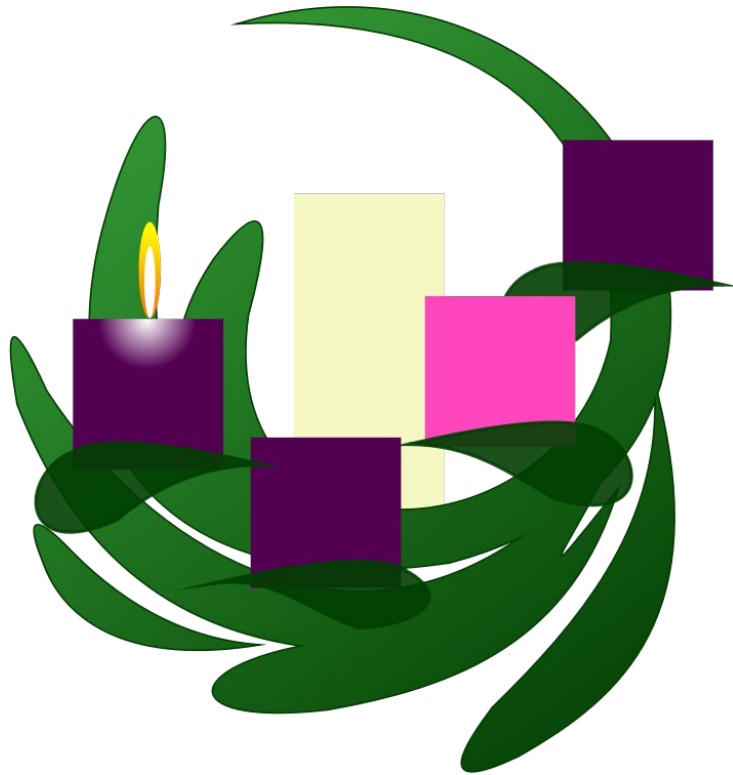


SECOND MIDWEEK IN ADVENT
'LIGHTS'



December 10, 2025

Immanuel Lutheran Church
229 Eleventh Ave West
Grinnell, IA 50112

+ SECOND MIDWEEK IN ADVENT-LIGHTS +

Evening Prayer ~ LSB 243

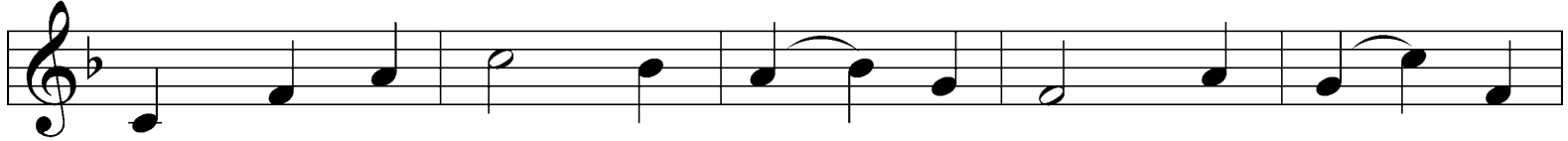
December 10, 2025

Midweek of Advent 2: LIGHTS

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of lights—from candles to twinkling LEDs. These luminous decorations also help us prepare for the advent (or coming) of Jesus during Advent, a season of preparation. Today we will consider how lights point us to the coming of Christ and the glory He brings.

Opening Hymn ‘Hark the Glad Sound’

LSB 349



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



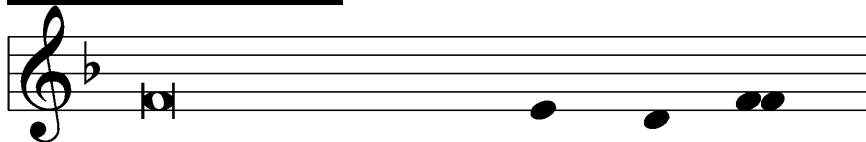
prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



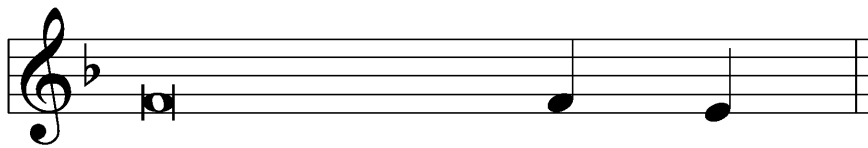
throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

*Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51
Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820
Text and tune: Public domain*

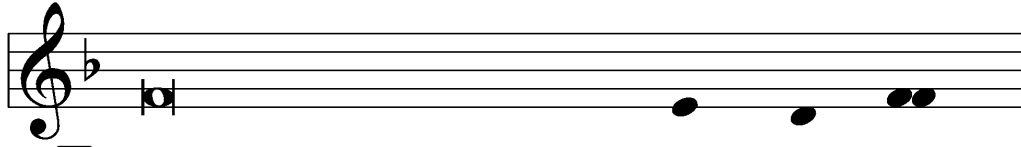
Versicles (Advent)



