**C: Permission, Lord, to enter your house of worship?**

P: *Permission granted in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

(Ringing of the bell for coming aboard with the Lord.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*P: War weary and battle tired from life, we come to you Lord of life worth living. Help us to be honest and open to your Holy Spirit. Search our memories and moments present for sin and eliminate anything that would separate us from you. Hear us, mighty friend and Savior.*

**Pause for Silent Prayer and Reflection**

*P: God of true peace we confess:*

**C: “Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen. (Prayer of Martin Luther)**

*P: The Lord hears. The Lord heals. The Lord forgives us in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*