

Why would I want to make a private confession? Why would I tell someone about my secret shame?

God's enduring promise to us is the promise to always forgive, of that there is no question.

Yet, when something really awful has happened, either something we've done that we know was wrong or something right that we've failed to do, the knowledge of that failure can become a burden. We can have a hard time leaving it behind. Instead, we can be tempted to allow our failures to begin to define us.

Sometimes awful things that have been done to us can also threaten to work this way in our lives. We can become ashamed of ourselves, even if the thing that we can't forget was something that someone else did to us!

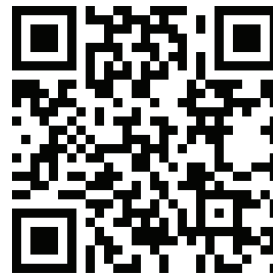
In situations like these, it can be a blessing to share our burden with a pastor who has publicly pledged to never share what is confessed to them. What's more, the pastor can speak God's forgiveness to you about that very situation. We leave this conversation of confession and forgiveness assured that God's forgiveness is even for us. Even in this situation.

Inside this brochure, you'll find a script to guide your private and confidential conversation with one of our pastors. You can meet with them at one of the drop-in times printed on the cover or by appointment.

Pastor Kate and Pastor Jim are also available by appointment. Scan the codes here to gain access to their appointment calendars:



Pastor Kate



Pastor Jim

The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

*if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he will also deny us;
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.*

2 Timothy 2:11-13



Are you burdened by feelings of guilt or shame? Experience the freedom of confession and forgiveness

The Ritual of
Private Confession & Forgiveness
at the Chapel of the Resurrection

**Sundays
8 pm - 9 pm**

**Wednesdays
9pm - 10 pm**

Or by appointment

*In the baptistry of the
Chapel of the Resurrection
when the fall and spring semesters
are in session.*



Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

Response: Amen.

**Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my
offenses.**

**Wash me through and through from my
wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**For I know my transgressions only too
well, and my sin is ever before me.**

(Psalm 55:1-3)

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal
One,
**have mercy upon us.
Pray for me, a sinner.**

May God in love enlighten your heart, that
you may remember in truth all your sins and
God's unfailing mercy.
Amen.

Hear the Word of God:

Jesus said in the Gospel of Matthew:
Come to me, all you that are weary and are
carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you
rest. *(Matthew 11:28)*

From the Gospel of John:
For God so loved the world that he gave his
only Son, so that everyone who believes in
him may not perish but may have eternal life.
(John 3:16)

From First Timothy:
The saying is sure and worthy of full
acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into

the world to save sinners – of whom I am the
foremost. *(1 Timothy 1:15)*

From First John:
If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the
Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the
atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours
only but also for the sins of the whole world. *(1
John 2:1-2)*

Now, in the presence of Christ, and of me, his
minister, confess your sins with a humble and
obedient heart to Almighty God, our Creator,
and our Redeemer.

**Holy God, heavenly Father, you formed me
from the dust in your image and likeness, and
redeemed me from sin and death by the cross
of your Son Jesus Christ. Through the water
of baptism, you clothed me with the shining
garment of his righteousness, and established
me among your children in your kingdom.
But I have squandered the inheritance of
your saints, and have wandered far in a land
that is waste.**

Especially, I confess to you and to the Church
*... Here things may be named that are especially
burdensome.*

**Therefore, O Lord, I turn to you in sorrow
and repentance from these and all other sins I
cannot now remember. Receive me again into
the arms of your mercy, and restore me to
the blessed company of your faithful people;
through him in whom you have redeemed
the world, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

*The pastor may then offer words of comfort
and counsel.*

Will you turn again to Christ as your Lord?
I will.

Do you, then, forgive those who have sinned
against you?

I forgive them.

May Almighty God in mercy receive your
confession of sorrow and of faith, strengthen
you in all goodness, and by the power of the
Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

Do you believe that the word of forgiveness I
speak to you comes from God?

Yes.

Then hear this word:

Name.

in obedience to the command of our Lord
Jesus Christ,

I forgive you all your sins
in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Now there is rejoicing in heaven; for you
were lost, and are found; you were dead,
and are now alive in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Abide in peace. The Lord has put away all
your sins.

Thanks be to God.

*Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer,
Evangelical Lutheran Worship,
and Lutheran Service Book*