

+ LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR +
Divine Service Setting Three ~ Pg 184
November 24, 2024

As We Gather: By Faith We Are Prepared for Christ's Return

“The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night” (1 Thess. 5:1–11). The arrival of the bridegroom will be sudden and unexpected. Therefore you are to be watchful and ready like the five wise virgins. *“For you know neither the day nor the hour”* when the Son of Man is to return. (Matt. 25:1–13). The lamps are the Word of Christ. The oil in the lamps is the Holy Spirit, who works through the Word to create and sustain the flame of faith in Christ. The foolish are those who do not give proper attention to the working of the Holy Spirit in baptism, preaching, and the supper, and so their faith does not endure. The wise, however, are those who diligently attend to these gifts of the Spirit, and who therefore have an abundance of oil. The flame of faith endures to the end. By God’s grace they are received into the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth created by the Lord for the joy of His people (Is. 65:17–25).

As the Cross, a symbol of our redemption, enters the sanctuary, God’s people stand and fix our eyes upon it.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

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 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.

Absolution

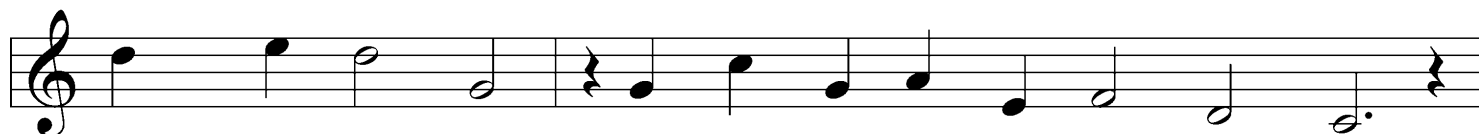
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Hymn ‘Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying’



1 “Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,” The watch - men on the
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, And all her heart with
3 Now let all the heav’ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; “A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!”
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals’ clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



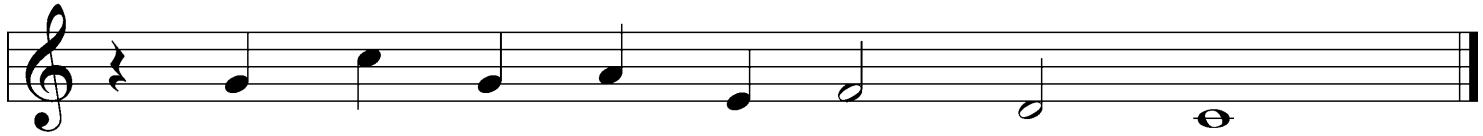
cry re - joic - es: “Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris’n, her light is come.
choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly

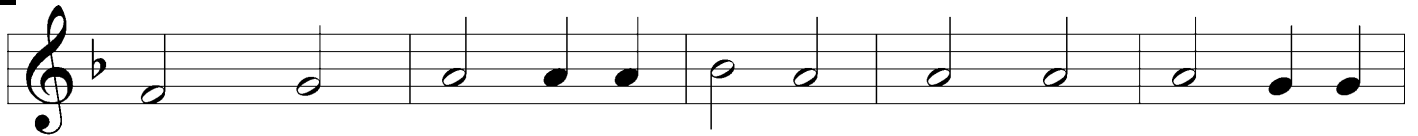


To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

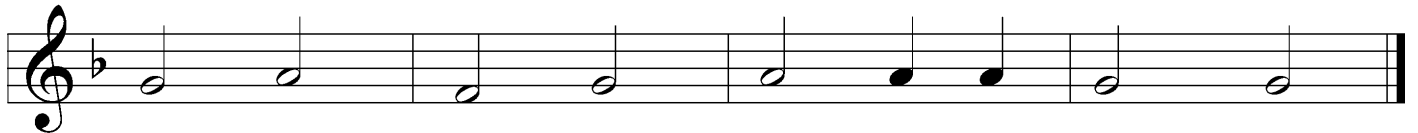
*Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
 Text and tune: Public domain*

Kyrie

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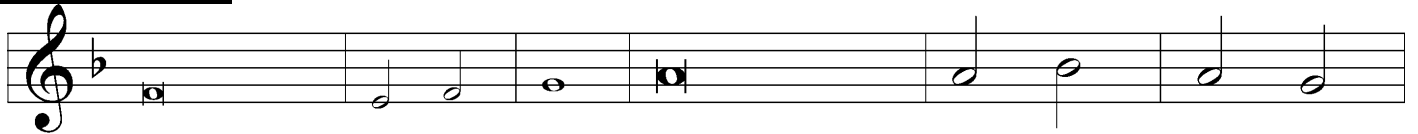
C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



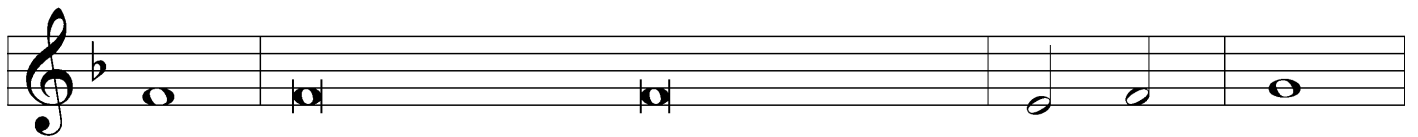
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

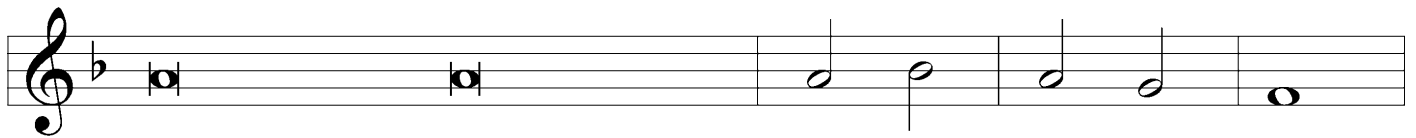
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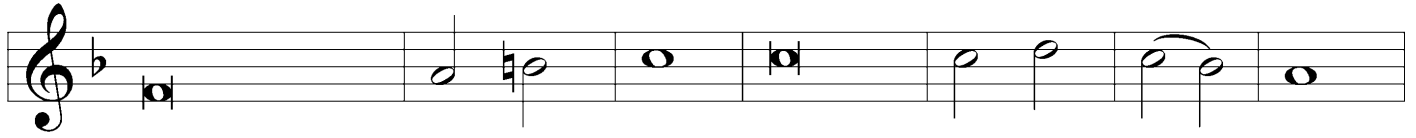
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



