

Trinity Lutheran Church – Norman, Oklahoma

www.tlcnorman.org

Third Sunday in Advent – December 17, 2023



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Third Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2023

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Service Book - Page 184

Divine Service 3 - Order of Holy Communion

* = All Stand

Prelude

“The Advent of Our God”

George Brandon

Share the Peace of the Lord

Announcements

Children’s Message (10:30 a.m.)

515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re-joyce, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'rings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
 Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
 Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
 A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.
 In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7

Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*

**for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to |
folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,*
that glory may dwell | in our land.

Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,*
and our land will yield its | increase.

Righteousness will go be- | fore him*
and make his foot- | steps a way.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

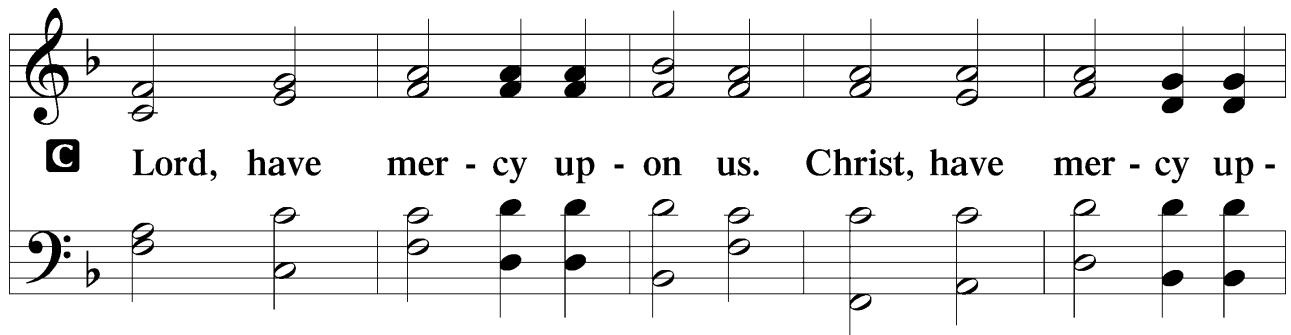
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

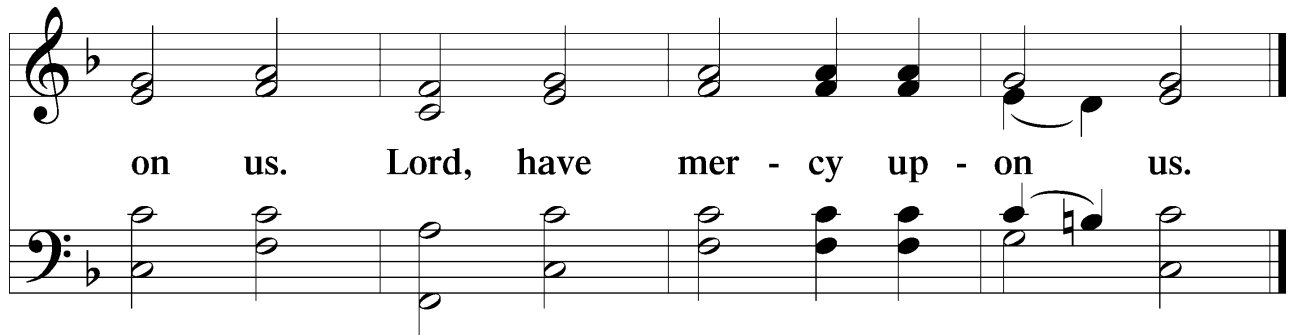
Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.

Kyrie

LSB 186

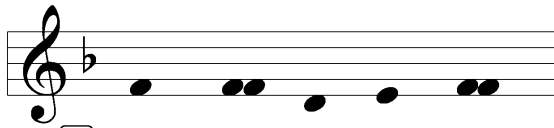


Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;

to comfort all who mourn;
³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice;
I hate robbery and wrong;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge them,
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 126; antiphon: v. 5

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of | Zion,*
we were like | those who dream.

²**Then our mouth was filled with | laughter,***
and our tongue with | shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,

“The LORD has done great | things for them.”*

³The LORD has done great things for us; | we are glad.

**⁴Restore our fortunes, | O LORD,*
like streams in the | Negeb!**

**⁵Those who | sow in tears*
shall reap with | shouts of joy!**

**⁶He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for | sowing,*
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his | sheaves with him.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: **C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics placed below the notes.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . .

