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*The time is fulfilled,
and the kingdom of God
is at hand;
repent and believe
in the gospel*

Even When Something Is Drastically Wrong, God Provides

As We Gather

Today we hear of God testing Abraham and of Satan tempting Jesus. James reminds us that God tempts no one. So, how can we know whether God is testing us or Satan is tempting us? James reminds us that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1:17). As we go through life, striving to live out our calling as God's people, we will hit obstacles and face tests to our faith and to how we live that faith. God can work through these tests to draw us closer

to Him. On the other hand, Satan wants to lure and entice us away from the path God would have us walk.

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

- 2 With might of ours can naught be
done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

- 3 Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

- 4 The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,

Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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PREPARATION

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Opening Sentences *Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12–13*

- P** Jesus said, "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
- C** **Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**
- P** Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.
- C** **God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.**

Confession and Absolution *Romans 6:20, 22–23, adapted; Mark 1:15*

- P** God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.
- C** **But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.**
- P** For the wages of sin is death,

C but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven.

A moment for silent confession.

P Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil's schemes and give in to temptation. We are lured and enticed by our own evil desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.

C For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." As you have repented of your sins, believe these words as if Jesus was standing here speaking them to you: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

WORD

Introit *Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16*

P When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.

C Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be

**allowed to befall you, no plague
come near your tent.**

P For He will command His angels
concerning you to guard you in all
your ways.

C **On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a
stone.**

P You will tread on the lion and the
adder; the young lion and the serpent
you will trample underfoot.

C **When he calls to Me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble; I will
rescue him and honor him. With long
life I will satisfy him and show him My
salvation.**

Hymn O Come and Let Us Look Up

1 O come, and let us look up to Jesus
Christ, our Lord,
The founder and perfecter of faith
placed in God's Word.
Who for the joy before Him endured
the cross's pain,
Despising what our sins wrought, their
punishment and shame.
For that which He accomplished for all
humanity,
At God's right hand He reigns, now
and to eternity.

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Kyrie *James 1:18; Psalm 102:1, adapted*

P Lord, have mercy.

C **Christ, have mercy.**

P Lord, have mercy.

C **Of His own will He brought us forth by
the word of truth, that we should be a
kind of firstfruits of His creatures.**

P O LORD, hear our prayer.

C **And let our cry come to You!**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us Pray

C **O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1–18

The Sacrifice of Isaac

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and

the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth

be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him
endured the cross, despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the
throne of God.

Epistle

James 1:12–18

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Ephesians 6:11

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

The Baptism of Jesus

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

The Temptation of Jesus

¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Jesus Begins His Ministry

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your

Son

And bring to naught all He has done.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,

For You are Lord of lords alone;

Defend Your holy Church that we

May sing Your praise eternally.

3 O Comforter of priceless worth,

Send peace and unity on earth;

Support us in our final strife

And lead us out of death to life.

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**Sermon God Provides Even When Things
Go Wrong**

Genesis 22:1-18

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and
invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all
worlds,**

**God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the
Father,**

**by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our
salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under
Pontius Pilate.**

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the
Father.

And He will come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian
and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the
dead

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

Prayer of the Church *Psalm 25:4–6, adapted*

P Friends in Christ, I urge you to lift up
your souls to our God in whom we
trust, as Christ, our Lord, promises to
hear us.

Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the
Church.

C **Bless the work of our congregation
and all who bear Your name.**

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C **and Your steadfast love, for they have
been from of old.**

P Lord Jesus, the government is on Your
shoulders.

C Watch over all in this world. Guide the world's leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,
C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.
C Make us to know Your ways, O Lord; teach us Your paths. Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,
C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.
C Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth. Lead us to connect with those who are wandering or who do not know You.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,
C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.
C Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.

P We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: [names].
Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.

C Amen.

Offering

806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

1 Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"

Let the poor say "I am rich,"

Because of what the Lord has done
for us.

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"

Let the poor say "I am rich,"

Because of what the Lord has done
for us.

Give thanks, give thanks.

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SACRAMENT

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your great wisdom, You tested Abraham and provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. In Your great mercy, You allowed Your Son to be

tempted in every way that we are, and as He did not sin, You provided Him as the substitute sacrifice for our sins, including the temptations we so easily fall prey to.

We thank You for the forgiveness You freely offer us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C **1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we
pray.**

Distribution Hymns

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

- 1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of sinners bearing
And, laden with the sins of earth,
None else the burden sharing;
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
That spotless life to offer,
He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
The mockery, and yet replies,
"All this I gladly suffer."
- 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend,
The Lamb of God, our Savior,
Whom God the Father chose to send
To gain for us His favor.
"Go forth, My Son," the Father said,
"And free My children from their dread
Of guilt and condemnation.
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by Your passion they will share
The fruit of Your salvation."
- 3 "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
I'll bear what You command Me.
My will conforms to Your decree,
I'll do what You have asked Me."
O wondrous Love, what have You done!
The Father offers up His Son,
Desiring our salvation.
O Love, how strong You are to save!
You lay the One into the grave
Who built the earth's foundation.

4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see
And taste Your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be,
My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before Your throne,
Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought,
As Your own bride shall we be brought
To stand in joy beside You.

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702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

- 1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!
- 2 May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!
- 3 While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.
- 4 When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;

O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!

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632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee
My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:
What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart:
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

**☐ 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 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.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

☐ Let us pray.

**☐ Lord Jesus, we thank You for pouring
out Your body and blood and serving
it to us in this Meal in bread and wine.
In Your mercy, strengthen and lead us
as we face temptations and testing in
this life on our way to the life to come,
for You live and reign with the Father**

and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and
✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

798 The God of Abraham Praise

1 The God of Abr'ham praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days
And God of love.
Jehovah, great I AM!
By earth and heav'n confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name
Forever blest.

2 The God of Abr'ham praise,
At whose supreme command
From earth I rise and seek the joys
At His right hand.
I all on earth forsake,
Its wisdom, fame, and pow'r,
And Him my only portion make,
My shield and tow'r.

3 The God of Abr'ham praise,
Whose all-sufficient grace
Shall guide me all my pilgrim days
In all my ways.
He deigns to call me friend;
He calls Himself my God.
And He shall save me to the end
Through Jesus' blood.

4 He by Himself has sworn;
I on His oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne,
To heav'n ascend.

I shall behold His face;
I shall His pow'r adore
And sing the wonders of His grace
Forevermore.

5 Though nature's strength decay,
And earth and hell withstand,
To Canaan's bounds I urge my way
At His command.
The wat'ry deep I pass,
With Jesus in my view,
And through the howling wilderness
My way pursue.

6 The goodly land I see,
With peace and plenty blest:
A land of sacred liberty
And endless rest.
There milk and honey flow,
And oil and wine abound,
And trees of life forever grow
With mercy crowned.

7 There dwells the Lord our king,
The Lord our righteousness,
Triumphant o'er the world and sin,
The Prince of Peace.
On Zion's sacred height
His kingdom He maintains
And glorious with His saints in light
Forever reigns.

8 The God who reigns on high
The great archangels sing,
And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry,
"Almighty King!
Who was and is the same
And evermore shall be:
Jehovah, Father, great I AM!
We worship Thee!"

△ 9 The whole triumphant host
Give thanks to God on high.

“Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!”
They ever cry.
Hail, Abr’ham’s God and mine!
I join the heav’nly lays:
All might and majesty are Thine
And endless praise!

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