



They will look on me,
the one
they have pierced...

Zechariah 12:10

It Is Finished

Today's Theme: Return To Me!

794 Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

CW 794

Stand

Confession of Sins

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for personal reflection

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds, and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life.

Amen.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 51D sts. 1-4



1 God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on your grace I
2 My trans - gres - sions I con - fess, grief and guilt my
3 I am e - vil, born in sin; you de - sire all
4 Bro - ken, hum - bled to the dust by your wrath and



rest my plea; your com - pas - sions o - ver - flow,
soul op - press; I have sinned a - gainst your grace
truth with - in. You a - lone my Sav - ior are,
judg - ment just, let my con - trite heart re - joice



blot out my trans - gres - sions now; wash me, make me
and pro - voked you to your face; I con - fess your
teach your wis - dom to my heart; make me pure, your
and in glad - ness hear your voice; from my sins, O



pure with - in, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
judg - ment just, speech - less, in your mer - cy trust.
grace be - stow, wash me whit - er than the snow.
hide your face, blot them out in bound - less grace.

Text: Psalter, 1912, alt.
Tune: Richard Redhead
Text and tune: Public domain

Psalm Prayer

Lord, we confess our sins to you and plead for your mercy. We acknowledge that sin runs too deep in our nature for us ever to rid ourselves of it, but we thank you that Jesus has done what we could not do, washing us clean of every stain. We plead that your Spirit would give us the strength to live a new life; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Passion History

Redemption Accomplished

45 From the sixth hour until the ninth hour, there was darkness over all the land. 46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*” which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” 47 When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “This fellow is calling for Elijah.” 48 Immediately one of them ran, took a sponge, and soaked it with sour wine. Then he put it on a stick and gave him a drink. 49 The rest said, “Leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.” 50 After Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. 51 Suddenly, the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook and rocks were split. 52 Tombs were opened, and many bodies of saints who had fallen asleep were raised to life. 53 Those who came out of the tombs went into the holy city after Jesus’ resurrection and appeared to many people. 54 When the centurion and those who were guarding Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they were terrified and said, “Truly this was the Son of God.” 55 Many women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and who had served him were there, watching from a distance. 56 Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee’s sons. 57 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. 58 He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered that it be given to him. 59 Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 and laid it in his own new tomb that he had cut in the rock. He rolled a large stone over the tomb’s entrance and left. 61 Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there sitting opposite the tomb. 62 On the next day, which was the day after the Preparation Day, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered in the presence of Pilate 63 and said, “Sir, we remembered what that deceiver said while he was still alive: ‘After three days I will rise again.’ 64 So give a command that the tomb be made secure until the third day. Otherwise his disciples might steal his body and tell the people, ‘He is risen from the dead.’ And this last deception will be worse than the first.” 65 Pilate said to them, “You have a guard. Go, make it as secure as you know how.” 66 So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and posting a guard.

Passion History Response

We all have gone astray like sheep. Each of us has turned to his own way
But the Lord has charged all our guilt to him.

393 Savior, When in Dust to You

CW 393

Sermon

Return to Me!

Sermon Text

Zechariah 1:1–6

¹In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo. ²The LORD was very angry with your forefathers. ³Therefore, now you are to tell this people that this is what the LORD of Armies says to them.

Return to me, declares the LORD of Armies, and I will return to you, says the LORD of Armies. ⁴Do not be like your forefathers, to whom the earlier prophets proclaimed, “This is what the LORD of Armies says. Return, return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.” But our forefathers did not listen, nor did they pay attention to me, declares the LORD. ⁵Your forefathers—where are they now? And those prophets—did they go on living indefinitely? ⁶But my words and my statutes, which I commanded to my servants the prophets, caught up with our forefathers, didn't they? Then they returned and said, “Because of our ways and our deeds, the LORD of Armies has done to us just as he planned to do to us.”

Stand

Confession of Faith – The Second Article & Meaning

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Be Seated

Offering

During the offering, please fill out the Friendship Register in the pew and pass it down to those sitting next to you.

Stand

Prayer

Hear my prayer, O Lord;
listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;
when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

Be present, O Merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

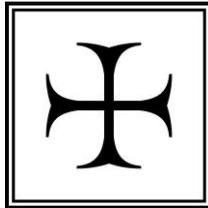
Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.
Amen.

Be Seated

916 Today Your Mercy Calls Us

CW 916



We thank Pastor Martin Bentz of Trinity Lutheran Church in Belle Plaine for sharing God's Word with us today.

