

Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025




John the Baptist Prepares the Way

Matthew 3:1-12

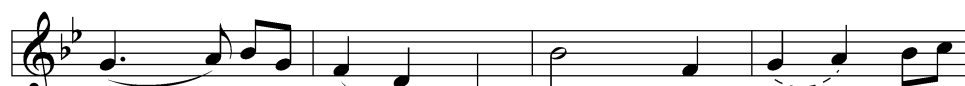
604 I Bind unto Myself Today




1 I bind un - to my - self to - day The
 2 I bind this day to me for - ev - er, By
 3 I bind un - to my - self to - day The
 4 A - gainst the de - mon snares of sin, The
 Δ 5 I bind un - to my - self the name, The




strong name of faith, the Trin - i - ty By
 pow'r of faith, Christ's in - car - na - tion, His
 pow'r of God to hold and lead, His
 vice that gives temp - ta - tion force, The
 strong name of the Trin - i - ty By




in - vo - ca - tion of the same, The
 Bap - tism in the Jor - dan Riv - er, His
 eye to watch, His might to stay, His
 nat - ural lusts that war with in, The
 in - vo - ca - tion of the same, The




Repeat after st. 1 only.
 Three in One and One in Three.
 cross of death for my sal - va - tion,
 ear to hear - ken to my need,
 hos - tile foes that mar my course;
 Three in One and One in Three,



(2) His burst - ing from the spic - ed tomb, His
 (3) The wis - dom of my God to teach, His
 (4) Or few or man - y, far or nigh, In
 (5) Of whom all na - ture has cre - a - tion, E -



rid - ing up the heav'n - ly way, His
 hand to guide, His shield - to ward, The
 ev - 'ry place and in all hours, A -
 ter - nal Fa - ther, Spir - it, Word. Praise



com - ing at the day of doom,
 Word of God to give me speech,
 gainst of their fierce hos - til - i - ty,
 to the Lord of my sal - va - tion;



I bind un - to my - self to - day.
 His heav'n - ly host to be my guard.
 I bind to me those ho - ly pow'rs.
 Sal - va - tion is of Christ the Lord!

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

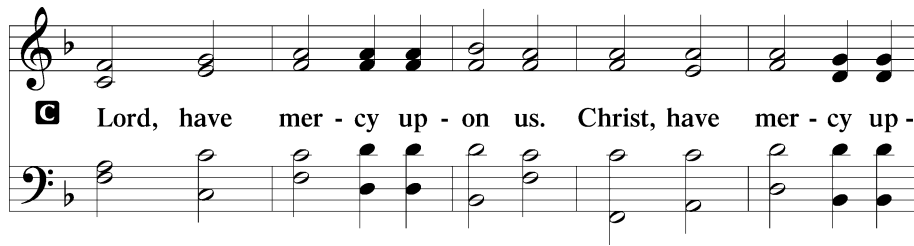
Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;*
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.
Seek the LORD | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,*
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!
He is the | LORD our God;*
his judgments are in | all the earth.
He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.
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.

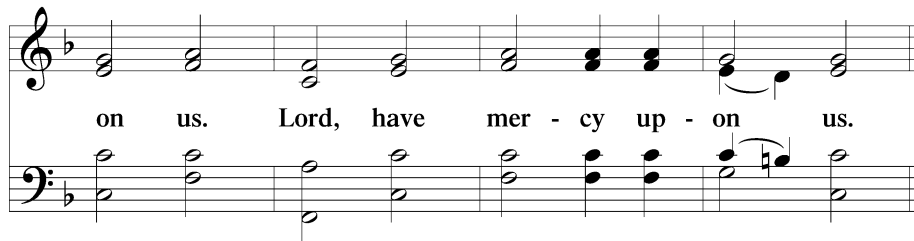
In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;*
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

