

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620 www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

February 16, 2025 + THE 6th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the "blessed ares" and the "woe tos" are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

+ GATHERING **+**

Prelude

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





Sixth Sunday After The Epiphany

Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light as God is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin.

"Blessing" and "Woe" – both are the Word of the Lord. (Silence is kept for self-reflection and confession.)

Almighty God,

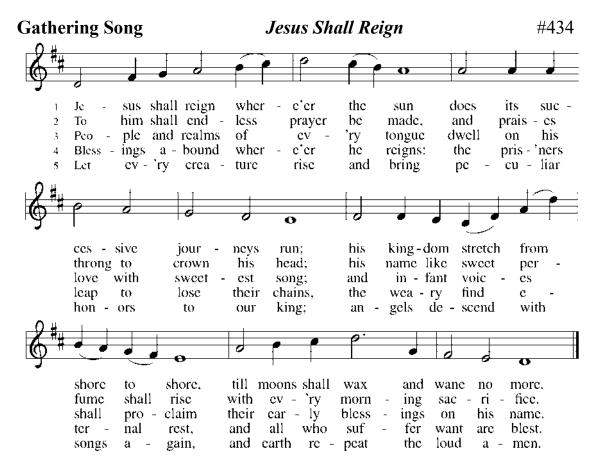
You dwell in light unapproachable. Unprotected, we perish in your presence. For our hearts are darkened, our minds beclouded; we have loved darkness rather than light.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome. For his sake we beg forgiveness.

For his sake God hears your prayer. Those who trust in the Lord are blessed, like trees planted by water. We have seen the Lord's glory; we have heard the Lord's voice.

Walk, then, as children of light, in the name of the Father, and of the Fon, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**





Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793 Public Domain

Opening Litany

In this world, the rich are exalted. But Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor, for yours is the kingdom of God." Help us, O Lord, to seek not the riches of this world, but the riches of heaven.

In this world, we do all we can to keep from getting hungry. But Jesus said, "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled."

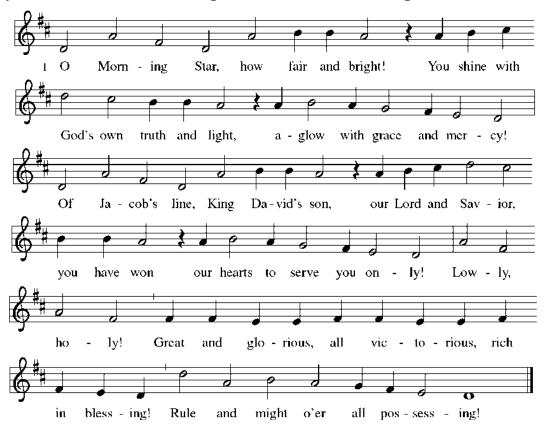
Help us, O Lord, to have a healthy hunger not only for food, but also for the Word of God.

What we see going on in the world makes us sad. But Jesus said, "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." Help us, O Lord, to remember that our present sufferings are not worth comparing to the joy we will experience in heaven. Amen.

Apostolic Greeting

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God the Father, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright! #308 (v. 1&5)



Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way — Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending! Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation! Exultation! Tell the story!
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!

Text & Music: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship* Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin, Augsburg Fortress Used by permission with subscription SB159191

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.) Living God,

in Christ you make all things new.

Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ WORD +

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁵Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else;

it is perverse —

who can understand it?

¹⁰I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

Let us read Psalm 1 responsively.

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

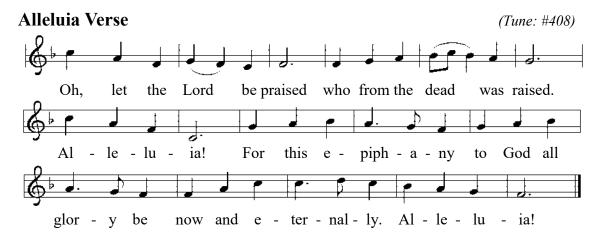
For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been

raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Tune: Public Domain

Holy Gospel Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God

The Holy Gospel according St. Luke, the 6th Chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to

touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich,

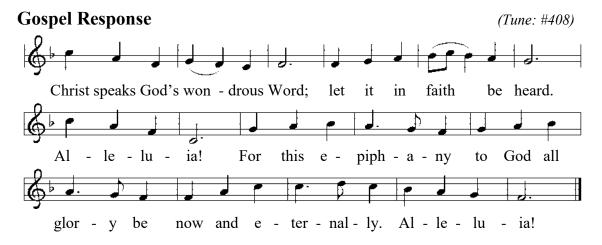
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶"Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

