

Sexagesima
February 22-23, 2025
Divine Service, Setting Four, p. 203

Prelude

Invocation (*stand*) p. 203

Confession and Absolution

Entrance Hymn "Almighty God, Your Word is Cast" LSB 577

Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

Kyrie p. 204

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Collect of the Day p. 205

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (*sit*)

Old Testament *The Compassion of the Lord* Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,

an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 83:18, 13

[Let your enemies] know that you alone, whose name is the LORD,
are the Most High over all the earth.

**O my God, make them like whirling dust,
like chaff before the wind.**

Epistle

A Rest for the People of God

Hebrews 4:9–13

⁹So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

¹¹Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Tract (Verse of the Day) (*stand*)

Psalm 60:1-2, 5

O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses;
you have been angry; oh, restore us.

You have made the land to quake; you have torn it open;
repair its breaches, for it totters.

**That your beloved ones may be delivered,
give salvation by your right hand and answer us!**

Holy Gospel

The Parable of the Sower

Luke 8:4-15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: ⁵"A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. ⁸And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

⁹And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'" ¹¹Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. ¹⁴And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**May God bestow on us His grace,
With blessings rich provide us;
And may the brightness of His face
To life eternal guide us,
That we His saving health may know,
His gracious will and pleasure,
And also to the nations show
Christ's riches without measure
And unto God convert them.**

**Thine over all shall be the praise
And thanks of ev'ry nation;
And all the world with joy shall raise
The voice of exultation.
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,
Nor suffer sin to flourish;
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word
Their souls to feed and nourish,
In righteous paths to keep them.**

**O let the people praise Thy worth,
In all good works increasing;
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth,
Thy Word is rich in blessing.
May God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit bless us!
Let all the world praise Him alone,
Let solemn awe possess us.
Now let our hearts say, "Amen!"**

Sermon

Prayer of the Church *(stand)* *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

Offering *(sit)*

Preface *(stand)* p. 208

Sanctus

Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 209

Lord's Prayer p. 209

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei p. 210

**Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.**

**May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.**

Nunc Dimittis (*stand*)

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Post-Communion Collect

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Benedicamus and Benediction

Closing Hymn

"Almighty Father, Bless the Word"

LSB 923

**Almighty Father, bless the Word
Which through Your grace we now have heard.
Oh, may the precious seed take root,
Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!**

**We praise You for the means of grace
As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here
May all at last in heav'n appear.**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Postlude