

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
December 25, 2023 10:30 a.m. Service

For unto you is born this day
in the city of
David
a Savior,
who is
Christ the Lord
Luke 2:11

A black silhouette illustration of a nativity scene. It shows a stable with a star above the entrance. Inside, a woman (Mary) is kneeling and holding a baby (Jesus) in a manger. A man (Joseph) stands next to the manger, holding a staff. The scene is framed by the simple lines of the stable's roof and walls.

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



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

'HEARING, SHARING, AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

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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. 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).

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
Divine Service – Setting Three
December 25, 2023 10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn

LSB 379 sts. 1-4

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come___ ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee___ be___ glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God___ In___ the___ high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,
 O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

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Stand

+ INVOCATION +

LSB 184

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.

+ CONFESSION 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.

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.

(Silence for reflection.)

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.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

LSB 186

Introit

Psalm 93:1-2, 5; antiphon: Isaiah 9:2

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

C those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

P The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.

C Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

P Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

C Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

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 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

C those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Kyrie Hymn

LSB 362 sts. 1-4

“O Sing of Christ”



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par-a - dise was barred
3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;
4 Lord Je-sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.
Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.
As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;
To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,
Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
He came to us as life and light And our re - demp-tion won.
Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.
That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

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Gloria Hymn

LSB 368 sts. 1-3

“Angels We Have Heard on High”



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re-ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

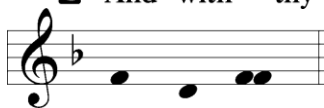
LSB 189



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the pure Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they may be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus

Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 62:10-12

10 Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people;
build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over
the peoples. 11 Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the
earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, “Behold, your salvation comes;
behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.”
12 And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the
Lord; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

LSB 358 sts. 1-7

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
2 “To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
4 “He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by



news to ev - ’ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

- 5 “These are the signs that you shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”
- 6 How glad we’ll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.

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Epistle Reading

Titus 3:4-7

4 When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

Stand

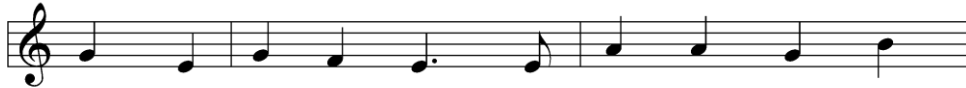
Verse Hymn

LSB 358 sts. 8-15

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”



8 Wel - come to earth, O no - ble Guest, Through whom the
9 Ah, Lord, though You cre - at - ed all, How weak You
10 Were earth a thou - sand times as fair And set with
11 In - stead of soft and silk - en stuff You have but



sin - ful world is blest! You came to share my
are, so poor and small, That You should choose to
gold and jew - els rare, It would be far too
hay and straw so rough On which as King, so



mis - er - y That You might share Your joy with me.
lay Your head Where low - ly cat - tle late - ly fed!
poor and small A cra - dle for the Lord of all.
rich and great, To be en - throned in roy - al state.

- 12 And so it pleases You to see
This simple truth revealed to me:
That worldly honor, wealth, and might
Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;
My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

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Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke,
the second chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

LSB 190

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. 10 And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. 17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

LSB 191

Sit

Hymn of the Day

LSB 375 sts. 1-6

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us descend-ing And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
 tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
 ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
 tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
 When by faith we grasp this blessing,
 And to You we come confessing
 That Your love has set us free.

6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
 From Your lowly manger cheer us,
 Gently lead us and be near us
 Till we join Your choir above.

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Sermon

Rev. David Burge

Sermon Theme

“The Christ Child Appears to Save Us All”

Sermon Text

Titus 3:4-7

Stand

Creedal Hymn

LSB 384 sts. 1-5

“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.

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Prayer of the Church

LSB 193

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would lift our hearts to hope and joy in the celebration of our Savior's birth; and that we would manifest this joy in witness to the world, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For churches, schools and every place where the good news of God-in-our-flesh is taught, that the voice of truth may be discerned from all error so we may know and confess with joy the good news of our Savior, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the Lord would preserve those threatened by persecution for the sake of Christ and grant them courage, comfort and peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the nations of this world, that they would be given a spirit of peace, so that conflicts would cease and all would see in the birth of Jesus the salvation of our God, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the Lord would give peace to those troubled in mind and heart, deliver them from the taunts and temptations of the evil one, and enable us to show them compassion, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the Lord would grant healing, relief, comfort and peace to all the sick, suffering, dying and those who grieve [*especially* _____]; that the Lord would bless doctors, nurses, all medical professionals and caregivers in their service; and that all would rejoice in the good news of Christ, our light and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P That the Lord would teach us generosity for the work of His kingdom; that we would return to Him tithes and offerings; and that by them, we may display before the world our trust in His provision and goodness, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all communicants, that we may receive the great love of God, which laid His Son in a manger and now lays His flesh and blood before us in the Sacrament; and that we may bow our hearts before Him with all those in heaven and on earth who adore Him, receiving His forgiveness and life with repentance and joy, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Lord God, in the birth of Your Son You have called people from every time and place into His Body, the Church. We give You thanks for the believers who went before us, especially who were with us in Christmases past and who now live with You. Grant us sure confidence in Your promise of resurrection and eternal life, and bring us with them at last into Your presence; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Offering

