

July 10<sup>th</sup> & July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



## On a Neighbor In Need

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We tend to think of distraction and focus as opposites. If someone is focused, they are not easily distracted by random events and encounters. If someone is focused, every decision about how to spend time and resources is calculated. Apart from Christ that type of focus spells disaster for our neighbor. We may dismiss the needs of our neighbor thinking, "If I spend time helping him, that will distract me from other things that need my attention." This week, Jesus teaches us that he has set us free to live a life of such distraction. No matter the neighbor and no matter his need, we are free to give him our undivided attention, even if that seems senseless. Christ has set us free to bear any cost and go any distance to serve a neighbor as Christ himself would serve them.

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# Opening Hymn

Lord, Have Mercy CW<sup>21</sup> 652 st. 1-2



1 For what we have done and left un - done we fall on your  
(2 For) what you have done, your life of love you per - fect - ly



count - less mer - cies. For sins that are known and  
lived, we praise you. Though tempt - ed and tried, you



those un - known we call on your name so ho - ly.  
fixed your eyes; you fin - ished the work God gave you.



For en - vy and pride, for clos - ing our eyes; for  
And there on the tree, a King a - mong thieves, you



scorn - ing our ver - y neigh - bor. In  
bled for a world's be - tray - al. You



thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how  
loved to the end, our mer - ci - ful friend; how



deep - ly we need a Sav - ior. *Refrain I*  
pure and for - ev - er faith - ful. *Refrain II*



*Refrain I*  
Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy



Text: Matt Papa, b. 1983; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; James Tealy, b. 1971; Matt Boswell, b. 1979  
 Tune: Matt Papa, b. 1983; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978; James Tealy, b. 1971; Matt Boswell, b. 1979  
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*Stand*

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## INVOCATION AND CONFESSION OF SINS

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

**Congregation: Amen**

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

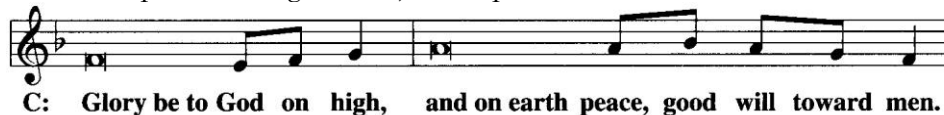
**C: Amen**

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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,  
 we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,  
 God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je- sus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the  
 sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the  
 sin of the world; re- ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of  
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;  
 you on- ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,  
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Prayer of the Day

M: God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

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THE WORD

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**First Lesson**

**Galatians 5:1,13-25**

Those who have been set free from the law by Christ naturally bear fruit that benefits their neighbor.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again. ... <sup>13</sup> After all, brothers, you were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom as a starting point for your sinful flesh. Rather, serve one another through love. <sup>14</sup> In fact, the whole law is summed up in this one statement: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> But if you keep on biting and devouring one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. <sup>16</sup> What I am saying is this: Walk by the spirit, and you will not carry out what the sinful flesh desires. <sup>17</sup> For the sinful flesh desires what is contrary to the spirit, and the spirit what is contrary to the sinful flesh. In fact, these two continually oppose one another, so that you do not continue to do these things you want to do. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the control of the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the sinful flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, complete lack of restraint, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, discord, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, orgies, and things similar to these. I warn you, just as I also warned you before, that those who continue to do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the spirit, let us also walk in step with it. (EHV)

*Show me your ways, Lord*  
*Teach me your paths*

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 25A

### Refrain



To you, O LORD, I lift my soul; in  
you I trust, O LORD my God.

### Tone



In you, Lord my God, I / put my trust.

I trust in you; do not let me be / put to shame.

Show me your ways, Lord, teach me / your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my / Savior.

Remember, Lord, your great mer- / cy and love,  
for they are / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth and my re- / bellious ways;  
according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, / are good. *Refrain*

Lord, forgive my iniquity, though / it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and af- / flicted.

Look on my affliction and / my distress  
and take away / all my sins.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

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*Stand*

## **Gospel Lesson**

**Luke 10:25-37**

In a well-known parable, Jesus teaches us how one loves their neighbor.

