

# Mid-Week Confession & Absolution—week of May 17<sup>th</sup>

## INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen**

**Reading** - Luke 24:44-53

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

<sup>50</sup> And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them.

<sup>51</sup> While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

<sup>52</sup> And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup> and were continually in the temple blessing God.

## 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.**