



## THE BOOK OF CONCORD (Tappert Edition)

### APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION XXIV. THE MASS

<sup>59</sup> Since the priesthood of the New Testament is a ministry of the Spirit, as Paul teaches in 2 Cor. 3:6, the only sacrifice of satisfaction it has for the sins of others is the sacrifice of Christ. It has no sacrifices like the Levitical which could be transferred to others *ex opere operato*; but it offers to others the Gospel and the sacraments so that thereby they may receive faith and the Holy Spirit and be put to death and made alive. The ministry of the Spirit contradicts any such transfer *ex opere operato*. Through the ministry of the Spirit, the Holy Spirit works in the heart. Therefore this ministry benefits people when he does work to give them new birth and life. This does not happen by the transfer of one man's work to another *ex opere operato*.

<sup>60</sup> We have shown the conflict between the righteousness of faith and the idea that the Mass justifies *ex opere operato* or that it merits the forgiveness of sins for others. There can be no forgiveness of sins and no conquest of the terrors of death and sin through any work or anything else but faith in Christ, as we read (Rom. 5:1), "Since we are justified by faith, we have peace."

<sup>61</sup> We have also shown that the Scripture passages quoted against us give no support to our opponents' wicked idea that the Mass justifies *ex opere operato*. Good men in every country can see this. (59-61)

Last week  
Attendance: 23  
Offering: \$874.00

"καὶ ἔλεγεν Ἰησοῦς, μὴ σθητί μου ὅταν ἔλθῃς εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν σου."  
(Luke 23:42)

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November 20, 2016, Last Sunday of the Church Year

WELCOME to Apostles Lutheran Church! This congregation is a member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). We believe and teach that the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, and the only means by which God has revealed the way of salvation, which is in Jesus Christ. We pray that this hour will refresh your heart as God draws you closer to Himself.

#### LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

##### *THE TEN COMMANDMENTS*

As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household.

The Tenth Commandment

**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Family of Virgil Bennett (mourning his death); Christine Balvanz (Pam Wenndt's sister-in-law); J.P. Laurens (relative of Wenndts); Daryl Bell; Lois (Melanie Buechler's Mother); Pastor Kufahl (Hickory Grove-Boscobel); Pastor Davison (St. Luke-Richland Center)

#### THIS WEEK AT APOSTLES

Today, 9a Divine Service; 10:30a Sunday School & Bible Class (Study of the Divine Service & Liturgy)

1p-4p: Visitation for Virgil Bennett @ Martin Schwartz Funeral Home, Lancaster (across from A & W)

Monday, 9a-10a Visitation for Virgil Bennett @ Martin Schwartz Funeral Home, Lancaster (across from A & W)

10a Funeral Service for Virgil Bennett

Wednesday, No study of the Lutheran Confessions or Junior Catechesis  
*Both resume Nov 30*

Thursday, Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Sunday, 9a Divine Service

Virgil Bennett, a long time member of Apostles, died in the Lord on Tuesday, Nov 15, on his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. We petition our Lord to comfort His family with the hope of the resurrection! Visitation and the Funeral Service will be at the Martin Schwartz Funeral Home in Lancaster at the times noted above.

The October-December *Portals of Prayer* devotional booklet is available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please take a copy for yourself (and others).

"Before him (God) we acknowledge that we are sinners, and we plead for forgiveness. His forgiveness is given us, and we, freed and forgiven, acclaim his as our great and gracious God as we apply to ourselves the words he has used to make himself known to us." (*Lutheran Worship*, Introduction)

## Bible Readings

### Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3:13–18

<sup>13</sup>“Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ <sup>14</sup>You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? <sup>15</sup>And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’”

<sup>16</sup>Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. <sup>17</sup>“They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. <sup>18</sup>Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.”

### Epistle: Colossians 1:13–20

<sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

### Gospel: Luke 23:27–43

<sup>27</sup>There followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. <sup>28</sup>But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ <sup>30</sup>Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ <sup>31</sup>For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

<sup>32</sup>Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup>And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup>And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”