

Mid-Week Confession & Absolution—April 15th, 2020

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen**

Reading - Psalm 148

¹ Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

⁵ Let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created,

⁶ and he established them forever and ever—he issued a decree that will never pass away.

⁷ Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

⁸ lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, ⁹ you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, ¹⁰ wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, ¹¹ kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth,

¹² young men and women, old men and children.

¹³ Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

¹⁴ And he has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his faithful servants, of Israel, the people close to his heart. Praise the Lord.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Pastor: Dearly beloved, I now ask you before God, who searches the heart: Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserve His wrath and punishment?

People: **I do confess.**

Pastor: Truly, you should confess, for Holy Scripture declares: “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” Do you repent of all of your sins committed in thought, word and deed?

People: **I do repent.**

Pastor: Truly, you should repent as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others. Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus’ sake, will forgive you all your sins?

People: **I do believe.**

Pastor: Truly, you should so believe, for Holy Scripture declares: “God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life.” Do you promise that with the aid of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life?

People: **I do promise.**

Pastor: Truly, you should so promise, for Christ the Lord says: “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

Finally, do you believe that through me, a called and ordained servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?

People: **I do believe.**

Pastor: As you believe, so may it be done to you.

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

The Benediction

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.**