



From *Garden*
to *Glory*

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Most holy and merciful Father,

**C: We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault,
by our own grievous fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

M: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: 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.

CLOSING HYMN: 308 S. 1,6,7 AS SURELY AS I LIVE, GOD SAID

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 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: *(spoken)* Amen.

RESPONSE: *(CW #354)*

**Jesus is the perfect Savior,
Only source of all that’s good;
Ev’ry grace and ev’ry favor
Come to us through Jesus’ blood.**

**Jesus gives us true repentance
By his Spirit sent from heav’n,
Whispers this assuring sentence,
“All your sins are now forgive’n”**

**Faith he grants us to believe it,
Grateful hearts his love to prize;
Want we wisdom? He must give it,
Hearing ears and seeing eyes.**

DISTRIBUTION *(St. Mark practices member communion. If you are not a member here or at a sister WELS congregation, we ask that you speak to the pastor about how you might be able to commune with us)*

HYMN 378: ALL MANKIND FELL IN ADAM’S FALL

SONG OF SIMEON *(Tune: CW 97)*

**O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten All gloom where Gentiles dwell:
The brilliant, crowning glory Of those in Israel!**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

M: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

C: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

M: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness.
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us

C: **We confess to you, O Lord.**

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thought toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M: For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

C: **Forgive us, O Lord.**

M: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: That we may show forth your glory in the world.

M: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

ABSOLUTION

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

HYMN 98 s. 1,4,5,6: JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW

PEACE CROSS LESSON

I Corinthians 13:8a - Love never fails.

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 7:8-13a

GOSPEL READING: Luke 18:9-14

HYMN 124: SAVIOR, WHEN IN DUST TO YOU

SERMON: GENESIS 3:15 THE GARDEN OF PROMISE

THE OFFERING

PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

C: It is good and right so to do.

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 brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (TUNE: CW #372)

**O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.**

**Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

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."