C** and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.
- L** Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- C** and renew a right spirit within me.
- L** Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- C** let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day/Week (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

- L** Let us pray.
O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Evening Prayer (Luther's)

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.
Amen.

Benedicamus

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Blessing

- L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
- C** Amen.

Hymn: 449 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

by St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Acknowledgments

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