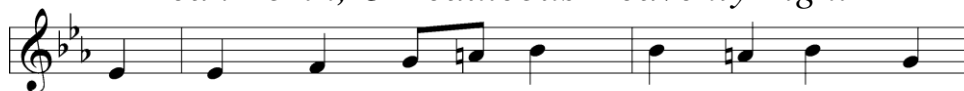
In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plate in the back as you enter or exit. This is just as it says: An offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today,

especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all! (Please find the red pew pad and record your fellowship with us)

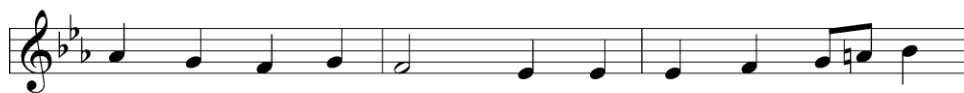
Offertory Hymn

LSB 378 sts. 1-3

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”



1 Break forth, O beau - teous heav'n - ly light, And
 2 O dear - est Child, whom I a - dore, Whose
 3 All bless - ing, thanks, and praise to Thee, Lord



ush - er in the morn - ing. Ye shep - herds, shrink not
 grace sur - pass - es mea - sure, My Broth - er, whom I
 Je - sus Christ, be giv - en: Thou hast my Broth - er



with af - fright, The day of grace is dawn - ing. This
 cher - ish more Than earth with all its trea - sure: Haste
 deigned to be, Thou Lord of earth and heav - en. Help



Child, though weak in in - fan - cy, Our con - fi -
 from Thy man - ger to de - part, O come and
 me through - out this day of grace To praise Thy



dence and joy shall be, The pow'r of Sa - tan
 dwell with - in my heart; With joy will I re -
 love and seek Thy face; And when I stand be -



break - ing, Our peace with God now mak - ing.
 ceive Thee, A cra - dle there will give Thee.
 fore Thee For - ev - er to a - dore Thee.

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Preface



P The Lord be with you.



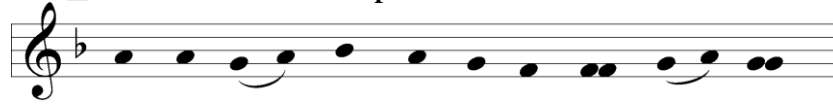
C And with thy spir - it.



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 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

“From East to West”



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -
△ All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Thanks be to you, O Lord, because in these last days You did send to us Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior and our Redeemer and the Messenger of Your will; Who is Your Word inseparable from You; Through whom You made all things and with whom You were well pleased;

Whom You did send from heaven into the womb of the Virgin Mary, and who, having been conceived within her, became flesh, and was manifested as Your Son, being born of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary;

Whom, when He was betrayed into His voluntary suffering, in order that He might abolish death, break the bonds of the Adversary, tread Hell underfoot, give light to the righteous, establish a memorial, and manifest the resurrection, took bread, gave thanks to You, and said: Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.

Likewise also the cup, saying:

This is My blood which is poured out for you. As often as you do this, you shall do it in remembrance of Me.

Therefore, having in remembrance His incarnation, virgin birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and coming again, we give thanks to You, because You have counted us worthy to stand before You and to serve You.

Gather into one, we pray You, all Your holy people who partake hereof; fill them with Your Holy Spirit for the confirmation of their faith in the truth; and grant that we may praise and glorify You through Your Incarnate Son, Jesus Christ,

Through whom all honor and glory belongs to You, the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, both now and forever.

☐ Amen.

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.

Pax Domini

John 20:19, LSB 197



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei Hymn

LSB 392 sts. 1-5

“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



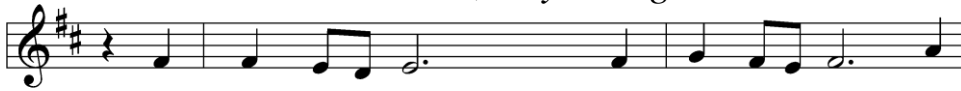
dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

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Sit

DISTRIBUTION

“O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is”



1 O Je - sus Christ, Thy man - ger is My
 2 He whom the sea And wind o - bey Doth
 3 Thy light and grace Our guilt ef - face, Thy
 4 Thou Chris - tian heart, Who - e'er thou art, Be



par - a - dise at which my soul re - clin - eth.
 come to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
 heav'n - ly rich - es all our loss re - triev - ing.
 of good cheer and let no sor - row move thee!



