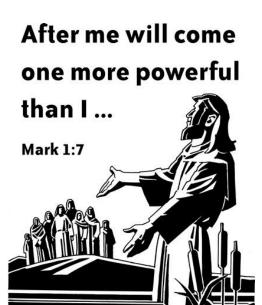
Second Sunday in Advent December 6, 2020 10:30 a.m. Service



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

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Administrative Assistant - Sonya Gorman



You are invited to use the yellow Prayer Cards located in the pew for prayer requests. Please hand this card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

* Please turn off cellphones*

Holy Communion is offered today:

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful gift given to us by God. In the bread and wine, just as He says, Christ gives us His body and blood to forgive sins, renew faith, and cause Godly and brotherly love to grow. In this sacrament we proclaim Christ's death on the cross to atone for the sins of the world and His triumphant resurrection over the grave, to the glory and praise of God. To receive this means of God's grace properly we should be able to positively answer the following: "Do I need forgiveness for sin?" "Do I believe the pastor's forgiveness is God's forgiveness?" "Do I believe in Christ as my Savior?" "Do I trust that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine?" "Do I desire to live anew to God and others in love and service?" In our

'yes' to these questions we join in a close and holy communion – a fellowship of faith.

Out of Pastoral concern and care, and taking to heart God's Word in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29: "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" — if you are unsure of what it means to recognize the body of the Lord in the Lord's Supper, or if you cannot confess these beliefs, please feel free to remain seated or speak to the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

If you need to receive the Sacrament at your seat, please tell an usher. For those who so desire, the cups in the center have water infused with a drop of wine. Also, non-communing children and adults are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. (Please keep your hands folded to indicate this choice.)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Divine Service – Setting Two December 6, 2020 10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements

+ INVOCATION +

LSB 167

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

P We begin in the name into which we are baptized; In the name of the Father and of the ★ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

P As we light the second candle of our Advent wreath, known as the Bethlehem candle,

we are reminded of the preparation made in Bethlehem to receive and cradle the Christ Child.

- P As we recognize the need for Christ to come into our lives,
- **C** we too make preparations to receive Him and cradle Him in our hearts.
- P Once again we pray,
- C "Come, Lord Jesus, into our hearts, into our church, and into our world. Dwell there. Rule there. Amen."

Opening Hymn

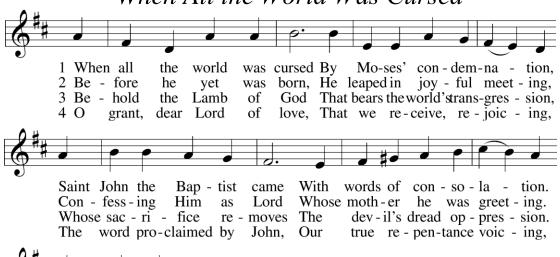
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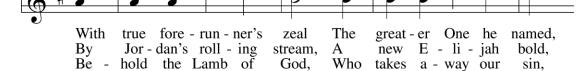
glad - ly

LSB 346 sts. 1-4

way

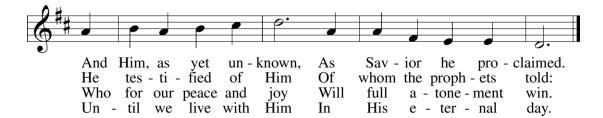
"When All the World Was Cursed"





we may

Up - on our Sav-ior's



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Stand

- + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION + LSB 167
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for selfexamination in light of the Ten Commandments.)

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we

have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

- P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

 LSB 292
- C Amen.
- **P** Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?
- C Yes. LSB 293
- P Let it be done for you as you believe.
- P Almighty God in His LSB 167 mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of

Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

★ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- + SERVICE OF THE WORD + LSB 168 **Introit** Ps. 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: Ps. 80:3
- P Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
- P You brought a vine out of Egypt; it took deep root and filled the land.
- Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- P C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Kyrie LSB 168

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

(During Advent, the HYMN OF PRAISE is omitted) LSB 171

Salutation and Collect of the Day LSB 172

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 40:1-11*

- 40 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
- 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.
- 3 A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

- 4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.
- 5 And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
- 6 A voice says, "Cry out."