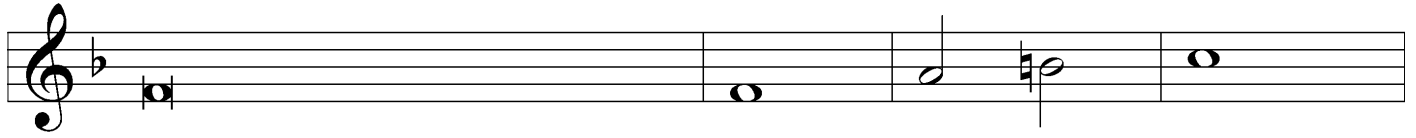
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



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



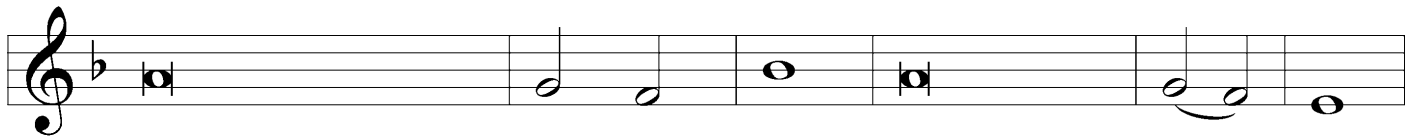
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



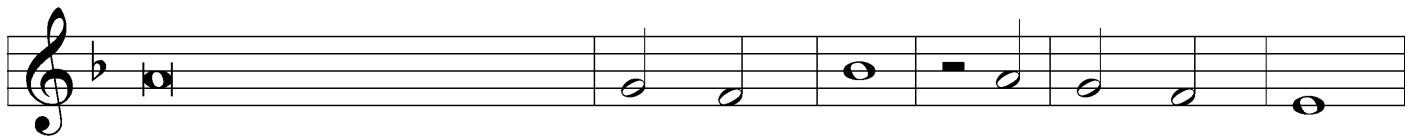
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



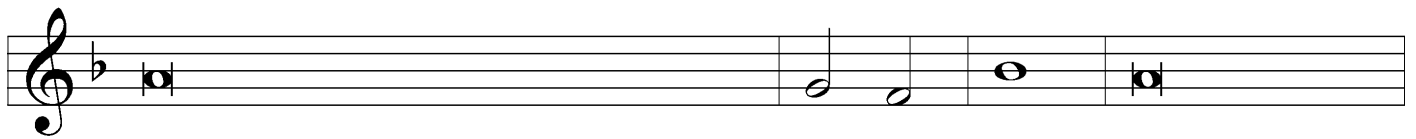
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



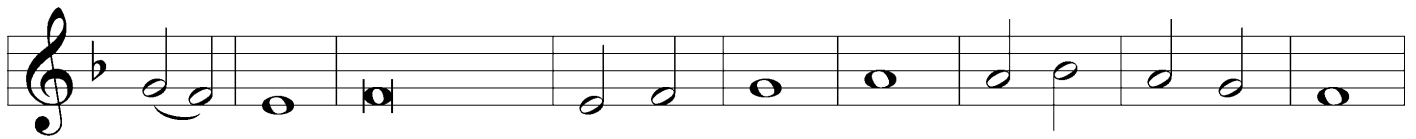
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



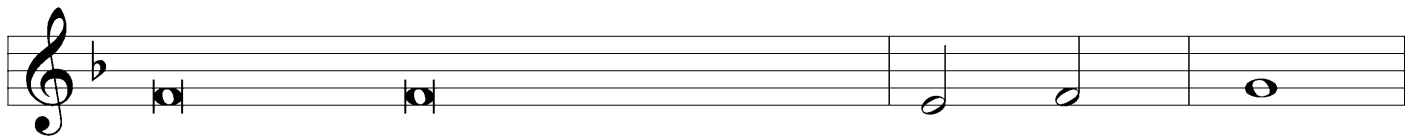
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



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.



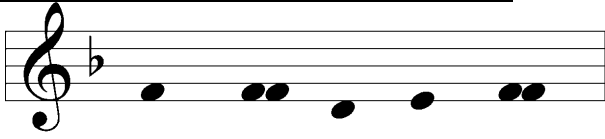
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



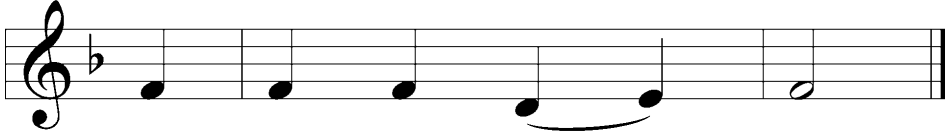
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

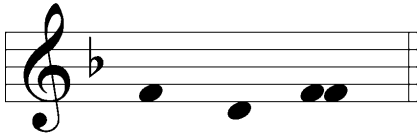
Last Sunday



P The Lord be with you.

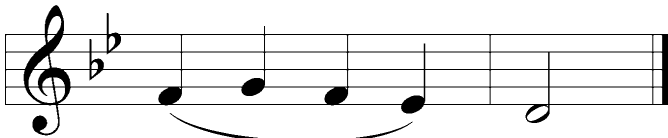


C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17–25

¹⁷“Behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.

¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever
in that which I create;
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,
and her people to be a gladness.

¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and be glad in my people;
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping
and the cry of distress.

²⁰No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days,

or an old man who does not fill out his days,
for the young man shall die a hundred years old,
and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.

²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD,
and their descendants with them.

²⁴Before they call I will answer;
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
and dust shall be the serpent's food.

They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain,"
says the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Introit

Psalm 39:4–5, 7–8; antiphon: Isaiah 35:10



The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

**They shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.**

O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!

**Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as
nothing before you.**

Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

My hope is in you.

Deliver me from all my transgressions.

**Do not make me the scorn of the fool!
 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.**

The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

**They shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.**

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand, as you are able.

Alleluia

LSB 190

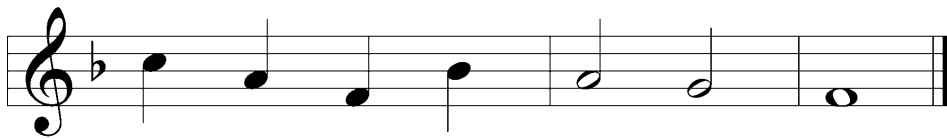


C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1–13

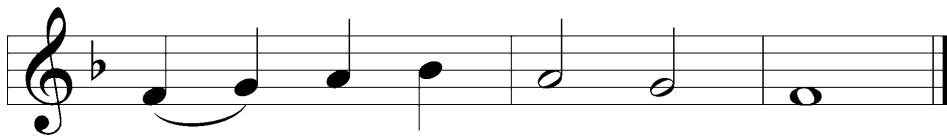
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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.

Please be seated.

