

Disputation of Doctor Martin Luther on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences

Out of love for the truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following propositions will be discussed at Wittenberg, under the presidency of the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and of Sacred Theology, and Lecturer in Ordinary on the same at that place. Wherefore he requests that those who are unable to be present and debate orally with us, may do so by letter.

In the Name our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

I. Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, when He said *Poenitentiam agite*, willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance.

II. This word cannot be understood to mean sacramental penance, i.e., confession and satisfaction, which is administered by the priests.

III. Yet it means not inward repentance only; nay, there is no inward repentance which does not outwardly work deeds of mortification of the flesh.

IV. The penalty [of sin], therefore, continues so long as hatred of self continues; for this is the true inward repentance, and continues until our entrance into the kingdom of heaven.

V. The pope does not intend to remit, and cannot remit any penalties other than those which he has imposed either by his own authority or by that of the Council.

VI. The pope cannot remit any penalty, except he declares that he has, not

remitted
may or
remission
indulgences

VII. G

VIII. C

IX. C

X. I

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XVI. I

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XXXIV. For these 'graces of pardon' concern only the penalties of sacramental satisfaction, and these are appointed by man.

XXXV. They preach no Christian doctrine who teach that contrition is not necessary in those who intend to buy souls out of purgatory or to buy confessionals.

XXXVI. Every true repentant Christian has a right to full remission of penalty and guilt, even without letters of pardon.

XXXVII. Every true Christian, whether living or dead, has part in all the blessings of Christ and the Church; and this is granted him by God, even without letters of pardon.

XXXVIII. Nevertheless, the remission and participation [in the blessings of the Church] which are granted by the pope are in no way to be despised, for they are, as I have said, the declaration of divine remission.

LXV. Therefore the treasures of the Gospel are nets with which they formerly were wont to fish for men of riches.

LXVI. The treasures of the indulgences are nets with which they now fish for the riches of men.

LXVII. The indulgences which the preachers cry as the "greatest graces" are known to be truly such in so far as they promote gain.

LXVIII. Yet they are in truth the very smallest graces compared with the grace of God and the pity of the Cross.

LXIX. Bishops and curates are bound to admit the commissaries of apostolic pardons, with all reverence.

LXX. But still more are they bound to strain all their eyes and attend with all their ears, lest these men preach their own dreams instead of the commission of the pope.

Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2020



XXXIV. It must be the intention of the pope that indulgences, which are a very small thing, are celebrated with one bell, with single processions and ceremonies, then the Gospel, which is the very greatest thing, should be preached with a hundred bells, a hundred processions, a hundred ceremonies.

XXXV. The power which the pope has, in a general way, over purgatory, is just like the power which any bishop or curate has, in a special way, within his own diocese or parish.

XXXVI. The pope does well when he grants remission to souls [in purgatory], not by the power of the keys (which he does not possess), but by way of intercession.

XXXVII. They preach men who say that so soon as the penny jingles into the money-box, the soul flies out [of purgatory].

XXXVIII. It is certain that when the penny jingles into the money-box, gain and avarice can be increased, but the result of the intercession of the Church is in the power of God alone.

XXXIX. Who knows whether all the souls in purgatory wish to be bought out of it, as in the legend of Stn. Severinus and Pischel?

XL. No one is sure that his own contrition is sincere, much less that he has attained full remission.

XLII. Here is the man that is truly penitent, so rare is also the man who may buy indulgences, i.e., such men are most rare.

XLIII. They will be condemned eternally, together with their teachers, who believe themselves safe of their salvation because they have letters of pardon.

XLIV. Here must be on their guard against those who say that the pope's pardons are that inestimable gift of God by which man is reconciled to Him.

LXV. If it must be the intention of the pope that indulgences, which are a very small thing, are celebrated with one bell, with single processions and ceremonies, then the Gospel, which is the very greatest thing, should be preached with a hundred bells, a hundred processions, a hundred ceremonies.

LXVI. The 'treasures of the Church', out of which the pope grants indulgences, are not sufficiently named or known among the people of Christ.

LXVII. That they are not temporal treasures is certainly evident, for many of the vendors do not pour out such treasures so easily, but only gather them.

LXVIII. But are they the merits of Christ and the Saints, for even without the pope, these always work grace for the inner man, and the cross, death, and hell for the outward man.

LXIX. St. Lawrence said that the treasures of the Church were the Church's poor, but he spoke according to the usage of the word in his own time.

LXX. Without rashness we say that the keys of the Church, given by Christ's merit, are that treasure.

LXXI. For it is clear that for the remission of penalties and of reserved cases, the power of the pope is of itself sufficient.

LXXII. The true treasure of the Church is the Most Holy Gospel of the glory and the grace of God.

LXXIII. But this treasure is naturally most odious, for it makes the first to be last.

LXXIV. On the other hand, the treasure of indulgences is naturally most acceptable, for it makes the last to be first.

LXXXVI. Again — 'Who does not the pope, whose wealth is to-day greater than the riches of the richest, build just this one church of St. Peter with his own money, rather than with the money of poor believers?'

LXXXVII. Again — 'What is it that the pope remits, and what participation does he grant to those who, by perfect contrition, have a right to full remission and participation?'

LXXXVIII. Again — 'What greater blessing could come to the Church than if the pope were to do a hundred times a day what he now does once, and bestow on every believer these remissions and participations?'

LXXXIX. 'Since the pope, by his pardons, seeks the salvation of souls, rather than money, why does he suspend the indulgences and pardons granted heretofore, since these have equal efficacy?'