For there, O Lord, Doth lie the Word Made
 Thou, God's own Son, With us art one, Dost
 Im - man - u - el, Thy birth doth quell The
 For God's own Child, In mer - cy mild, Joins



flesh for us; here - in Thy grace forth shin - eth.
 join us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
 pow'r of hell and Sa - tan's bold de - ceiv - ing.
 thee to Him; how great - ly God must love thee!

- 5 Remember thou
 What glory now
 The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.
 The angel host
 Can never boast
 Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.

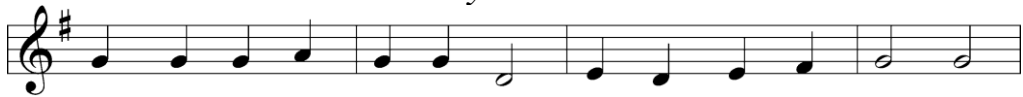
- 6 The world may hold
 Her wealth and gold;
 But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.
 To Him hold fast
 Until at last
 A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

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Distribution Hymn

LSB 374 sts. 1-3

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
 2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
 3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
 He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
 Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

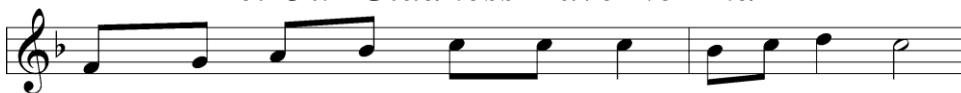
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Stand

Post-Communion Hymn

LSB 381 sts. 1-4

“Let Our Gladness Have No End”



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!
2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, al - le - lu - ia!
3 See, the love - liest bloom - ing rose, al - le - lu - ia!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al - le - lu - ia!



For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
God has sent Him as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia!
From the branch of Jes - se grows, al - le - lu - ia!
He, our ref - uge and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save

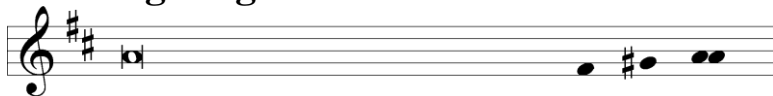


us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

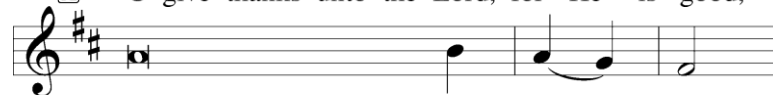
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Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1, LSB 200



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



B and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. Merciful God, heavenly Father, who has given Your only-begotten Son to become man, that through Him we might be made partakers of all Your heavenly gifts, grant that in truth faith we may comfort ourselves with Your mercy and thus

obtain the blessed fruits of His holy incarnation; through the same Your dear Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.



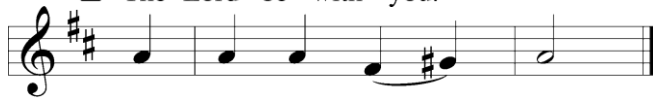
C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus

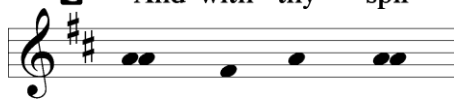
LSB 201



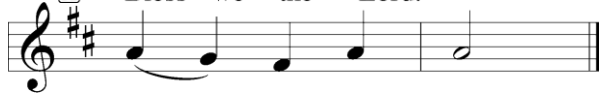
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



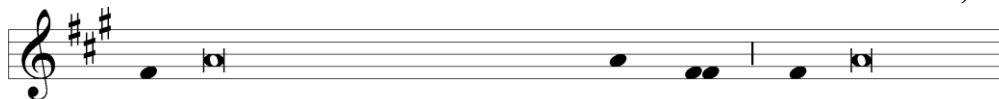
A Bless we the Lord.



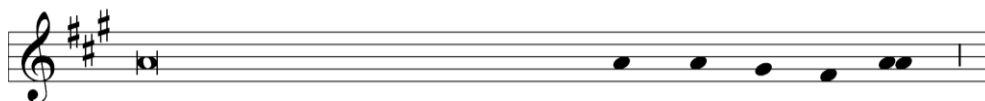
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

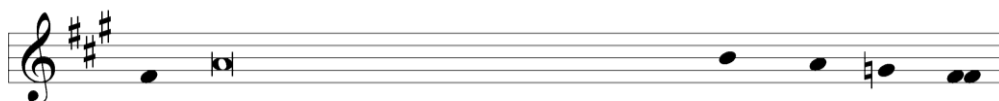
Numbers 6:24-26, LSB 202



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



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



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



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Sit

Closing Hymn

LSB 386 sts. 1-4

“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!

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Announcements

Postlude