Hymn 'And Will the Judge Descend'

TLH 610



1 And will the Judge de - cend, And must the dead a - rise And
 2 And from His right-eous lips Shall this dread sen-tence sound And
 3 "De - part from Me, ac-cursed, To ev - er - last - ing flame, For
 4 How will my heart en - dure The ter - rors of that Day When



not a sin - gle soul es - cape His all - dis - cern - ing eyes?
 thro' the num-'rous guilt - y throng Spread black de - spair a - round:
 reb - el an - gels first pre-pared, Where mer - cy nev - er came"?
 earth and heav'n be - fore His face As - ton-ished shrink a - way?

5 But ere that trumpet shakes
 The mansions of the dead,
 Hark from the Gospel's cheering sound
 What joyful tidings spread:

6 Ye sinners, seek His grace
Whose wrath ye cannot bear;
Fly to the shelter of His cross
And find salvation there.

*Text: Philip Doddridge, 1755, alt.; Philip Doddridge, 1755, alt.
Tune: Psalter, 1579; Psalter, 1579
Text and tune: Public domain*

Sermon

‘Do We Dare?’

Isaiah 65:17-25

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

Please stand, as you are able.

Hymn ‘God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage’

LSB 582

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

*Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.
Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924
Text and tune: Public domain*

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Make us, O Lord, to number our days and know our frailty. Let us find our hope in Christ alone until we are crowned with joy at His final coming. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord, our hope is in You. Grant that all pastors and servants of Your Church would proclaim this hope in boldness and clarity. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, we know Your day will come as a thief upon the children of darkness. Lighten our eyes by Your Word and arm us in Christ, that we may not be caught unawares but eagerly await the dawning of our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Creator God, You have called us to build and to plant and so cultivate the world by our various vocations. Endow the faithful with Your Spirit, that they may bear rich fruit in their lives and enjoy the work of their hands. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P King of the nations, grant wisdom, humility and integrity to those who govern us, especially to _____, our president; _____, our governor; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that the work of their hands would be of benefit to all whom they serve and in accordance with Your will. Bring peace to our troubled world, that all would hear the message of the Gospel and rejoice in Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, visit and relieve all who are sick or injured, [*especially* _____,] and comfort those who mourn [*especially* _____]. Lead us all to trust in You and find peace in the resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, grant Your Holy Spirit to those who come to Your Son's table this day, that we would receive His very body and blood in sincere repentance and firm faith, and to our abundant blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

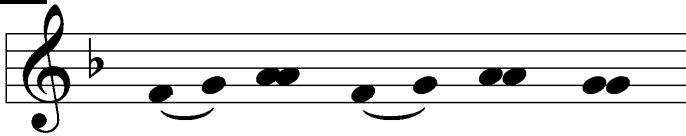
P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

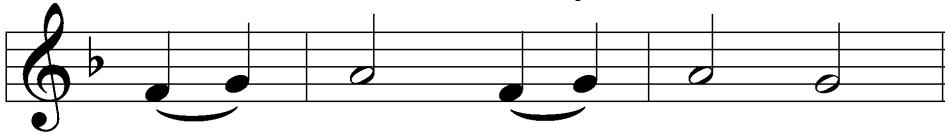
+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



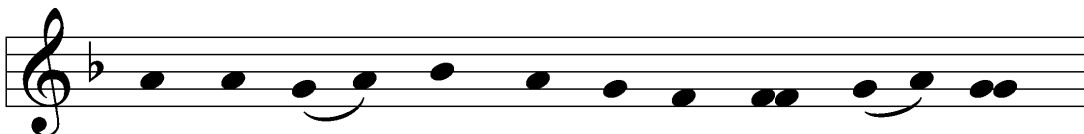
C And with thy spir - it.



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.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly meet, 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. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



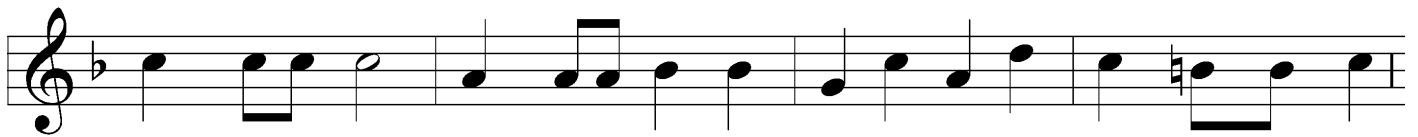
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



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,



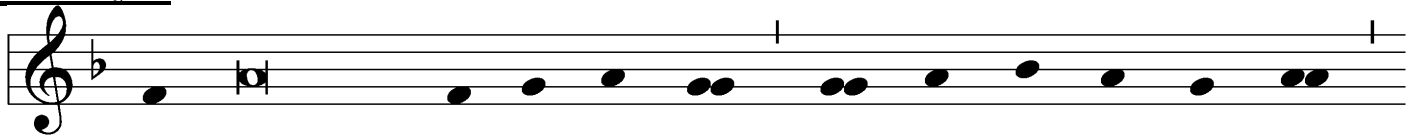
bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



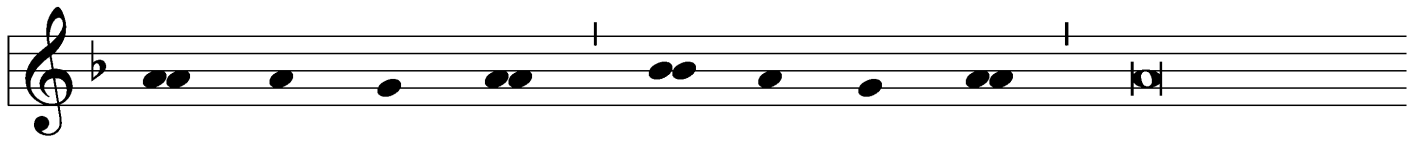
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

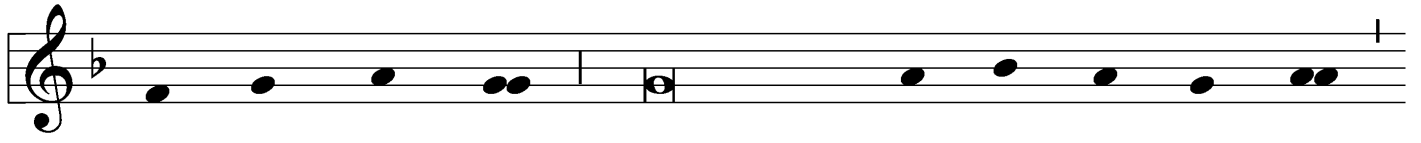
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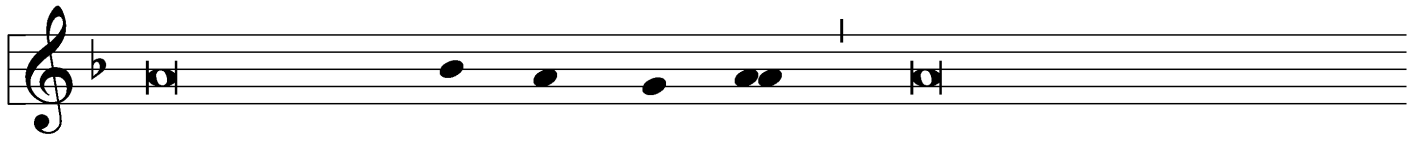
P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



