

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 18, 2022 10:30 a.m. Service

She will bear a son,
and you are to name
him Jesus, for he
will save his people
from their sins.



Matthew 1:21

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



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

Rev. Thomas A. Rhodes, Pastor

PO Box 5 • 600 East Aldrich Road • Bolivar, MO 65613

Phone: 417-326-5506 • www.zionlutheranbolivar.org

zionbolivar@windstream.net

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 and you cannot confess these beliefs, please feel free to remain seated or come forward with hands folded for a blessing 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. Also, non-communing children and adults are welcome to come and receive a blessing (please keep your hands folded to indicate this choice).



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Divine Service – Setting Three

December 18, 2022 10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements

+ INVOCATION +

LSB 184

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. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

C Amen.

Opening Hymn

LSB 359 sts. 1-4

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness

sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright
 cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

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Stand

+ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION + *LSB 184*

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.

Hebrews 10:22

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

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

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

(Silence for self-examination and confession to God in light of the Ten Commandments and reflection on God's Word. Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?)

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 God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. *LSB 292*

C Amen.

P Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness? *LSB 293*

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P Upon this your confession, *LSB 185*
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. *John 20:19-23*

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD + *LSB 186*

Introit *Ps. 130:5-8; antiphon Is. 64:1*

P Oh that you would rend the heavens and
come down, that the mountains might quake
at your presence.

C I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and
in his word I hope;

P my soul waits for the Lord more than
watchmen for the morning, more than
watchmen for the morning.

C O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with
the LORD there is steadfast love, and with
him is plentiful redemption.

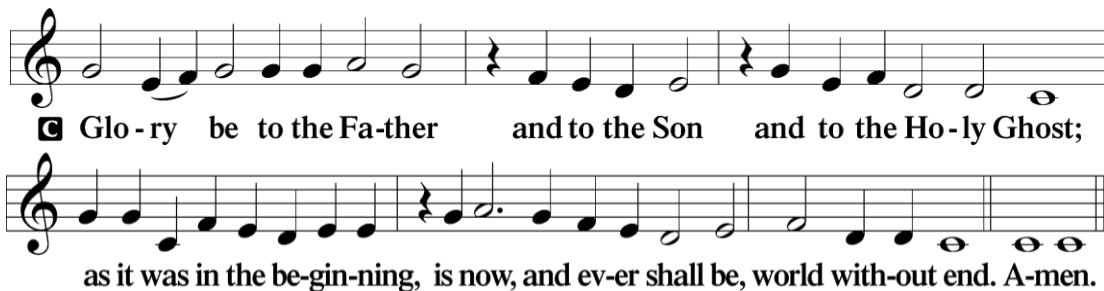
P And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

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 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence.

Gloria Patri

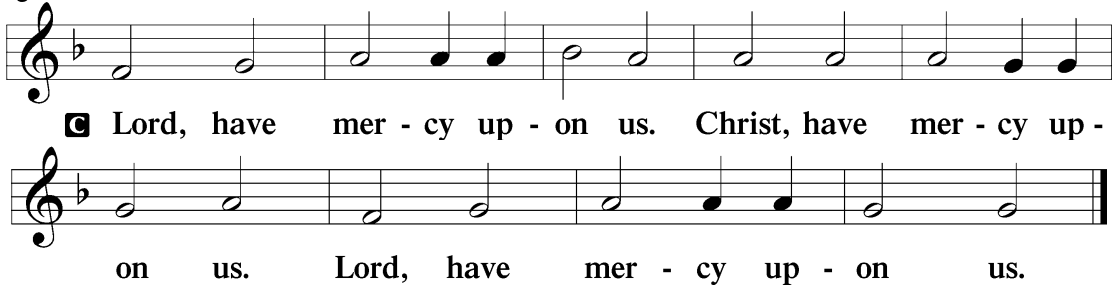
LSB 186



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47, LSB 186



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

(During Advent, the HYMN OF PRAISE is omitted)

The Fourth Candle: The Angels' Candle (Rejoice) [blue]

P The fourth candle on our Advent wreath reminds us of the angels who rejoiced at the Savior's birth. Their song of joy rings across the centuries to fill the darkness of every heart with the light of glory and of love. We pray:

C Lord of hosts, for the ministry of angels we give You thanks. Fill the dark night of a fallen world with the angels' good news of great joy. Bless us to pierce the silence of our routine with songs of rejoicing and praise. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 189*

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-17

10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, 11 “Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test.”

13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

15 He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, 16 for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

17 The Lord will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah – he will bring the king of Assyria.”

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.

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— 2 the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures 3 regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, 4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. 5 Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. 6 And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. 7 To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father
and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

LSB 190

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). 24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

LSB 191

Sit

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

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Sermon

Pastor Tom Rhodes

“A Righteous Man”

Stand

Nicene Creed

LSB 191

☐ 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.**

Offering

In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plate 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!

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.

Prayer of the Church

LSB 193

P Lord, You have taught us to pray and encouraged us to open our hearts to You on behalf of ourselves and all those in need. Hear us now as we come to You in Jesus' name.

Brief silence

P You know our weakness and how we struggle with temptation, O Lord. Give us discerning minds and steadfast hearts, like Joseph, the husband of Mary, that we may rejoice in the annual celebration of Your Son's birth. Keep us from being distracted from the gift of Your Son, and teach us to highly treasure the mystery of His incarnation and the fruits of His redemptive work. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P You have set in place the times and the seasons, O Lord, and reveal in them the salvation promised to us in Your Son. Give us faith that we may ask for no sign except Christ, whose death and resurrection fulfill all the promises of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P You have kept Your Word and delivered to us Your own Son by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin. Guide us so that we may rejoice in the Word made flesh and in the redemption He has won by His holy life, life-giving death and resurrection. Bless all pastors, that they may faithfully preach and teach this Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P You have granted many gifts and skills to Your people, O Lord, that they may serve us when we are most weak and vulnerable. Be with the public servants who protect and serve us, those whose medical arts relieve suffering give healing aid, and assist those troubled in mind or heart. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You have granted to civil officials and governments to promote order, encourage virtue, and protect the weak. Bless Joe, our president; Mike, our governor; our state legislators; our county and city leaders; and all judges and magistrates. Help them to hear and heed the wisdom of Your Word.

Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P You are the giver of every good gift, O Lord, and You care for us in all our needs of body, mind and spirit. Give healing to the sick, relief to the suffering, peace to the dying and comfort to those who mourn, especially those on our prayer list and cards and those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy to provide us all things as we have need; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P 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 195*



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 *Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 196*

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 197

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei (No intro) John 1:29, 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.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Distribution Hymn

LSB 332 sts. 1-8

“Savior of the Nations, Come”



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

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Distribution Hymn

LSB 347 sts. 1-4

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”



1 “Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace,” thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; “Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



’neath their sor - rows’ load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o’er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver.”
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32, 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 - tiles 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 without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1, LSB 201

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spirit.

P Bless we the Lord.

Psalm 103:1

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26, LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit

Closing Hymn

LSB 331 sts. 1-6

“The Advent of Our King”



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him-self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

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