XC. Co represents these arguments and scraps of the law by force alone, and not to resolve them by sound reasons, is to expose the Church and the pope to the ridicule of their enemies, and to make Christians unhappy.

XCI. If, therefore, pardons were preached according to the spirit and mind of the pope, all these doubts would be readily resolved, nay, they would not exist.

XCII. Away, then, with all these prophecies who say to the people of Christ, 'Peace, peace,' and there is no peace!

XCIII. Blessed be all those prophets who say to the people of Christ, 'Cave, cave,' and there is no cross!

XCIV. Christians are to be exhorted that they be diligent in following Christ, their Lord, through gladness, death, and hell.

XCV. And thus be confident of entering into heaven rather through many tribulations, than through the assurance of peace.

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2020

Order of Service

Jesus' summary of the law in today's gospel echoes our first reading from Leviticus. We are called not only to love God with heart, soul, and mind, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is out of such deep care that Paul shares the gospel with the Thessalonian community. In the confession of sins, we acknowledge that we have not loved God, neighbor, and self; yet we gather to hear the word of forgiveness and to be strengthened by word and meal to be signs of God's love and mercy in the world.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Faithful God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

PAGE 3 & 4

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: LEVITICUS 19:1-2, 15-18

The Holiness Code in Leviticus urges people to be holy because God is holy. Holiness is lived out as God's people exercise justice and love in their dealings with one another. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves.

¹The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

²Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

¹⁵You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD. ¹⁷You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Psalm 1

Spoken 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!

²**Their 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.

⁴**It 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.

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

SECOND READING: 1ST THESSALONIANS 2:1-8

Paul uses maternal imagery to depict the caring and nurturing relationship he shares with the Thessalonian Christians. When he first came to their city it was not to benefit himself but to share the gospel with them, which was his responsibility as an apostle of Christ.

¹You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain,
²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi,
as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite
of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives
or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the
message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God
who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with
words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals,
whether from you or from others, ⁷though we might have made demands as apos-
tles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her
own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with
you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become
very dear to us.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:34-46

Put on the spot by the Pharisees, Jesus displays wisdom by summarizing the law of God in just two commandments and by demonstrating the Messiah must be more than the son of David.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” ⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR ANDREW C. PATTY

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

PAGE 7

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C 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 to the dead.
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.**

THE PRAYERS

A With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all those in need.

A brief silence.

A In your love, you speak to your church. Give courage and the bond of love to all
who gather in your name, that this love turn toward our neighbors. Lord, in
your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A In your love, you create our earth filled with living things of every kind. Sustain
the intricate connections among plants, insects, animals, and organisms we
don't even know or recognize. Bless the work of scientists who help us extend
neighbor love to the natural world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A In your love, you guide with justice. Inspire leaders to truthful conversations
and wise policies, that decisions are made for the good of all. Lord, in your
mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A In your love, you tenderly care for your children and nurse them to health.
Bring relief to all those who need healing, hope, or restoration this day, espe-
cially Don Longren, Duane Pomeroy, and Lucille Brill. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A In your love, you accompany us in life's transitions. We pray for new parents,
those grieving a loss, those who are retiring, and those embarking on new ven-
tures. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A In your love, you lead us and our sister congregations to be welcoming to all. We
pray for Kaw Prairie Community in Lenexa and San Juan Ministry in Wichita,

Kansas, Bethel Lutheran in St. Louis and Peace Lutheran in Sullivan, Missouri.
Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A In your love, pour out your blessings of life and joy on Frank Visocsy and Charlotte O'Brien as they celebrate their birthdays this week, and upon Bob Horton and Curt Lewis as they remember their baptisms, and upon Frank & Glenda Visocsy and Don & Charlotte O'Brien as they celebrate their wedding anniversaries. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In your love, we remember those who were dear to us and now rest in you. We give thanks for Martin Luther and all who seek to reform and renew your church. Give us courage to live out your gospel, revealing your love until our days on earth have ended. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P God of all creation, all you have made is good and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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 our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and good that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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 is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

SENDING

PRAYER

A Almighty and merciful God, let your Word abide in our hearts and minds that our faith being increased may go into the world with more knowledge and love in all that we do, strengthened by our faith in you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

A The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Oct. 25Online Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM
 Mon., Oct. 26 .. Watch Facebook for posts from fellow Lutheran ministries
 Tues., Oct. 27..... 40 Day Journey with Martin Luther on Facebook 6:30 PM
 Wed., Oct. 28Hearing the Hymns
 Thurs., Oct. 29..... Midweek Prayer Service on Zoom 6:30 PM
 Sunday, Nov. 1Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS						
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion
Sept. 27	\$2,720.00	\$0.00	\$2,720.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$72.00	0
Oct. 4	\$1,160.00	\$0.00	\$1,160.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,632.00	13
Oct. 11	\$2,310.00	\$25.00	\$2,335.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$457.00	10
Oct. 18	\$930.00	\$0.00	\$930.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,862.00	0
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead	
		Aug 2020	\$9,823.03	-\$11,152.64	-\$1,329.61	
		Jan. - Aug	\$81,223.03	-\$81,593.95	-\$370.92	

Doorstep is in need of the following food items:

Peanut Butter
 Cream of Mushroom Soup
 Other Varieties of Soup
 Canned Fruit—any kind
 Tuna
 Peas



Donations of food are accepted at the south door Monday — Friday, 9 am to 2 pm.

Remember our shut-ins!

Lucille Brill	Marlene Hassan	Keith Springer
Peggy Buchholz	Roy O'Neil	Naomi Walker
Don Longren	Ron Owensby	





The mission of
**Trinity Evangelical
 Lutheran Church**
 is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

Together in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

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