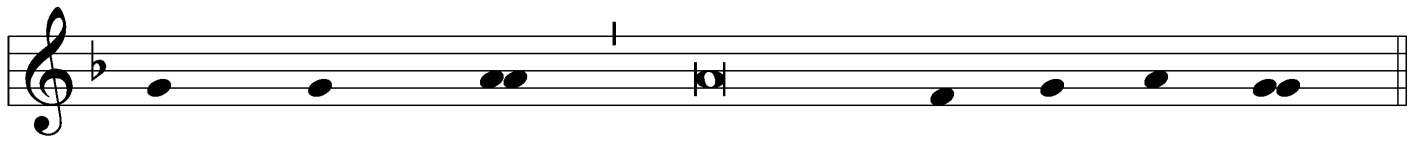
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



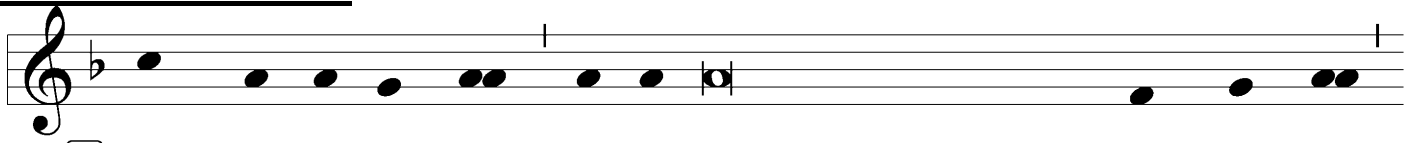
C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



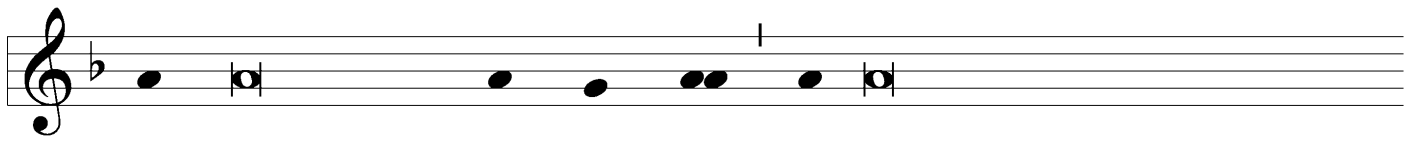
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

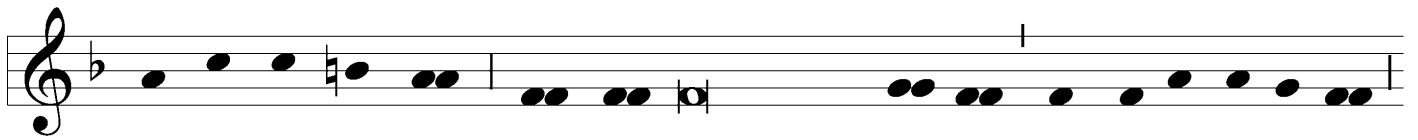
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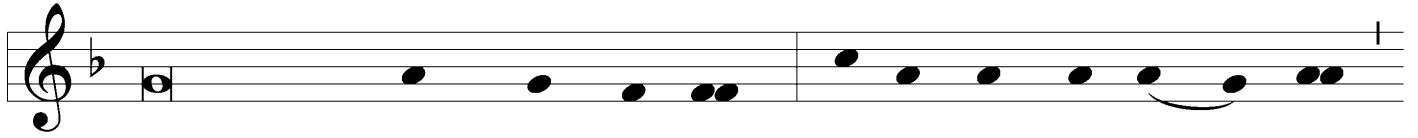
P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,



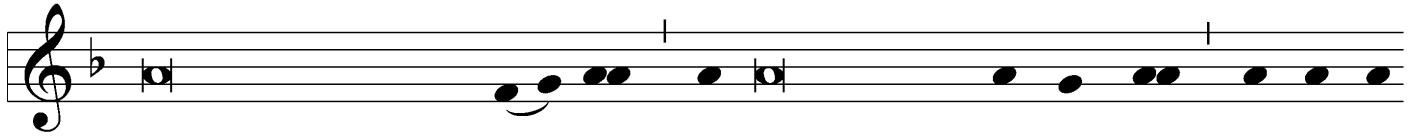
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



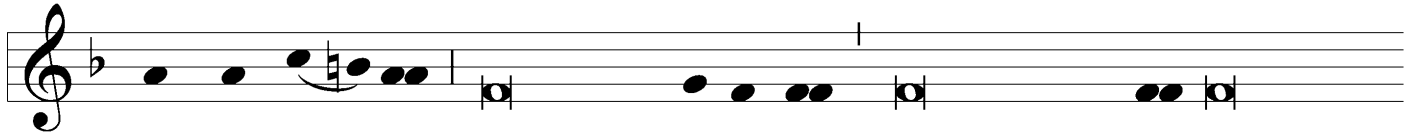
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ bod - y, which is giv-en for you.



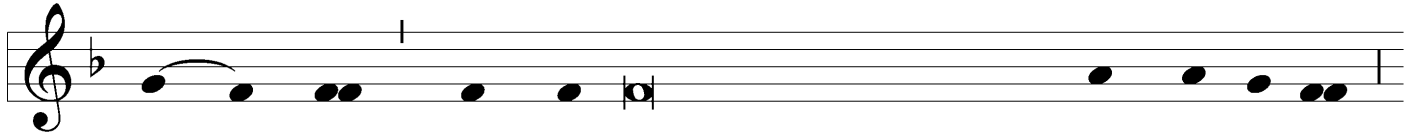
This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



