

Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Day

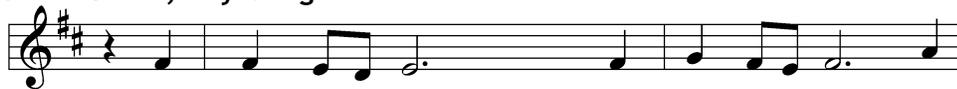
December 25, 2025



The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-18

372 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.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Tune: Kenneth T. Kosche, 1947
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740
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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

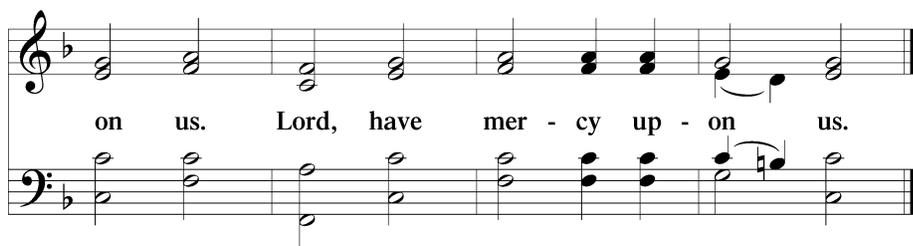
Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

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

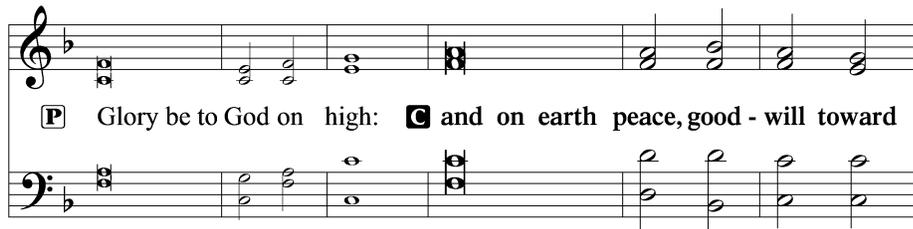
LSB 186

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

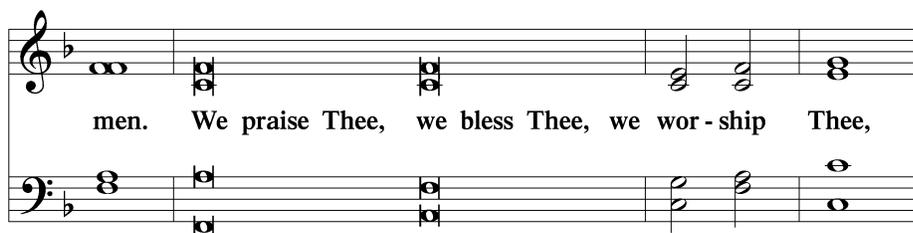


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

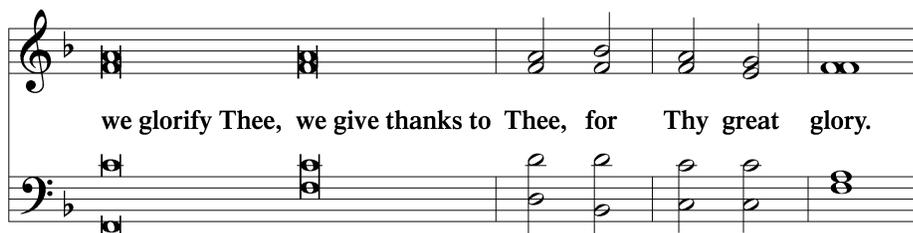
Gloria in Excelsis



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



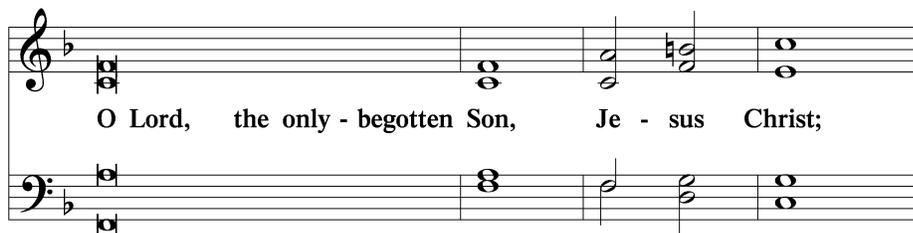
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