Kyrie

LSB 186



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

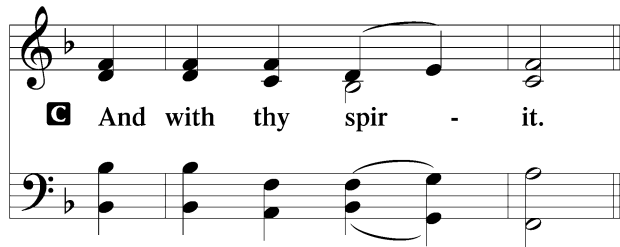


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

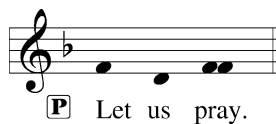
Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

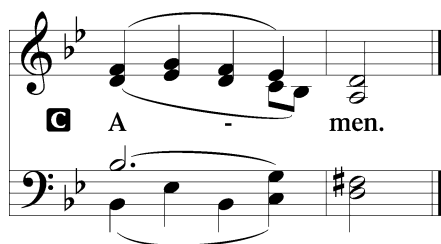


C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P 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 A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and might,
 the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
 He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
 or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
 and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
 and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
 and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
 and a little child shall lead them.
⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
 their young shall lie down together;
 and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
 and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
 in all my holy mountain;
 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
 as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*
 Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
 Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
 righteous and having sal- | vation.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*
 From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
 and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
 and let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come,
 even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
 in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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.

The musical notation for the Alleluia consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics "Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia." are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1–12

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

C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The musical notation for the Holy Gospel consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics "Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord." are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.””

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The musical notation for the Holy Gospel consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics "Praise be to Thee, O Christ." are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Nicene Creed

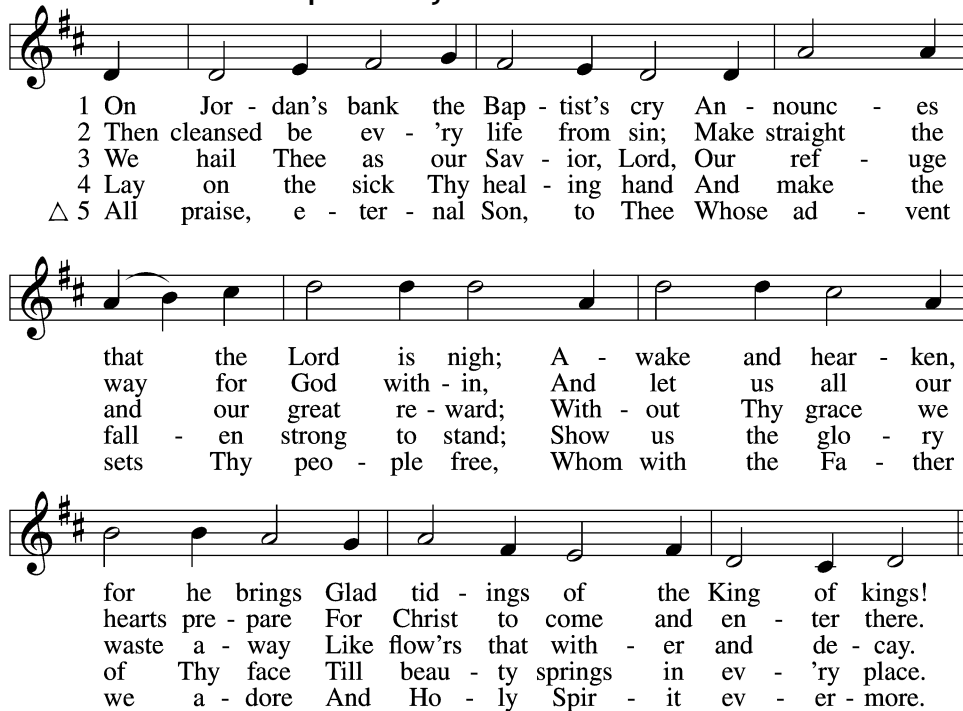
C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

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

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

Sit

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 Δ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
 Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621
 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