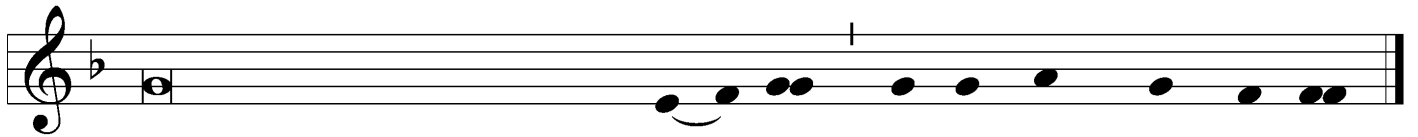
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it



to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



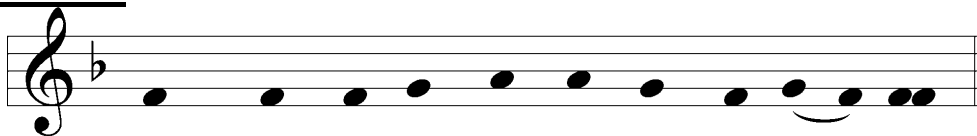
My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197



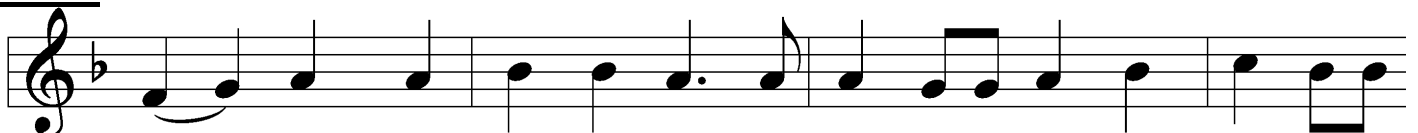
P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



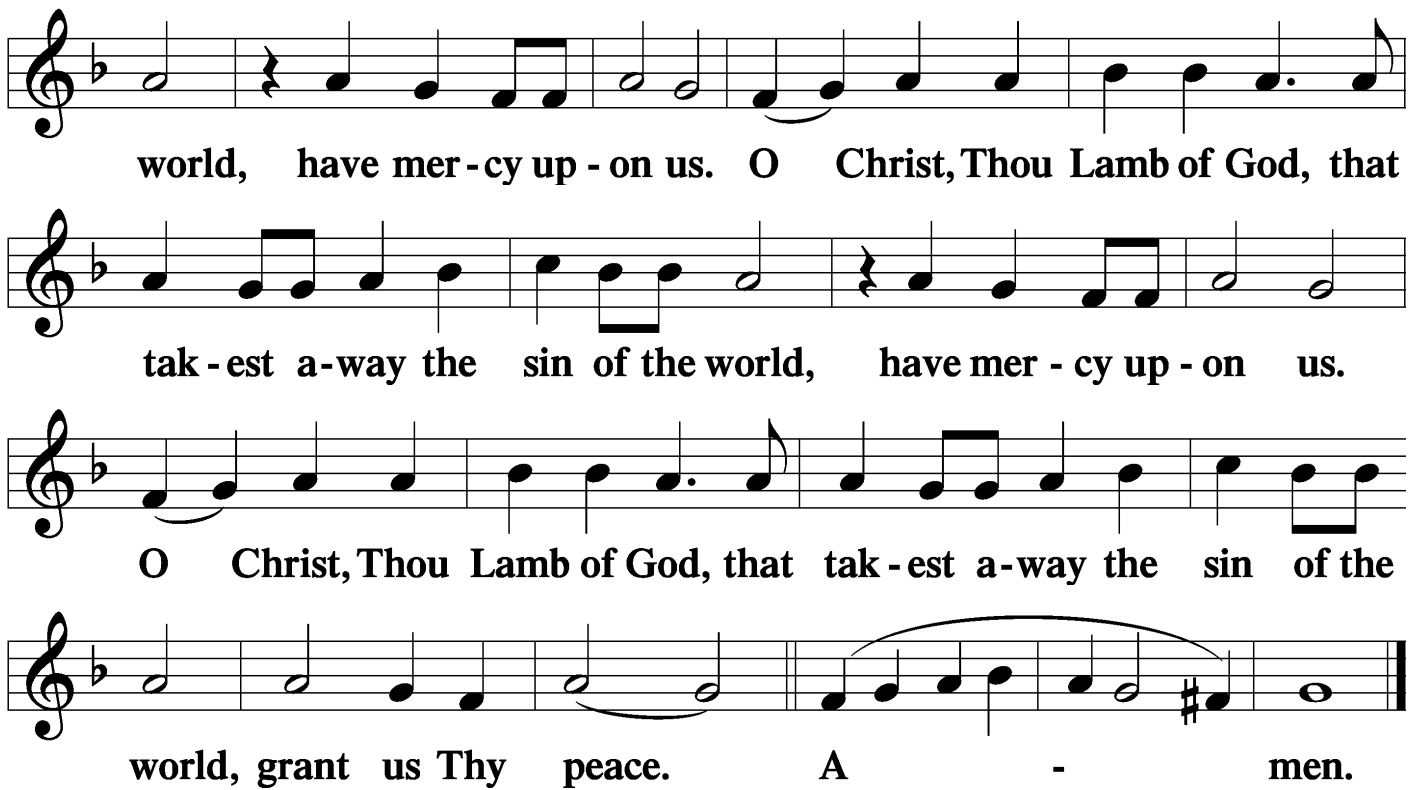
C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