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics placed below the notes.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Sermon

"HAVING THE LIGHT IN YOUR LIFE!"

TEXT: John 1:6-8,19-28

Theme: The world is a dark place. Where is light to be found?

How does Advent and Christmas answer that question?

How can you have light in your life?

I. THE DARKNESS IN THE WORLD

II. THE WITNESS CONCERNING THE LIGHT TO THE WORLD - JOHN

III. THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD - JESUS THE CHRIST

CONCLUSION: Rejoice! -in the One who came after John, Jesus the Christ!

We believe in Him and we have light.

Light now as we live on earth - Light when we die - Light into eternity!

HOLY COMMUNION POLICY:

Holy Communion is administered to Lutheran Church Missouri Synod members and LCMS guests who have been instructed, catechezed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. If you are visiting, please speak to the Elder of the day, or to the Pastor about receiving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

ATTENDANCE AND COMMUNION REGISTRATION:

During the gathering of the Offerings, members and visitors please pick up the Ritual of Friendship pad at the end of the pew, take out a white (member) or tan (visitor) sheet and pass the pad down the pew to the people sitting next to you. Please fill out the date, address and phone number information as well as e-mail addresses. The sheets will be collected by the ushers at the door as you leave. Thank you!

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Sit
Offering

*(Fill out the **Ritual of Friendship** sheet and place it in the baskets in the narthex as you leave.
 Place your offerings in the offering plates passed by the ushers.)*

We thank you for presenting your weekly offerings to the church in one of four ways:

1. Place your offerings in the offering plates
 2. Mail your offering envelopes to the Church Office
 3. Bring your Offerings to the Church Office
- You may place your offering in the wooden box on the bench by the glass doors.
4. Use the "Simply Giving" service to give your offerings digitally online.
- Thank you to everyone for faithfully supporting our ministry here.

Voluntary

“O God, Send Heralds”

Randall Sensmeier

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Note: If you would like a prayer included in the Divine Service today, please fill out the form and hand it to the elder or usher at the beginning of the service. You may also call the church office, e-mail, or leave a message on the answering machine for special prayers.

In the Hospital OR Receiving Treatments OR Recuperating:

Madisen Lemke, Kandie Darmody, Lynlee Kocurek, Barbara Craun, Steve Amendt, Casey Milko, Marie Campbell, Michael Meyer

Other Needs We Pray for

- * Trinity Lutheran Church, Early Childhood & Campus Ministries * Pray for Rain
- * Pray for Peace for Israel & Palestine & the Ukraine

Military Service Members & their Families

Mike Gobble, Emily Shelton, Alex Laffin, Danny Greene, Courtney Tate, Eli Wiley

Police and Firefighters

Birthdays

Stephanie Ohliger	12/17	Vanessa Dicus	12/18
Tim Anderson	12/20	Leda Gilchrist	12/21
Jessica Baugh	12/22	Beth Brown	12/22
Jonathan Baugh	12/22	Kelsey Hartman	12/22
Susan Brown	12/22	Ken Jordening	12/22

Anniversaries

None

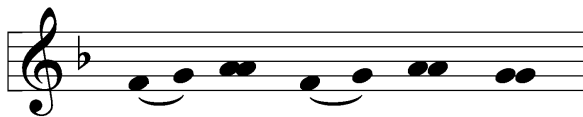
Missions

Rev. Herb and Markie Burch serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Belize, Central America. From Belize, they support other Lutheran ministries in Central and South America. Herb travels to several preaching stations throughout Belize where he preaches, coaches pastoral candidates and teaches adults and children about the Christian faith through Luther's Small Catechism. He also works with leaders of partner Lutheran churches in Venezuela, Guatemala and the Yucatan peninsula of Mexico to share the Gospel.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



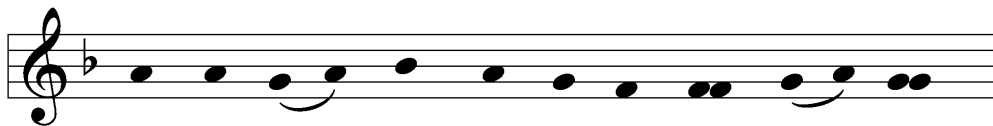
P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



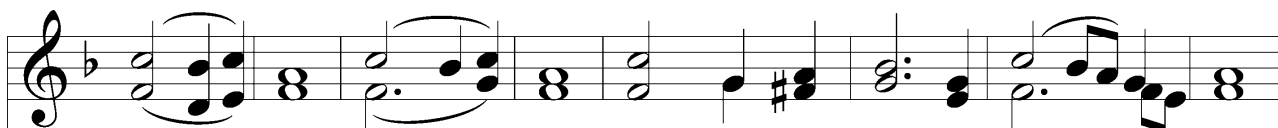
C It is meet and right so to do.