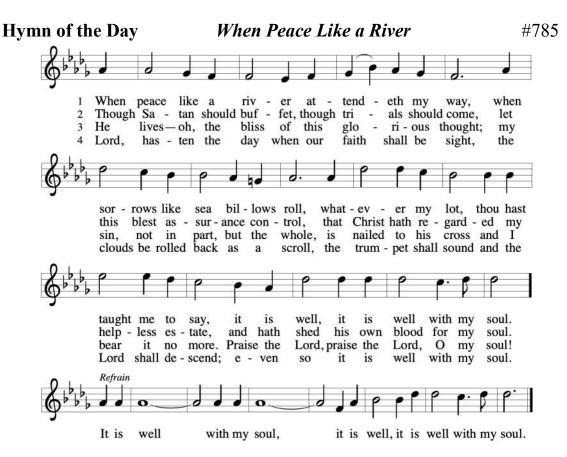
The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.



Tune: Public Domain

Children's Time Sermon





Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888; Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876 Public Domain

Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us profess our faith...

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit.
Give us courage to proclaim to all people
the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ.
God of grace, hear our prayer.

P Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace, hear our prayer.

A Blessed are the nations.

We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace, hear our prayer.

P Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way, *especially*... Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you.

Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

- P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**
- A Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace.

Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times.

May their lives be a witness to the living.

God of grace, hear our prayer.

P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

+ OFFERING +



Tune: Public Domain

+ MEAL +

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.



Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God, It is right to give our thanks and praise.

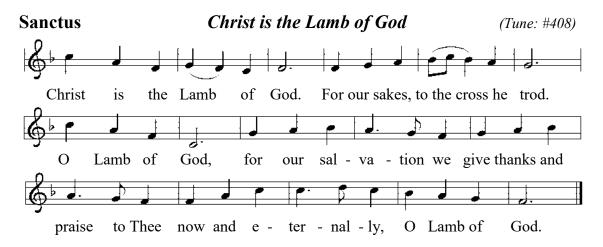
Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Tune: Public Domain

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.

You sent a star to guide the Magi to where the Christ was born; and your signs and witnesses in every age and through all the world have led your people from far places to his light.

In his baptism and in his table fellowship he took his place with sinners.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who were oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

On the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

Again after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.

And so, in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice as we proclaim the mystery of faith... Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

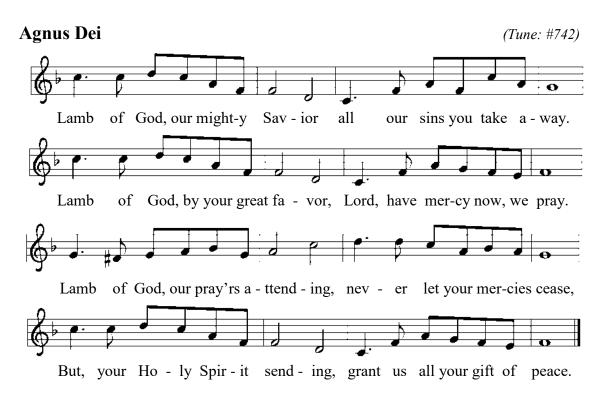
Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

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.



Tune: Public Domain

Distribution

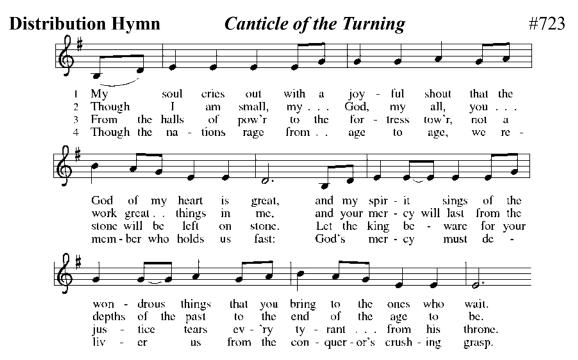
If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.



Text & Music: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-711706





Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: Irish tradition

Reprinted with permission under One License #A-711706

Table Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.)

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out

to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

+ SENDING +

Announcements

Benediction

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. Amen.

Sending Song Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing #545 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound. Say - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug-gling pil - grim way, each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri-umph in re - deem-ing grace. your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound. May the fruits of death ap - pall us, glad your sum-mons to fear of o - bev. Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re-fresh us, tray-'ling through this wil-der-ness. Ev - er faith-ful. ev - er faith-ful your truth may we be found. to

> Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939 Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

reign with you

in end-less day.