Stand

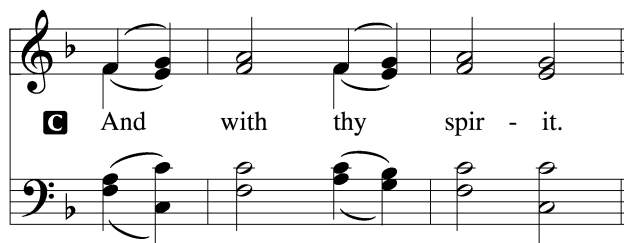
Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

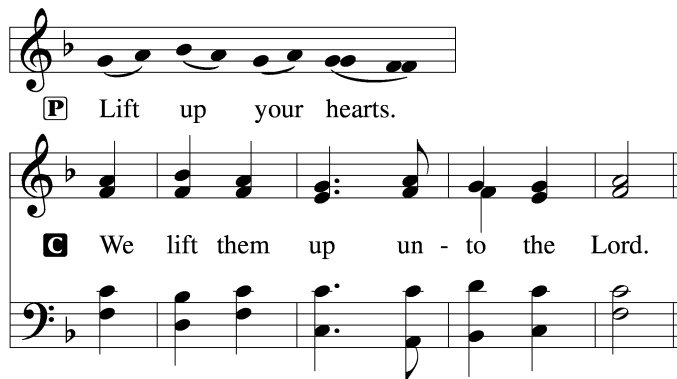
Preface

LSB 194

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.



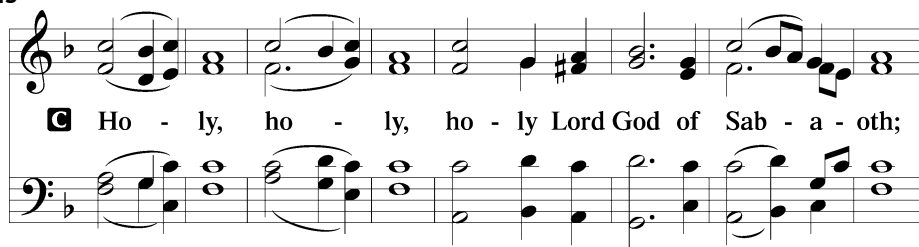
P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

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

LSB 196

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.

A men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

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

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

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

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

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

337 The Night Will Soon Be Ending



1 The night will soon be end - ing; The dawn can -
 2 The One whom an - gels tend - ed Comes near, a
 3 The earth in sure ro - ta - tion Will soon bring
 4 Yet nights will bring their sad - ness And rob our
 5 God dwells with us in dark - ness And makes the

not be far. Let songs of praise as - cend - ing Now
 child, to serve; Thus God, the judge of - fend - ed, Bears
 morn - ing bright, So run where God's sal - va - tion Glows
 hearts of peace, And sin in all its mad - ness A -
 night as day; Yet we re - sist the bright - ness And

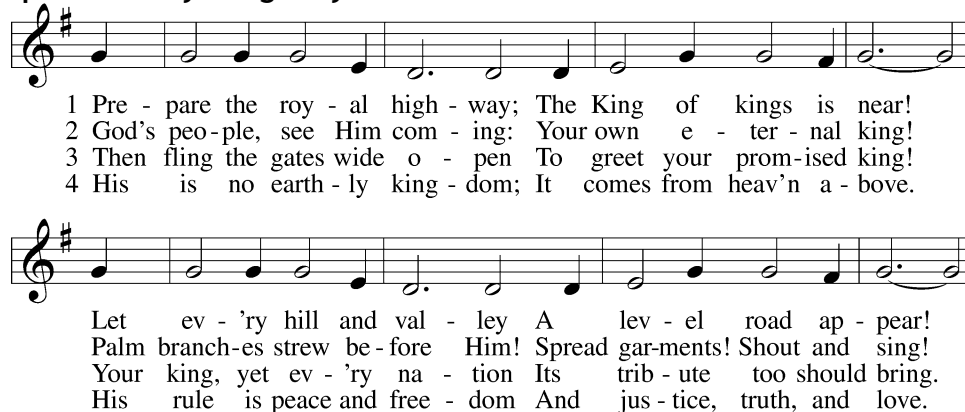
greet the Morn - ing Star! All you whom dark - ness
 all our sins de - serve. The guilt - y need not
 in a sta - ble's light. As old as sin's per -
 round us may in - crease. But now one Star is
 turn from God a - way. But grace does not for -

fright - ens With guilt or grief or pain, God's ra - diant
 cow - er, For God has rec - on - ciled Through His re -
 ver - sion Is mer - cy's vast de - sign: God brings a
 beam - ing Whose rays have pierced the night: God comes for
 sake us, How - ev - er far we run. God claims us