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

- "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.
- 7 The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."
- 9 You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"

10 See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. 11 He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.

A C Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle Reading

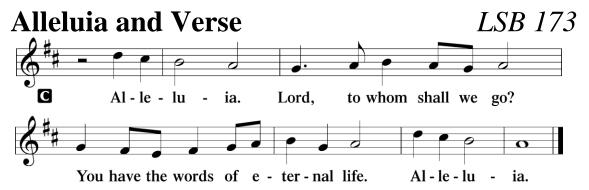
8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

- 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.
- 11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.
- 13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

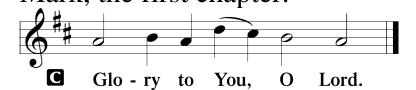
Stand



Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

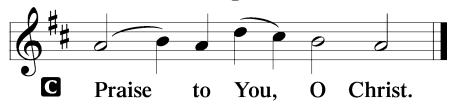
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, 2 as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" — 3 "a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.""

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit Hymn of the Day

LSB 343 sts. 1-4

"Prepare the Royal Highway"



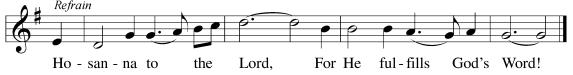
- 1 Pre pare the roy al high way; The King of kings is near! 2 God's peo-ple, see Him com ing: Your own e ter nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o pen To greet your prom-ised king!
- 4 His is no earth ly king dom; It comes from heav'n a bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear! Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing! Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring. His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry: God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you! All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na-tions, now a - dore Him! So let your praise be sound-ing For kind-ness so a - bound-ing:



Sermon

"Preparation" Pastor Tom Rhodes

Stand

Nicene Creed

LSB 174

PC 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.

Prayer of the Church

LSB 175

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may know by Your great preparation You have saved us! You prepared all things such that now, by Your Son, You lead us into straight paths. We rejoice that in Your great mercy you have brought us out of the bondage of our sins and have planted us securely in Your eternal promises. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, in Your blessed patience, You send Your prophets and apostles, pastors and teachers in all times, that sinners would not perish but rather know repentance and find renewal in Your Word, which alone will stand forever. Give to all Your congregations an increase of hope, that we may await the revealing of the new heavens and new earth in lives of holiness and godliness, diligent in our preparations to be found without spot or blemish and at peace. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Holy Lord, preserve Your gift of marriage against the ravages of sin, the schemes of the devil and the raging of the world. Strengthen all Christian marriages by Your love and care and establish them on the foundation of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of all wisdom, Your Word alone endures forever. The nations of the world come and go before You. Even kings and rulers are like grass before Your breath. Preserve us from placing our trust in princes and mortal men. Give us leaders who will rule after Your good pleasure, keeping order and protecting life, that we may live in godly quietness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of comfort and kindness graciously regard all for whom we pray, especially those on our prayer list and cards. May they find that You have prepared them for whatever affliction, hardship, illness, or grief may come, so that in You alone they know wholeness, restoration, and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Offering LSB 176

In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plates in the back as you enter or exit. (This is just as it says: An offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!)

Stewardship Prayer

P C Mighty and eternal God, give us the will and desire to care responsibly for all that You have entrusted to us. And to be generous with those in need and in the support of Your Church for the work of Your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.

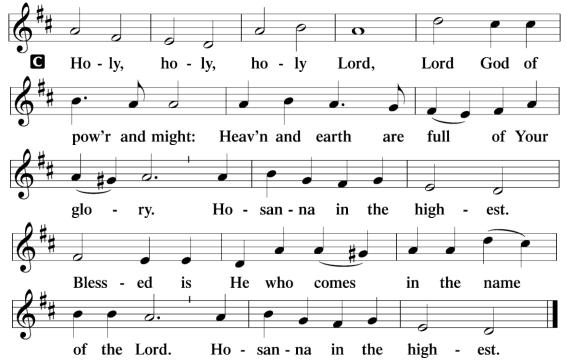
Offertory



- + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT + LSB 177 **Preface**
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

- P Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, 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 Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; LSB 178



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.

Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 179 P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord LSB 179

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ▶ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

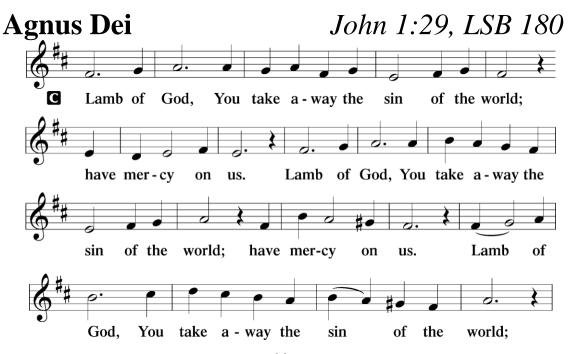
P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ▶ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

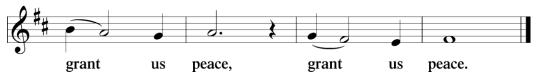
Pax Domini

John 20:19, LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

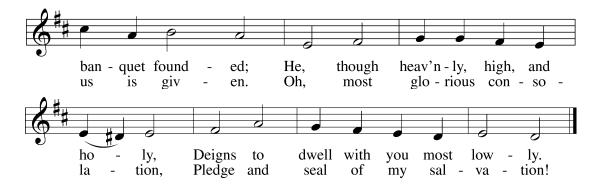




Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Distribution Hymn LSB 636 sts. 1, 4-5, 7-8 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" your - self 1 Soul. dorn with glad - ness, Leave the faith hum - bly 4 Now I pon - der ver gloom-y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to day-light's the won - der sur - pass - ing That the bread of life splen - dor, There with your prais - es der. joy ren bound-less Though the it feeds souls are count less: **Bless** the One whose grace un-bound - ed This a - maz - ing With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



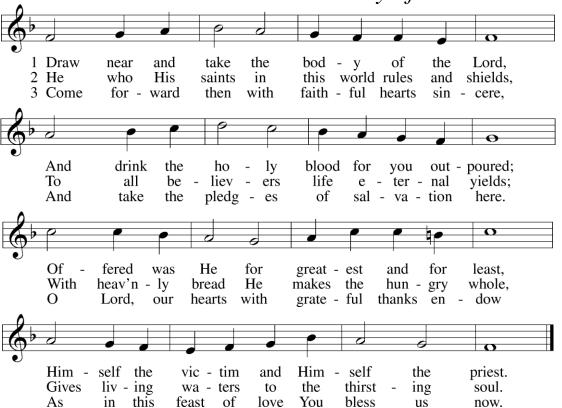
- Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
 Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
 Peace beyond all understanding,
 Joy into all life expanding:
 Humbly now, I bow before You;
 Love incarnate, I adore You;
 Worthily let me receive You
 And, so favored, never leave You.
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
 You once left Your throne in heaven
 On the cross for me to languish
 And to die in bitter anguish,
 To forego all joy and gladness
 And to shed Your blood in sadness.
 By this blood redeemed and living,
 Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.
- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
 Let me gladly here obey You.
 By Your love I am invited,
 Be Your love with love requited;
 By this Supper let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
 Through the gift of grace You give me
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

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Distribution Hymn

LSB 637 sts. 1-3

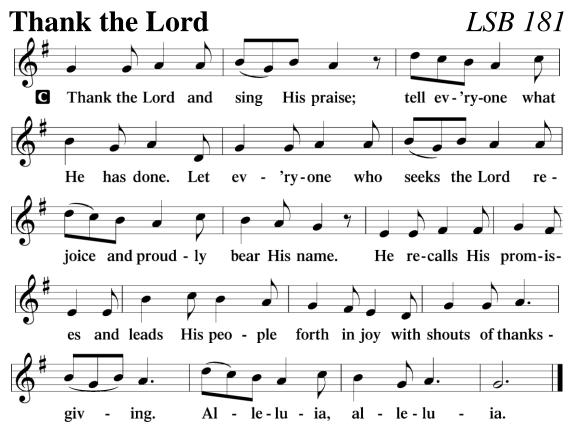
"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"



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Stand

Post-Communion Canticle



Post-Communion Collect

LSB 183

- **P** Let us pray.
- P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of

pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26, LSB 183

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

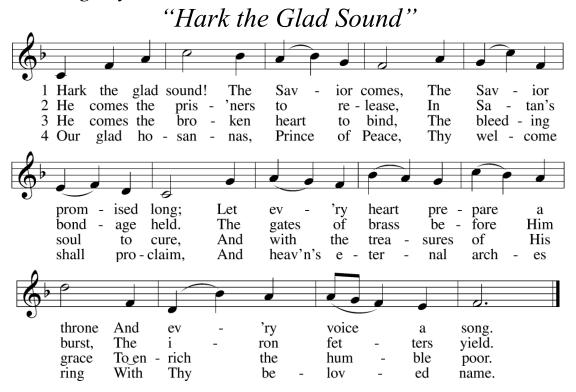
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ♥ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit Closing Hymn

LSB 349 sts. 1-4



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