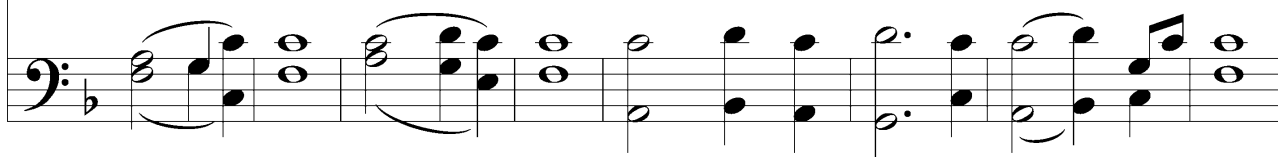
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,

Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it

is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;

and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who
 tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to
 temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
 glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,
 and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the

dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ☩ bod - y, which is giv-en for you.

This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so

He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it

to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in

My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.

This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

□ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

389 Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:
 How great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He,
 No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
 To blessèd paradise;
 The angel bars the way no more.
 To God our praises rise,
 To God our praises rise.

△ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,	Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me;	I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine	The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?	Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth	Poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,	O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us	Through sin and van - i - ty
Where the an - gels sing - ing	With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth	The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it,	Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us	A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing	In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!	Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee!	Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there!	May we praise Him there!
Oh, that we were there!	Oh, that we were there!

392 God Loves Me Dearly



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -
2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and
3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -
4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did
5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.
deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.
of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.
ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 △ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

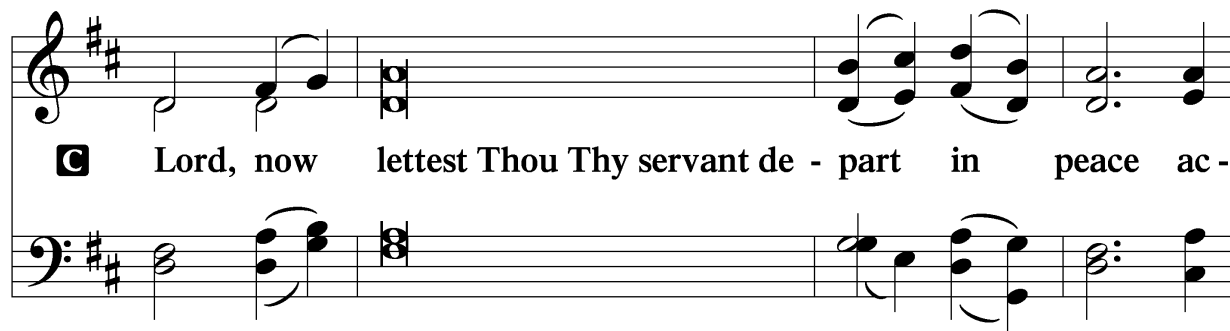


Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Stand
Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy



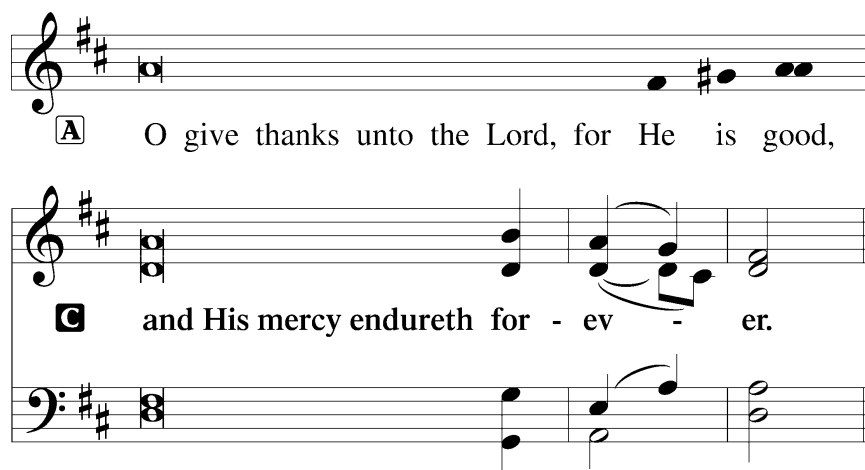
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