Just then, an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> “What is written in the law?” he asked him. “What do you read there?” <sup>27</sup> He replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and, love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup> He said to him, “You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live.” <sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He fell among robbers who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> It just so happened that a priest was going down that way. But when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> In the same way, a Levite also happened to go there, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> A Samaritan, as he traveled, came to where the man was. When he saw him, he felt sorry for the man. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He put him on his own animal, took him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day, when he left, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him. Whatever extra you spend, I will repay you when I return.’ <sup>36</sup> Which of these three do you think acted like a neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?” <sup>37</sup> “The one who showed mercy to him,” he replied. Then Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.” (EHV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection**

of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Be seated*

## Hymn of the Day

For All the Faithful Women *CW*<sup>21</sup> 893 sts. 1, 7, 3-4



1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in days of old,  
2 For Ruth, who left her home - land and ven - tured forth in faith,  
3 O God, for saints and ser - vants, those named and those un - known  
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their sto - ry told.  
who pledged to serve and wor - ship Na - o - mi's God till death,  
in whom thro' all the a - ges your light of glo - ry shone,  
All praise the Ho - ly Spir - it, who binds the Church in one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave;  
we praise you, God of Is - rael, and pray for hearts set free  
we of - fer glad thanks - giv - ing and fer - vent prayer we raise  
With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



to you their lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your pow'r to save.  
to bind our - selves to oth - ers in love and loy - al - ty.  
that, faith - ful in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.  
we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007, alt.

Tune: Finnish

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## Sermon

## Ruth 1:1-19

During the days of the judges, a famine occurred in the land. So a man left Bethlehem in Judah to stay awhile in the territory of Moab—he, his wife, and his two sons. <sup>2</sup> The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were from the clan of Ephrath from Bethlehem in Judah. They entered the territory of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup> But Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, so she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup> They then



married Moabite wives. The name of the first was Orpah, and the name of the second was Ruth. They lived there for about ten years. <sup>5</sup> But Naomi's sons, Mahlon and Kilion, also died. So the woman was left without her two children and without her husband. <sup>6</sup> Then Naomi set out with her daughters-in-law to return from the territory of Moab, because while she was in the territory of Moab, she had heard that the Lord had graciously visited his people by providing them with food. <sup>7</sup> So she left the place where she had been, and her two daughters-in-law left with her. They set out on the road to return to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup> But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back. Both of you return to your mother's house. May the Lord show you kindness as you have shown kindness to the dead and to me. <sup>9</sup> May the Lord grant that each of you finds security in the house of a husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept loudly. <sup>10</sup> But they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup> Then Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why should you go with me? Am I going to give birth to any more sons who could become your husbands? <sup>12</sup> Turn back, my daughters. Go! For I am too old to be married to another husband. Suppose I say, 'I have hope, and I will be married to another husband tonight, and I will even give birth to sons.' <sup>13</sup> Would you wait for them until they grow up? On the basis of that hope would you give up the chance to marry another husband? No, my daughters. It is much more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has reached out against me." <sup>14</sup> They once again wept loudly. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth would not let her go. <sup>15</sup> Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods. Go back! Follow your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup> But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to abandon you or to turn back from following you. Because wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you make your home, I will make my home. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. <sup>17</sup> Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely and double it if anything but death separates me from you." <sup>18</sup> When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her. <sup>19</sup> Then the two of them traveled until they arrived at Bethlehem. (EHV)

*Stand*

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### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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Almighty Father, you have called us to freedom and to service. Fill us with your love that we may freely serve those around us. Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love. **Show us your ways and teach us your paths.**

You have given us your law to lead us to live in love. Teach and move us to help and befriend our neighbors in every bodily need. Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love. **Show us your ways and teach us your paths.**

You have called us to follow your example of love. Move us to declare your love with our lips and show it in our lives. Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love. **Show us your ways and teach us your paths.**

Bless, support and help all who serve those in emergencies, police, fire and ambulance crews, doctors, nurses and other caregivers. Through their work, relieve anxiety and pain and bring comfort and healing to the hurting. Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love. **Show us your ways and teach us your paths.**

Look with mercy on those who are new to the Christian faith. Let them grow in knowledge of your Word. Lead all Christians, new and old, to walk by the Spirit. Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love. **Show us your ways and teach us your paths.**

Your Son taught about a good Samaritan who helped a man, bandaged his wounds and provided for his needs. Hear our prayers for the wounded, the sick, and all who wait for relief and recovery, [*especially...*]. Provide for them by opening our hearts and hands to help.

Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love. **Show us your ways and teach us your paths.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

In the silent prayers of our hearts we cast all our cares on you.