Public Domain

may we ev - er

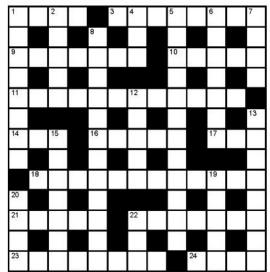
Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May we ev - er,

Jeremiah



Across

- 1 Elders of the land ____ up and spoke to the people. Jer 26:17 (4)
- 3 "I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and woman." Jer 6:2 (8)
- 9 "But, O LORD of hosts, that righteously ..." Jer 11:20 (7)
- 10 "____ own wickedness shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee." Jer 2:19 (5)
- 11 These supplementary texts, written by scholars, can help you understand the Bible. (12)
- 14 The first woman. (3)
- 16 "And I said after she had done all _____ things, Turn thou unto me." Jer 3:7 (5)
- 17 "But she returned not. And _____ treacherous sister Judah saw it." Jer 3:7 (3)
- 18 Nebuzaradan left some men to be husbandmen and these. Jer 52:16 (12)

- 21 "Why are thy valiant men swept away? they stood not, because the LORD did _____ them." Jer 46:15 (5)
- 22 "And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it." Jer 18:4 (7)
- 23 "I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that unto me." Jer 33:22 (8)
- 24 'For ye have kindled a ____ in mine anger." Jer 17:4 (4)

Down

- 1 God says He will bring evil on this people because they have done this with His law. Jer 6:19 (8)
- 2 God overthrew this city because of its wickedness. Jer 49:18 (5)
- 4 "Thou shalt not also go into the house of feasting, to sit with

them to ___ and to drink." Jer 16:8 (3)

- 5 Synonym for prayer. Jer 27:18 (12)
- 6 "He that ____ in this city shall die by the sword." Jer 21:9
- 7 The foolish people have these but do not see. Jer 5:21 (4)
- 8 "____ in those days, saith the LORD, I will not make a full end with you." Jer 5:18 (12)
- 12 "Be not afraid of _____ faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD." Jer 1:8 (5)
- 13 God will do this with the fatherless children. Jer 49:11 (8)
- 15 Along with NIV and NASB, the KJV Bible is a translation or of the Bible. (7)
- 19 A Netophathite. Jer 40:8 (5)
- 20 The husband to the answer to clue #14. (4)
- 22 This is used to cut a tree out of the forest. Jer 10:3 (3)

The Sermon on the Plain

"Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets. Luke 6:23 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 6:17-26 (NIV).



	J	L	K	U	Q	G	K	С	0	Μ	F	0	R	Т	Ρ
	S	Н	Ε	Z	D	W	С	Q	U	Μ	0	U	R	Ν	С
	Α	U	V	Р	J	S	Е	В	D	W	0	٧	Н	J	J
	Т	Ν	Ι	S	0	Q	0	Е	0	Α	L	Е	0	Q	С
	Ι	G	L	Е	W	0	Т	D	Р	Ν	Р	Е	٧	Μ	٧
	S	Е	L	Κ	0	С	R	Κ	I	Ν	G	D	0	Μ	Q
	F	R	W	Α	Е	U	Р	Υ	G	R	Е	Α	Т	R	В
	Ι	I	G	J	U	Т	G	R	R	Е	W	Α	R	D	L
	E	D	Е	J	F	G	Е	Р	W	R	G	Е	Κ	Т	Е
	D	R	W	Μ	0	D	Н	Е	Е	Ι	В	G	L	С	S
,	V	S	L	Т	U	Υ	Α	Ν	F	С	V	U	Ι	R	S
	Н	Z	0	L	Z	Υ	G	Χ	R	Н	S	0	Α	V	Е
,	Χ	Α	С	S	Υ	С	L	G	Α	Ν	J	F	С	L	D
	В	Χ	Т	I	Ν	Е	G	Χ	Ι	Е	Κ	С	Z	Ι	Μ
	Е	U	F	Е	Υ	Z	0	Р	R	В	Α	S	S	Ι	0

blessed	exclude	evil	insult	comfort
reject	joy	satisfied	hunger	woe
reward	rich	great	kingdom	hate
weep	poor	rejoice	mourn	laugh



"Bless us all."



All music & liturgies are from Sundays and Seasons.com Copyright 2005 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB159191. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Confession & opening litany reprinted with permission from Creative Communications for the Parish, CWR program.