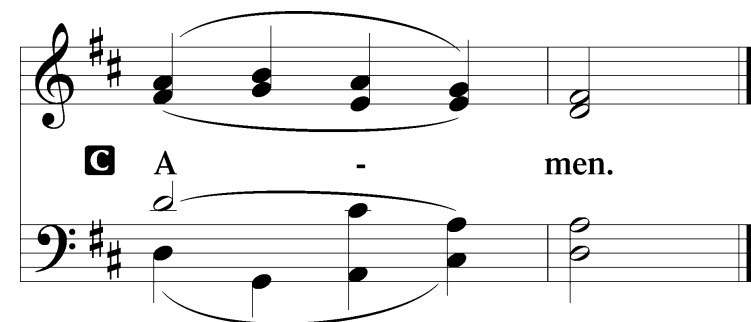
Thanksgiving

LSB 200

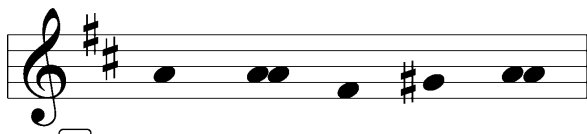


A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.



P The Lord be with you.

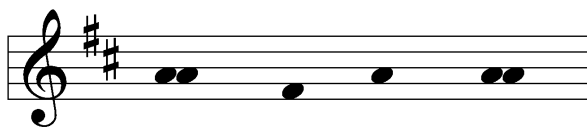


C And with thy spir - it.



Benedicamus

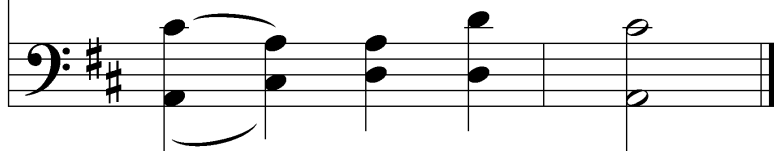
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A Bless we the Lord.

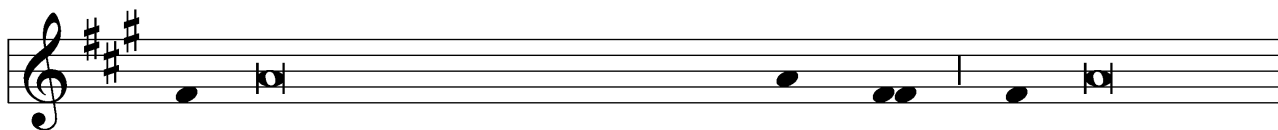


C Thanks be to God.

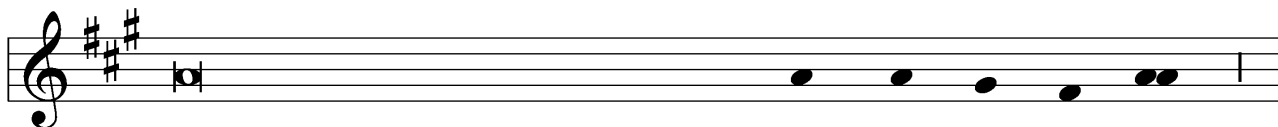


Benediction

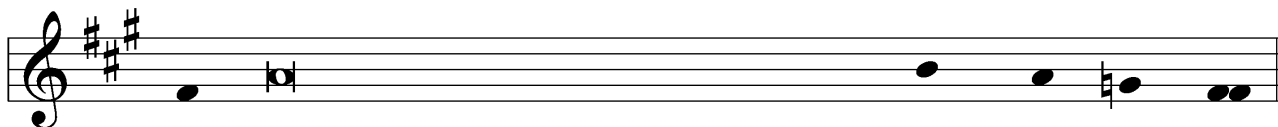
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P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C A - men, a - men, a - men.

383 A Great and Mighty Wonder

1 A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:
 2 The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,
 3 While thus they sing your Monarch, Those bright angelic bands,
 4 Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,
 5 All idols then shall perish And Satan's lying cease,

The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure!
 And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.
 Rejoice, O vales and mountains, And oceans, clap your hands.
 The infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord.
 And Christ shall raise His scepter, Decreeing endless peace.

Refrain

Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be
 glory And peace to all the earth!"

Postlude

"O Bride of Christ, Rejoice"

Johann Gottfried Walther