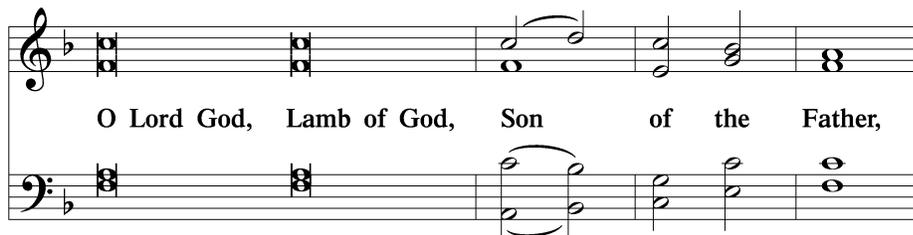
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



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,

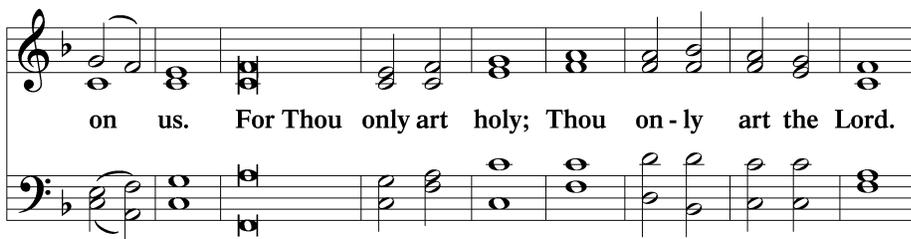


that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



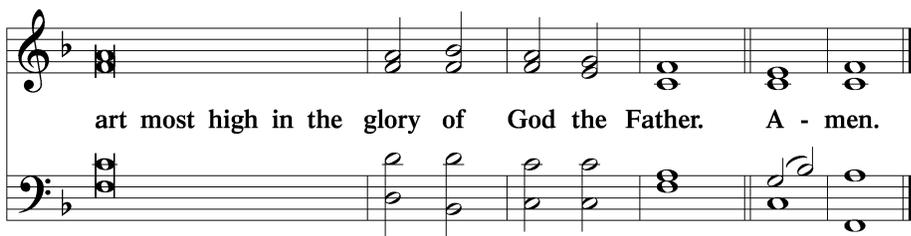
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

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,

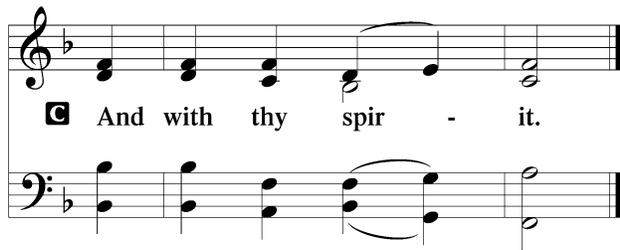


art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

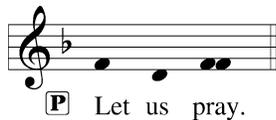
Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

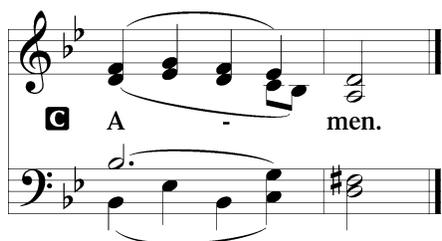


C And with thy spir - it.



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.



C A - men.

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.

