Dearly beloved brethren,
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge
and confess our manifold sins and wickedness;
and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before
the face of almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and
obedient heart;
to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same
by his infinite goodness and mercy.
And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge
our sins before God;
yet ought we most chiefly so to do,
when we assemble and meet together
to render thanks for the great benefits that we have
received at his hands,
to set forth his most worthy praise,
to hear his most holy word,
and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary,
as well for the body as the soul.

Wherefore I pray and beseech you,
as many as are here present,
to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice,
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying [after me]:

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.
Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,  
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,  
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,  
and serve thee with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
\textit{Amen.}

\textit{Our Father, which art in heaven,}  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
\textit{Amen.}

O Lord, open thou our lips  
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.  
\textit{O Lord, make haste to help us.}

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. \textit{Amen.}

Praise ye the Lord.  
\textit{The Lord's name be praised.}  
O come, let us sing unto the Lord :  
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.  

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :  
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.  

For the Lord is a great God :  
and a great King above all gods.  

In his hand are all the corners of the earth :  
and the strength of the hills is his also.  

The sea is his, and he made it :  
and his hands prepared the dry land.  

O come, let us worship, and fall down :
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God:
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts:
as in the provocation,
and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;

When your fathers tempted me:
proved me, and saw my works.

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said:
It is a people that do err in their hearts,
for they have not known my ways.

Unto whom I sware in my wrath:
that they should not enter into my rest.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Psalm 13
How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? for ever?
how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?
2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily?
how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?
3 Consider and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes,
lest I sleep the sleep of death;
4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him;
and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.
5 But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.
6 I will sing unto the Lord, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

At the end of each psalm these words are said
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

For the Epistle 1 Peter 5:5
The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder,
and a witness of the sufferings of Christ,
and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof,
not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock.
4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear,
ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.
5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder.
Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility:
for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.  

And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.  

And he spake this parable unto them, saying,  

What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?  

And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.  

And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.  

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?  

And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.  

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.
The Benedictus
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:
for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us:
in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets:
which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies:
and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers:
and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham:
that he would give us,
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies:
might serve him without fear,
In holiness and righteousness before him:
all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest:
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people:
for the remission of their sins;
Through the tender mercy of our God:
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness,
and in the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Apostles' Creed
I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen
The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects are said.

The Collect of the Day
O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou has given an hearty desire to pray, may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Collect in time of Pestilence, Sickness & Mortality
O ALMIGHTY God, the Lord of life and death, of health and sickness:
Have pity upon us miserable sinners, now visited with great sickness and mortality.
Withdraw from us this grievous affliction.
Sanctify to us, we beseech thee, this thy fatherly correction.
Enlarge our charity to relieve those who need our help.
Bless the remedies applied to assist them. Give us prudence to see, and vigour to use,
those means which thy providence affords, for preventing and alleviating such calamities.
And, above all, teach us to know how frail and uncertain our condition is, and so to number our days, that we may seriously apply our hearts to that holy and heavenly wisdom, whilst we live here, which may in the end bring us to life everlasting;
through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thine only Son our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect for Peace
O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord,
in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life,
whose service is perfect freedom;
defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect for Grace
O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God,
who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day;
defend us in the same with thy mighty power;
and grant that this day we fall into no sin,
neither run into any kind of danger,
but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance,
to do always that is righteous in thy sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sermon

How do you feel when someone else gets a reward or favour they don't deserve?

The scribes and Pharisees took great offense at Jesus because he associated with sinners and treated them graciously. The Pharisees had strict regulations about how they were to keep away from sinners, lest they incur defilement. They were not to entrust money to them or have any business dealings with them, nor trust them with a secret, nor entrust orphans to their care, nor accompany them on a journey, nor give their daughter in marriage to any of their sons, nor invite them as guests or be their guests. They were shocked with the way in which Jesus freely received sinners and ate with them.
Sinners, nonetheless, were drawn to Jesus to hear him speak about the mercy of God.

Jesus characteristically answered the Pharisees’ charge with a parable or lesson drawn from everyday life. What does Jesus’ story about a lost sheep and a lost coin tell us about God and his kingdom?
Shepherds normally counted their sheep at the end of the day to make sure all were accounted for. Since sheep by their very nature are very social, an isolated sheep can quickly become bewildered and even neurotic. The shepherd’s grief and anxiety is turned to joy when he finds the lost sheep and restores it to the fold. The housewife who lost a coin faced something of an economic disaster, since the value of the coin would be equivalent to her husband’s daily wage.

What would she say to her husband when he returned home from work?

They were poor and would suffer greatly because of the loss.
Her grief and anxiety turn to joy when she finds the coin.
Both the shepherd and the housewife "search until what they have lost is found".

Their persistence pays off.

They both instinctively share their joy with the whole community.

The poor are particularly good at sharing in one another’s sorrows and joys.

What was new in Jesus’ teaching was the insistence that sinners must be sought out and not merely mourned for. God does not rejoice in the loss of anyone, but desires that all be saved and restored to fellowship with him. That is why the whole community of heaven rejoices when one sinner is found and restored to fellowship with God. Seekers of the lost are much needed today.

Do you persistently pray and seek after those you know who have lost their way to God?

Let us pray: Lord, let your light dispel the darkness that what is lost may be found and restored.

Let your light shine through your church that others may see your truth and love and find hope and peace in you. May we never doubt your love nor take for granted the mercy you have shown to us. Fill us with your transforming love that we may be merciful as you are merciful.

Amen

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,

be with us all evermore. Amen