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

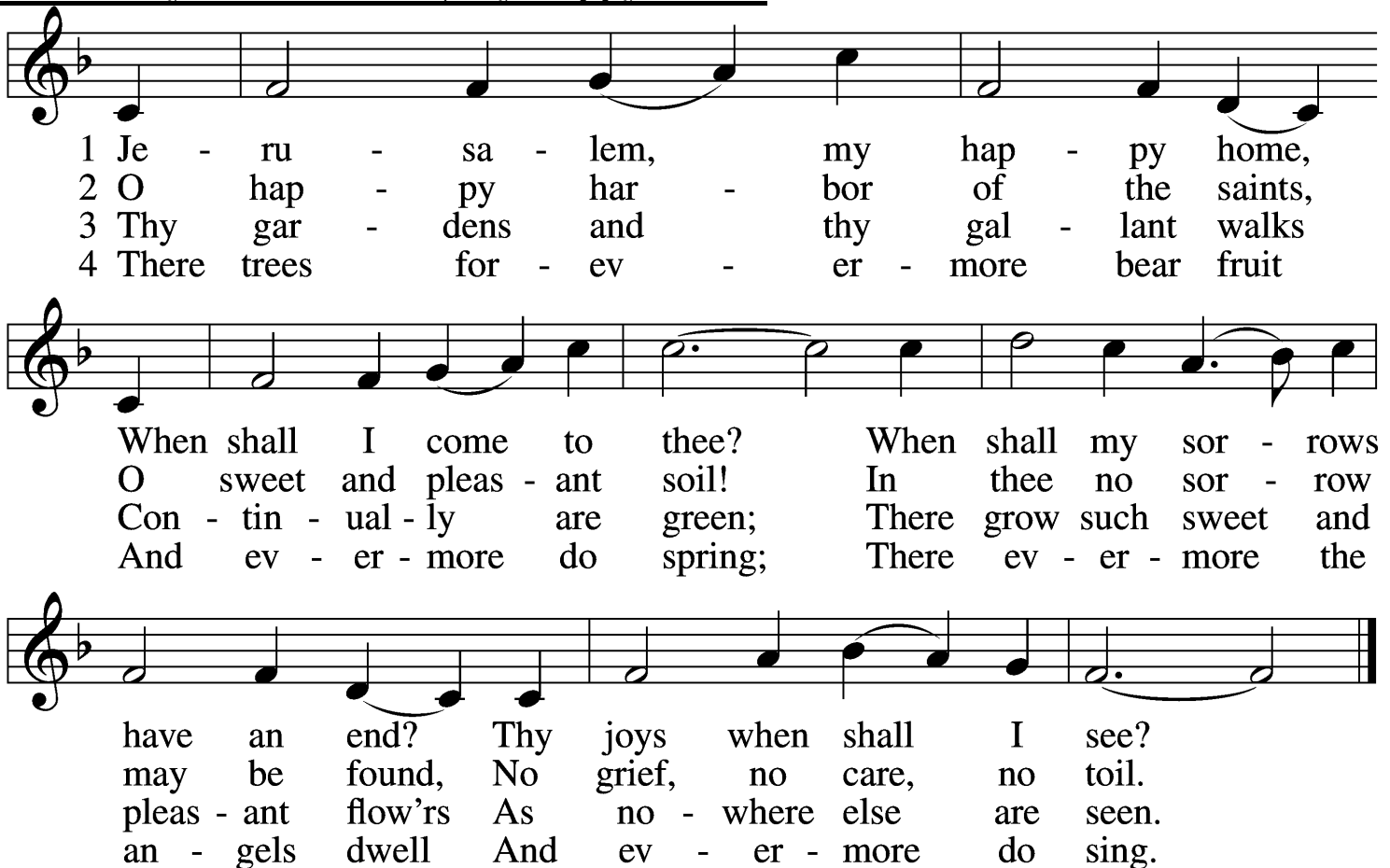


world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated.

Distribution Hymn 'Jerusalem, My Happy Home'

LSB 673



1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home,
 2 O hap - py har - bor of the saints,
 3 Thy gar - dens and thy gal - lant walks
 4 There trees for - ev - er - more bear fruit

When shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows
 O sweet and pleas - ant soil! In thee no sor - row
 Con - tin - ual - ly are green; There grow such sweet and
 And ev - er - more do spring; There ev - er - more the

have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
 may be found, No grief, no care, no toil.
 pleas - ant flow'rs As no - where else are seen.
 an - gels dwell And ev - er - more do sing.

5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there
Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.

6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare
For that bright home of love
That I may see Thee and adore
With all Thy saints above.

Text: F. B. P., 16th cent., alt.

Tune: American

Text and tune: Public domain

613

Jerusalem the Golden

Rev. 21: 18
 Urbs Sion aurea
 Bernard of Morlas, c. 1140, cento
 Tr., John M. Neale, 1849

7. 6. 7. 6. D.

Ewing
 Alexander Ewing, 1853

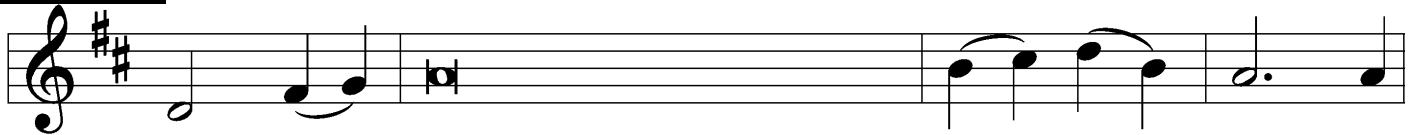
1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With milk and hon - ey blest,
 2 They stand, those halls of Zi - on, All ju - bi - lant with song
 3 There is the throne of Da - vid; And there, from care re - leased,
 4 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The home of God's e - lect!

Be - neath thy con - tem - pla - tion Sink heart and voice op - prest.
 And bright with man - y an an - gel And all the mar - tyr throng.
 The shout of them that tri - umph, The song of them that feast;
 O sweet and bless - ed coun - try That ea - ger hearts ex - pect!

I know not, oh, I know not, What joys a - wait us there,
 The Prince is ev - er in them; The day - light is se - rene;
 And they who with their Lead - er Have con - quered in the fight
 Je - sus, in mer - cy bring us To that dear land of rest,

What ra - dian - cy of glo - ry, What bliss be - yond com - pare.
 The pas - tures of the bless - ed Are decked in glo - rious sheen.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er Are clad in robes of white.
 Who art, with God the Fa - ther And Spir - it, ev - er blest. A - men.

Please be seated.



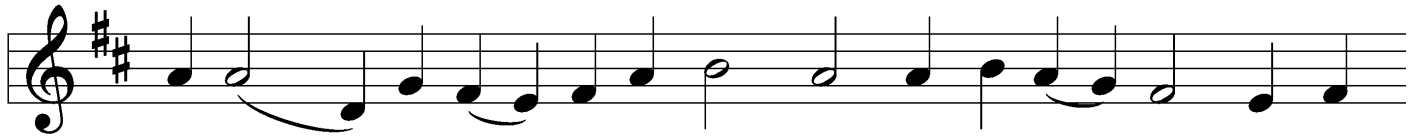
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



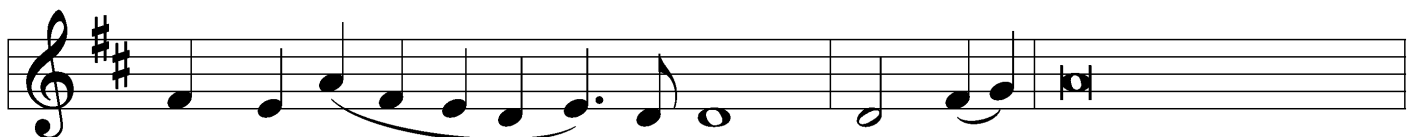
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



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



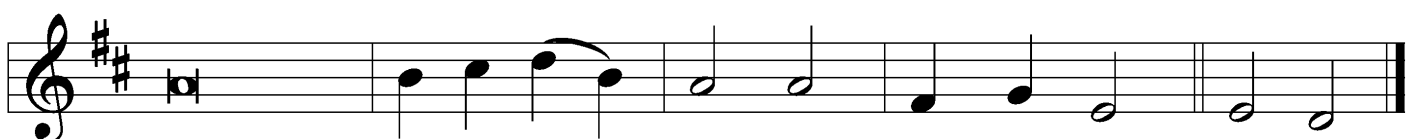
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