Star now bright - ens And bids you sing a - gain.
 demp - tive pow - er All those who trust this child.
 new cre - a - tion—This child its seal and sign.
 our re - deem - ing From sin's op - pres - sive might.
 still as chil - dren Through Mar - y's in - fant Son.

Text: Jochen Klepper, 1903–42; tr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007
 Tune: Welsh
 Text: © 1998 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740
 Tune: Public domain

343 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:



Refrain
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.
 Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.
 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740
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333 Once He Came in Blessing



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
 Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534
 Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740
 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied



1 What hope! An E - den proph - e - sied Where tame live with the wild;
 2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da - vid's line,
 3 As ban - ner of God's love un - furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,
 4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!
 A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.
 That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.
 Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
 Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth
 Text: © 1998 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740
 Tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

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

The first system of musical notation for 'Nunc Dimittis'. It consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and the bass staff with an F-clef. The melody in the treble staff starts on D4, moves to E4, then F#4, and continues with various intervals. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody, featuring a long note on G4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The third system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody, ending with a long note on G4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The fourth system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody, featuring a long note on G4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The fifth system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody, featuring a long note on G4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and single notes.

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

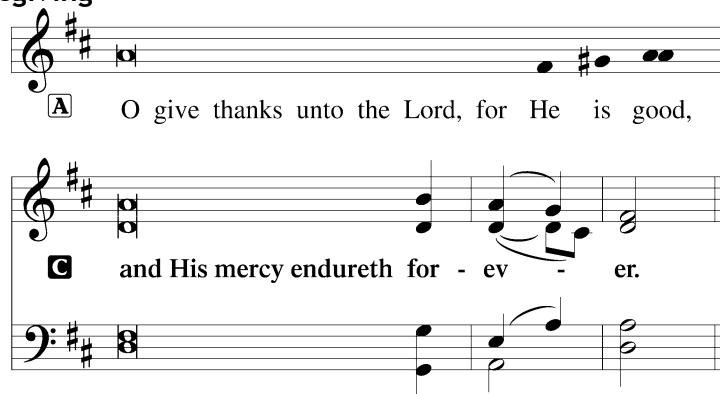
The sixth system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody, ending with a long note on G4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and single notes.



is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

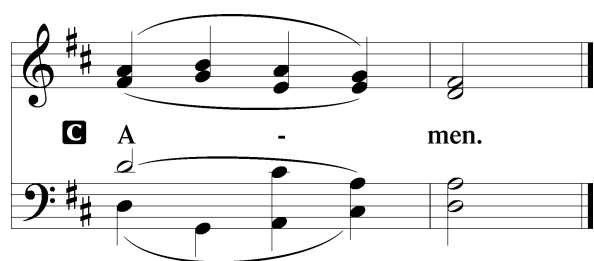
Thanksgiving

LSB 200



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

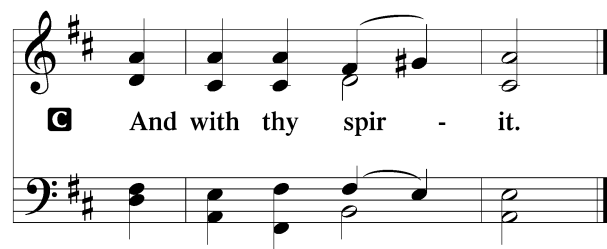
A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and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



C A - men.



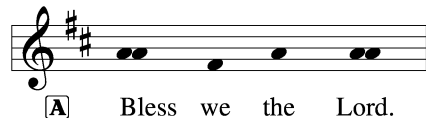
P The Lord be with you.



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.

347 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.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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