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

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



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

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
Handbell Choir

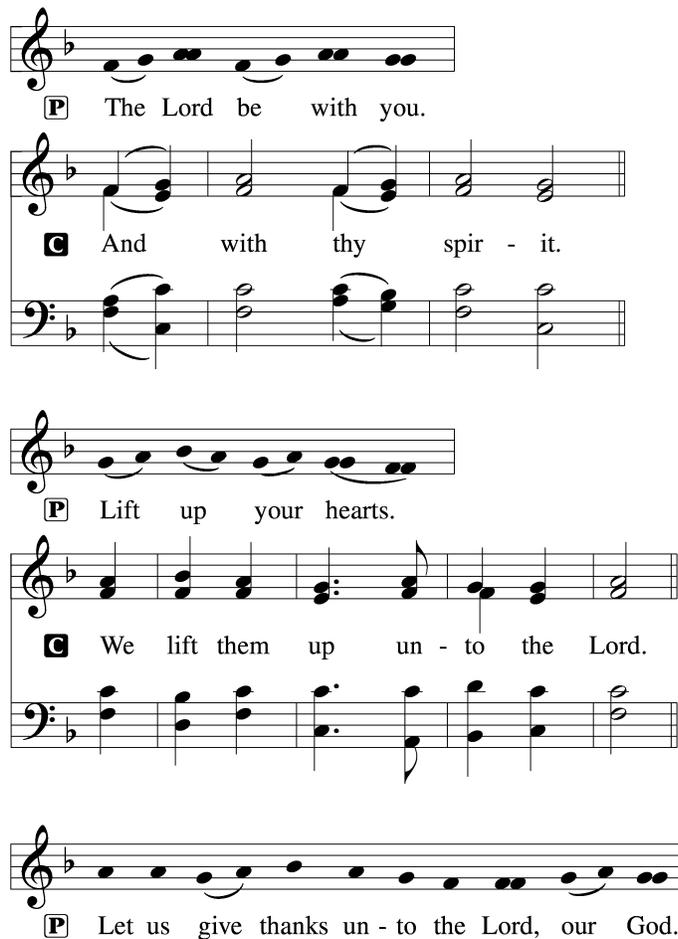
Stand

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

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.
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

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

sts. 1, ref, 2-4

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!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt.
 Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786
 Text and tune: Public domain

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
 ploy, 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

370 What Child Is This

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to

sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let

shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



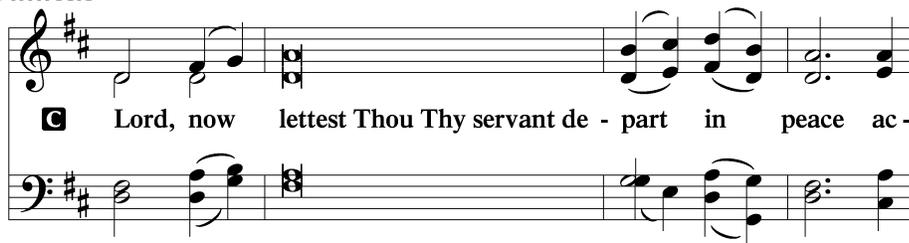
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98
 Tune: English, 16th cent.
 Text and tune: Public domain

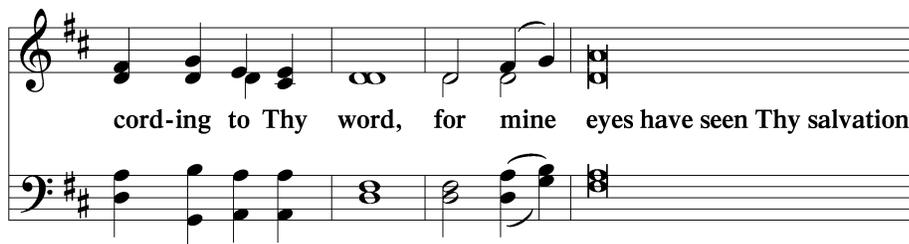
Stand

Nunc Dimittis

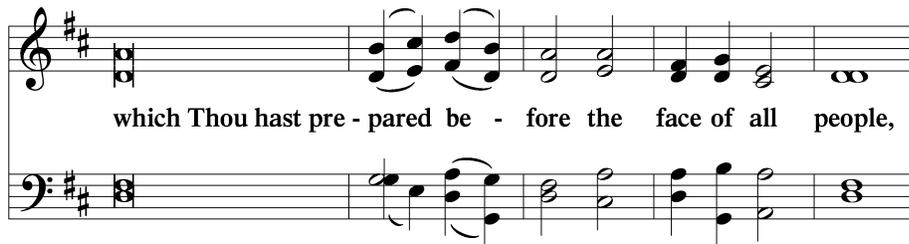
LSB 199



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.

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

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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