

Mid-Week Confession & Absolution—week of May 24th

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen

Reading - Psalm 25:1-15

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

³ Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴ Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

⁶ Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹ He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

¹¹ For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

¹² Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.

¹³ His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land.

¹⁴ The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.

¹⁵ My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

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.