

Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Christmas Day
December 25, 2023



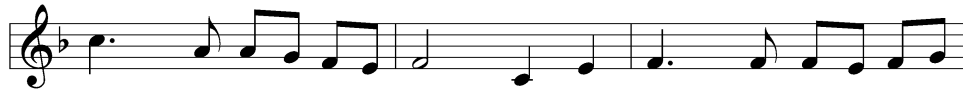
The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-18

376 Once in Royal David's City



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
 3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
 day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
 help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
 leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.
 stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-95, alt.
 Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-76
 Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given; *
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor; *
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things! *
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.
The LORD has made known his sal- | vation; *
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel. *
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth; *
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!
**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.**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given; *
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor; *
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Kyrie

LSB 186

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

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

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good-will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,

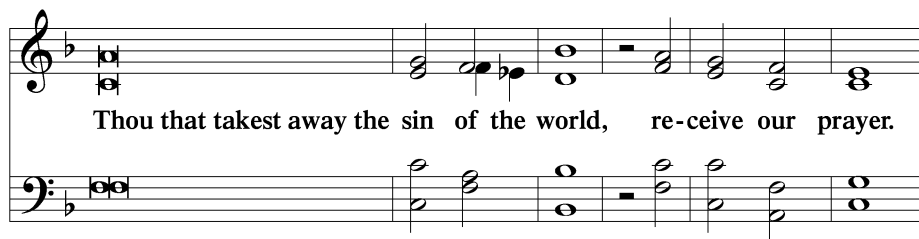
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.

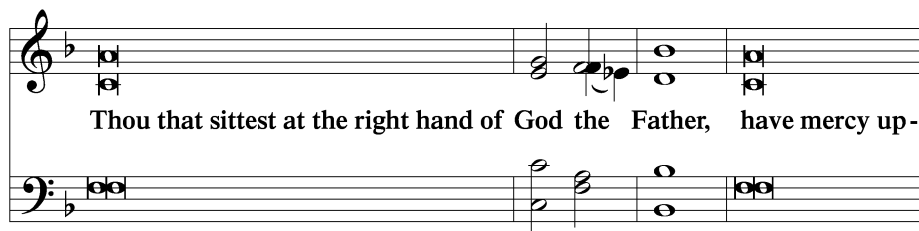
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

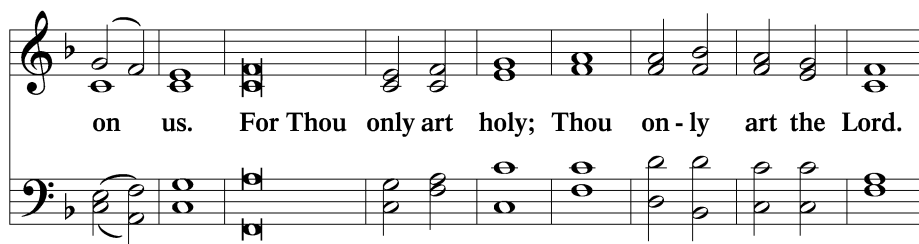
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



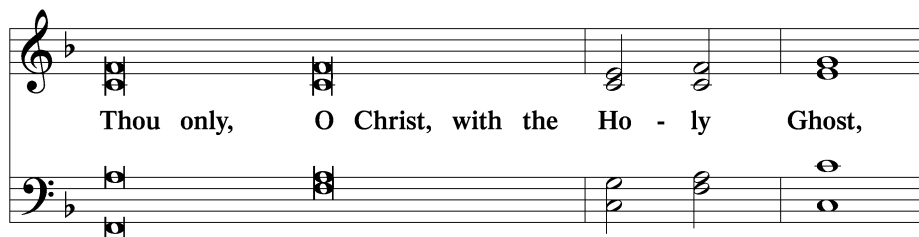
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

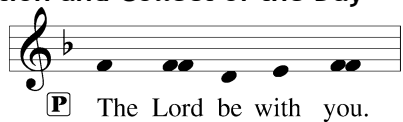


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

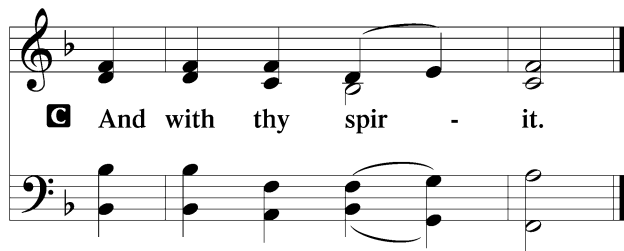


art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

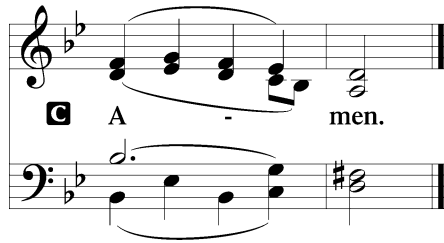


C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

- P** Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”
⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

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

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given,*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,*
Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
Sing to the Lord a | new song,*
for he has done | marvelous things!

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1–12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

⁷Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,

¹²like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,
and your years will have no end.”

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

John 1:1–18

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

C Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The image shows a musical score for the text 'Praise be to Thee, O Christ.' It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

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.

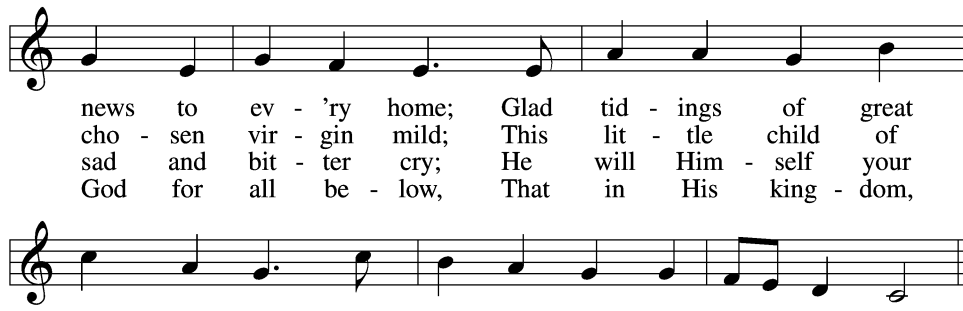
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission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

Sit

358 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

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'From Heaven Above to Earth I Come'. It features a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with four different versions of the text provided for the first four lines.



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.

8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
 Through whom the sinful world is blest!
 You came to share my misery
 That You might share Your joy with me.

9 Ah, Lord, though You created all,
 How weak You are, so poor and small,
 That You should choose to lay Your head
 Where lowly cattle lately fed!

10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
 And set with gold and jewels rare,
 It would be far too poor and small
 A cradle for the Lord of all.

11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
 You have but hay and straw so rough
 On which as King, so rich and great,
 To be enthroned in royal 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.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

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

"Blessed Savior, Son of God"
Adult Choir

Prayer of the Church

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 . . . 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

P 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.

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 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."

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

LSB 197



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

C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C 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

368 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.

Refrain

Glo - - - - ri - a

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

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

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.
 Text and tune: French
 Text and tune: Public domain

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

- 1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
- 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
- 3 Hail, the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Refrain
 Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.
 Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47
 Text and tune: Public domain

388 Go Tell It on the Mountain



Refrain
 Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain
 Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
 Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text (sts. 1-3): John W. Work II, 1873-1925, alt.
 Text (ref) and tune: African American spiritual
 Text and tune: Public domain

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 Δ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79
Text and tune: Public domain

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 - 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 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

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.

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

387 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions

King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -

room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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