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

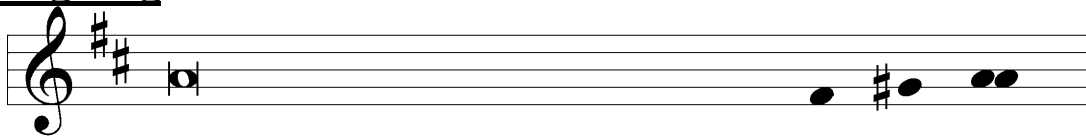


to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

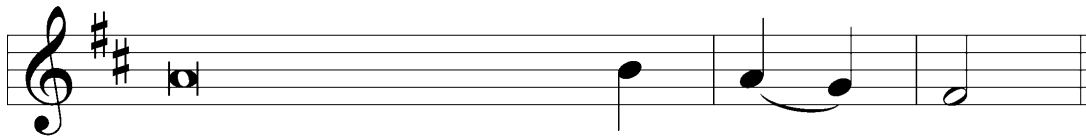


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving



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

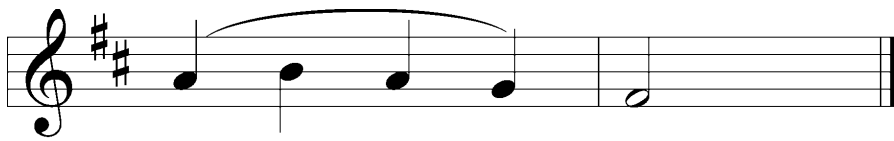


C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

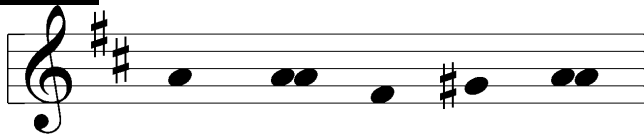
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You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



C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



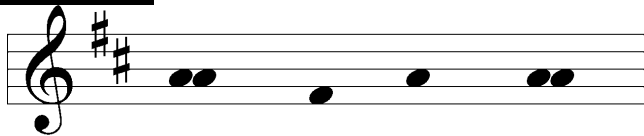
P The Lord be with you.



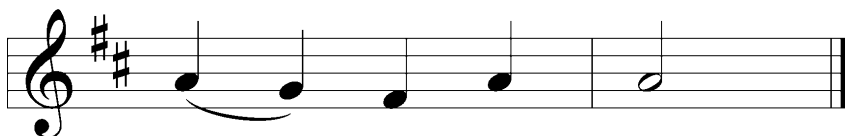
C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

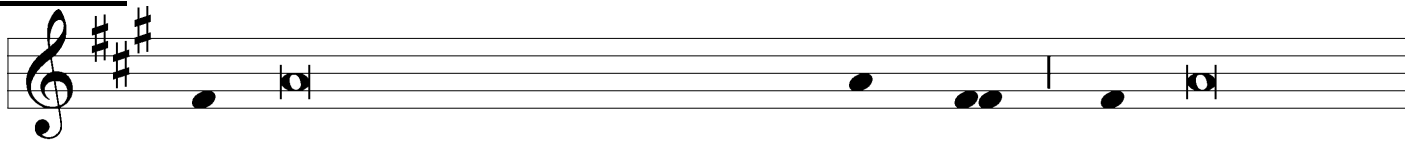
LSB 202



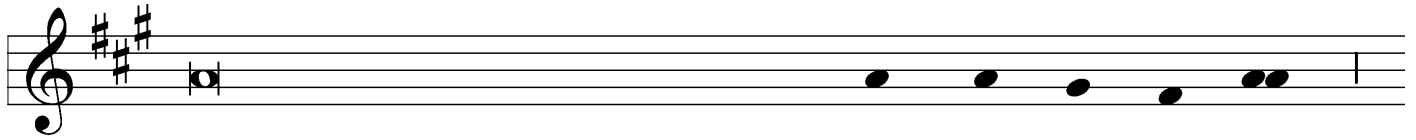
A Bless we the Lord.



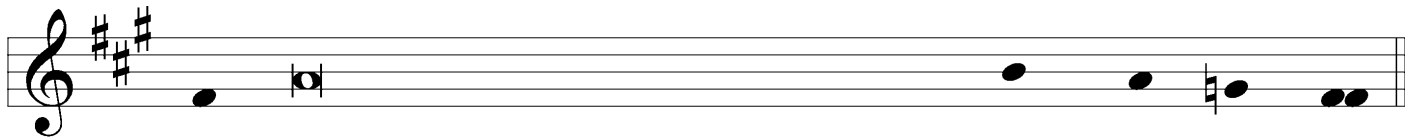
C Thanks be to God.



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



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



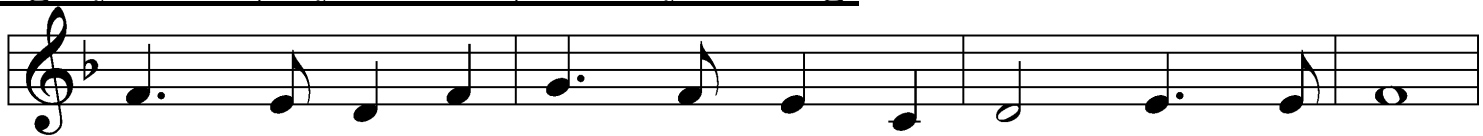
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



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

Closing Hymn 'Go, My Children, with My Blessing'

LSB 922 sts. 1-4



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
 I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
 heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
 Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

Text: © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001879

Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guests: Welcome! We are so glad to have you with us today! If you are visiting us for the first time, please sign our guest book, or a guest card in the pew and place in the offering plate before leaving. Please join us for fellowship after the service.

Communion Statement: As we learn from 1 Corinthians, when we commune together, we make a confession of our oneness in doctrine & understanding of God's Word. Since those who show publicly that they agree with the teachings believed, taught, & confessed by the Pastor & congregation at which the Sacrament is distributed, we ask that those who are not members in good standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, or one of our sister churches to please refrain from partaking of the Sacrament. Instead, if you would like to receive a blessing, you are more than welcome to come to the altar rail & please indicate you would like to receive a blessing by crossing your arms in front of your chest. A list of church bodies with whom we share Altar & Pulpit fellowship is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. If you would like to visit about this doctrine & practice, please talk to Pastor or an Elder. For further study on this matter see Matthew 5:23, 18:15-35, 26:26-39; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20 & 1 Cor. 11:17-34. Thank you.