*Silent prayer.*

Blessed Lord, you have commanded us to love one another. Just as we have received your undeserved blessings, may we love everyone in you and for you. Give us a spirit of compassion and mercy that the blessings you have given us may flow through us to our neighbors to serve them in their needs; through your Son, 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.**

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## THE SACRAMENT

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*Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.*

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

### Proper Preface

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

### Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



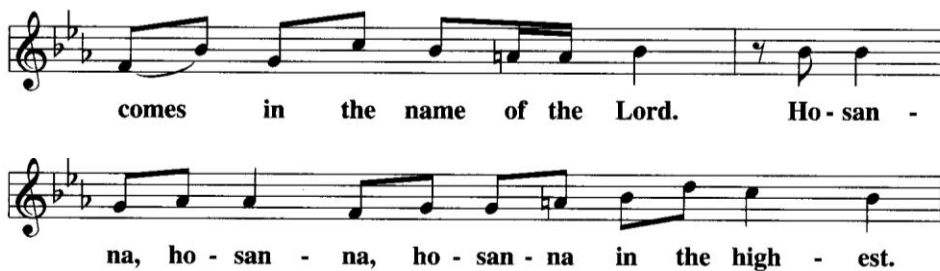
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



## Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

*Agnus Dei*



*Be Seated*

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## COMMUNION

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Please remember to register for communion

Morrison Location: using the sheets in the back of the church, elder's room or the sacristy room and in the basement.

Shirley Location: Marking "C" on the communication card in your pew. Please place communication card in basket behind the last pew as you leave today.

Distribution helps:

Morrison Location: 2 individual cups of white grape juice are available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. Gluten free wafers are also available. Hold your hand palm down to let the server know you would like the gluten free wafer.

Shirley Location: one individual cup of purple grape juice is available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. There are gluten free combination cups also available on the distribution table. Take one from the table if you would like the gluten-free combination cups that has both a gluten-free wafer on one side and wine on the other. **DRIVE IN WORSHIPPERS:** If you'd like communion today, please turn on your hazard lights ◀▶ during the distribution hymn. Leave them on until after Pastor visits your car. He will bring a combination cup which contains a wafer on one side and wine on the other.

You can use the questions on page 295 (blue hymnal) and page 156 (red hymnal) or the review of Lord's Supper on page 293 (blue hymnal) to prepare for communion.

### **Distribution Hymn**

### **Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness** CW<sup>21</sup> 663

- 1    Soul, adorn yourself with gladness; leave behind all gloom and sadness.  
      Come into the daylight's splendor;    there with joy your praises render  
      unto him whose grace unbounded has this wondrous supper founded.  
      He, though reigning high and holy,    deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- 2    Hasten as a bride to meet him, and with loving rev'rence greet him,  
      for with words of life immortal    he is knocking at your portal.  
      Open wide the gates before him, saying, as you there adore him:  
      Grant, Lord, that I now receive you,    that I nevermore will leave you.
- 3    He who craves a precious treasure neither cost nor pain will measure,  
      but the priceless gifts of heaven    God to us has freely given.  
      Though the wealth of earth were proffered, naught would buy the gifts here offered:  
      Christ's true body, for you riven,    and his blood, for you once given.
- 4    Now I kneel before you lowly, filled with joy most deep and holy,  
      as with trembling awe and wonder    on your mighty work I ponder,  
      by such mystery surrounded, depths that no one ever sounded.  
      None may dare to pierce unbidden    secrets that with you are hidden.

- 5 Human reason, though it ponders, cannot fathom these great wonders,  
that Christ's body must be boundless since the souls it feeds are countless,  
and that he his blood is giving with the wine we are receiving.  
These great mysteries unsounded are by God alone expounded.
- 6 Lord, by love and mercy driven, you have left your throne in heaven  
on the cross for me to languish and to die in bitter anguish,  
to forgo all joy and gladness and to shed your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.
- 7 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends most tender,  
Jesus, joy of my desiring, fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
at your feet I cry, my maker, let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven for our good, your glory, given.
- 8 Jesus, Lord of life in heaven, help me when this meal is given  
to receive it for my blessing as I come, my sins confessing.  
In this supper let me measure, Lord, how deep is your love's treasure,  
that, as I on earth have eaten, I may be your guest in heaven.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 4, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (sts. 3, 5–6): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 8): tr. Peter M. Prange, b. 1972

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### *Stand*

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **Benediction**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

### *Be Seated*

## Closing Hymn

## Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace CW<sup>21</sup> 768



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all  
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide your chil - dren,  
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less  
4 Give me your cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er  
5 With your own love may I be filled and by your



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son  
Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bors' good let  
act and thought - less word. Make me to see the  
strong op - press the weak; and should I be a  
Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, what -



help me view my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by you.  
me pur - sue; bind them to me and all to you.  
wrong I do will hurt my neigh - bor, Lord, and you.  
vic - tim, too, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring you.  
e'er I do, may be di - vine - ly touched by you.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, 1916–2018, alt.

Tune: English

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## PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.