St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 10, "The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread." To help continually reinforce this, you may notice a slight change in the way we are going to celebrate the Lord's Supper. We are going to begin using a larger size host that I will break in smaller pieces. What many will receive, will not be perfect circles. Rather, the pieces will be broken and distributed until they are gone. When these pieces are gone, the smaller circle pieces will be served to the remainder of the communicants. There is nothing theologically wrong with our current practice. The newer practice is meant to bolster and more strongly reinforce our eating of one bread. ~ *Pastor Koepf*

Poinsettias for the Christmas Eve service are \$15. Please have your order form filled out and leave in the offering basket by Dec. 8th. Please make check payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church with 'Poinsettia' in the memo line.

Advent Meals sign-up is out on the entryway table. Meals will be from 5:00pm-6:15pm on Dec. 4, 11 and 18.

2025 Serving Lists are on the front table. Please look at the serving guidelines on the back to assist you with this.

The Board of Education is selling calendars. Please see Sherry Baker if you would like one.

Stewardship: I Thessalonians 5:8 – “But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.” Our salvation is secure in Christ: He has done it all to save us. Therefore, our hope is secure and our faith in Him is certain. And what goes with faith and hope? Love. Our good works of love flow forth from the certainty of our faith. Our giving back to the Lord’s work comes from what He has first given us.

Christmas Share at Immanuel: Again, this year our church will purchase gifts for the Christmas Share Program. In the church entryway is a tree with gift tag requests for a family of six (mom, dad, three boys and one girl).

The gifts should be wrapped, the gift tag reapplied and put under the tree at church. Please do this by **Sunday, December 8th** in time for distribution. (The Board of Evangelism will deliver the packages on Monday, December 9th.) You may want to go in with someone else for your purchase.

No gift cards please.

Thank you for participating in this program. The families served appreciate the assistance during the holidays.

If questions, see a member of the Board of Evangelism

Dianna Kelting
June Routier
Bev Huebner

Loose Giving Envelopes are available in the pews and on the entryway table for visitors and for regular churchgoers who may have forgotten their offering envelopes. To ensure all offerings are recorded, please enclose your offering in your assigned envelope or the loose giving envelopes provided in the pews. Thank you!

We encourage members to consider electronic giving. It is a secure and convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. We would love for you to get started! Pick up an authorization form on the entryway table and return to the church secretary.

General Fund & Mission Giving: When making gifts for both the general fund and missions, please provide the offerings in two separate checks as the church has separate bank accounts for these funds. Thank you.

Men of Immanuel Lutheran: Have you ever heard of Dartball? Please sign-up in the lobby if you have interest in starting and joining a dartball team here at Immanuel. Questions see or call Luke Bayer.

Instrumentalists: Do you play a wind instrument? Please sign-up in the lobby if you have ability and interest in playing in a church wind ensemble. Questions see/call Amber Bayer.

Please mark your calendars! There will be an Advent/Christmas program at Trinity Lutheran Church, State Center, IA on December 8th at 2:00 featuring area musicians. Come and enjoy an afternoon filled with praises to our King!

Missions for December is MICA. An offering plate will be available as you enter the sanctuary next Sunday.

Food Pantry Sunday: Food pantry donations for MICA may be placed in the container under the entryway table. You are welcome to bring donations anytime of the month.

Snowbirds: For those of you that head for warmer weather for the winter and would like the monthly newsletter mailed to you, please submit your address, date departing and date returning to the church secretary. Even those that have submitted their address in the past, please do so again to make sure we have the correct address. The newsletter and calendar are also published on our website at www.immanuelgrinnell.org. Thank you!

Building Healthy Families: Reflect for a moment on your life over the past year. How have you seen God working? For what are you most thankful? As you become aware of His many blessings, ask yourself this one final question: how do you plan to show your gratitude? Challenge the members of your family to explore these same questions over the Thanksgiving holiday. Remember, we model gratitude to our children by our own words and behavior, regardless of how the year is going. *“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

~www.LutheranFamilyService.org

A Life Quote: “In spades the Lord has taught me, and prayerfully you also, that Psalm 23 is a thanksgiving psalm. He anoints our heads, which is the Old Testament way of saying He chooses us as kings. He makes us a part of His royal household! Man, are we blessed as His kids!” *Pastor Keith Haberstock, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” ~ A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Lutheran Hour Ministries for Dec. 1st: Hear "Will Everything Sad Come Untrue?" based on Jeremiah 33:16 by Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A mother and her young son trade a life of privilege for one of poverty, a story that is borderline unbelievable, yet nonetheless true. ~ *Listen next Sunday on 600 WMT at 6:30 a.m., 1190 KFJB at 8:30 a.m., WHO-1040 at 7:30 a.m.*

EXPERT GUESTS, EXPANSIVE TOPICS, EXTOLLING CHRIST... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: Progressive Christianity, Christian Identity vs. Identity Politics, the Hymn "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator," the Advent Season and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn or a podcast provider.

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Cleaning: Household(s) responsible for the **week of 11/24—11/30 is Christinson.** Household(s) responsible for the **week of 12/1—12/7 is Eichenberger.** If you cannot clean the week you have been assigned, it is your responsibility to trade with others on the list. If it is your week to clean church and you have other obligations or you prefer to write a check rather than cleaning, a substitute is available for \$75.00. Please contact Amber at lcms.immanuelgrinnell@gmail.com. Make payment to Amber Carnine and leave payment under her office door, in her box at church, or mail payment to the church. We do ask that you let Amber know ASAP but the deadline is by Thursday of the week before it is your week to clean.

Mid-Week Advent Services

A fellowship meal will be served from 5:00-6:15pm

Evening Prayer Service begins at 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 4th

‘Jesus Shows Us Our Creator’

Wednesday, December 11th

‘Jesus Shows Us Our Provider’

Wednesday, December 18th

‘Jesus Shows Us The Father’s Heart’

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 15th at 10:30am

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY DIVINE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 25th at 9:00am

NEW YEAR’S EVE DIVINE SERVICE

Tuesday, December 31st at 6:30pm

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

For the Week of November 17, 2024

Worship Attendance 60

WEEK AHEAD

Today 9:00am Last Sunday of the Church Year
 10:30am Bible Study/Christmas Program Practice
 Greeter: Stanek
 Usher: Joel R. Koeppe
 Servers: June R. & Julie R.
 Acolyte/Crucifer: Alivia & Finn
 Elder: Steve H.

Pastor in MN Wednesday through Saturday. If a need arises, please contact an elder or Pastor's cell

Wednesday No Confirmation Class

Thursday No Bible Study or Confirmation Class

Next Sunday 8:00am Elders Meeting
 9:00am Ad Te Levavi (1st Sunday in Advent)
 10:30am Bible Study/Christmas Program Practice
 Greeter: Thorpe
 Usher: Tim B.
 Servers: Stephanie E. & Dianna K.
 Acolyte/Crucifer: Sophia & Kaitlynn
 Elder: Joel M.