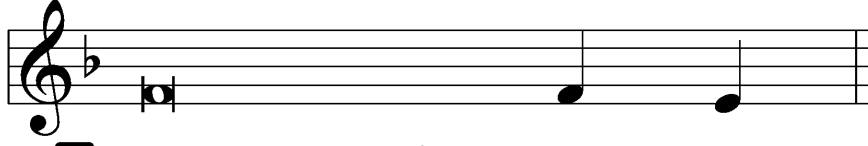
[L] The Spirit and the Church cry out:



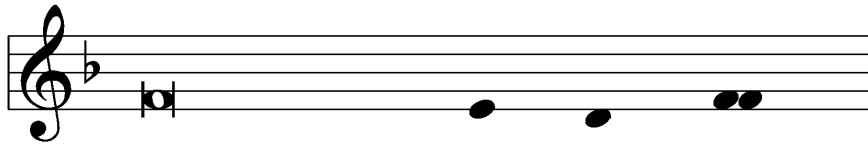
C Come, Lord Je - sus.



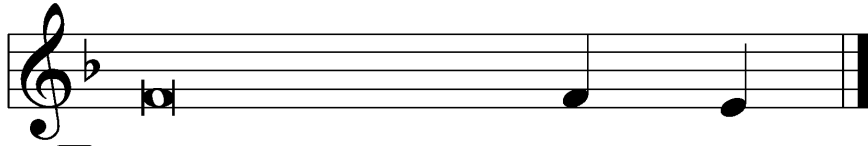
L All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.



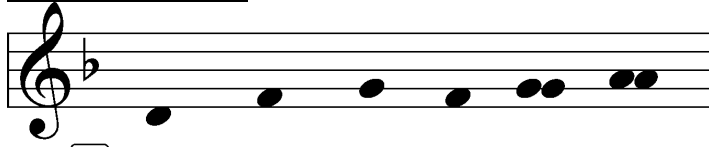
L The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.

Phos Hilaron

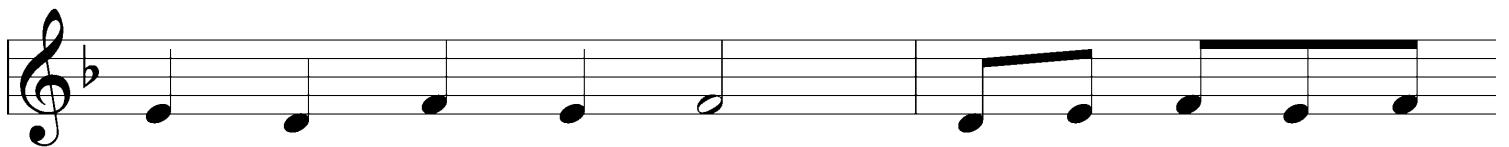
LSB 244



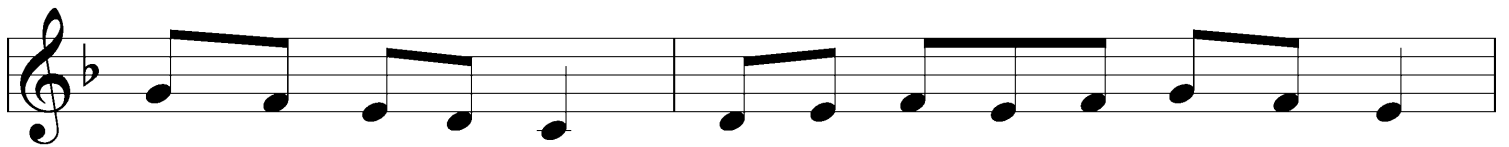
L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



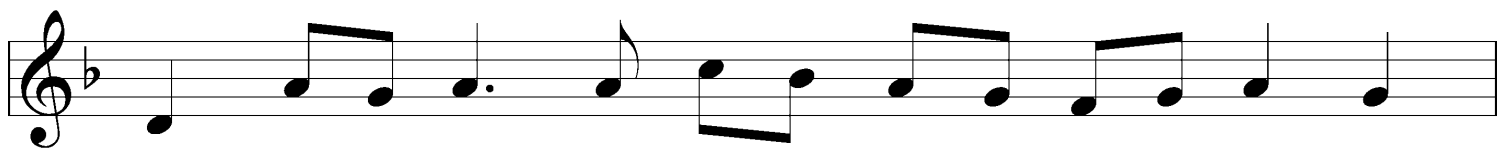
C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



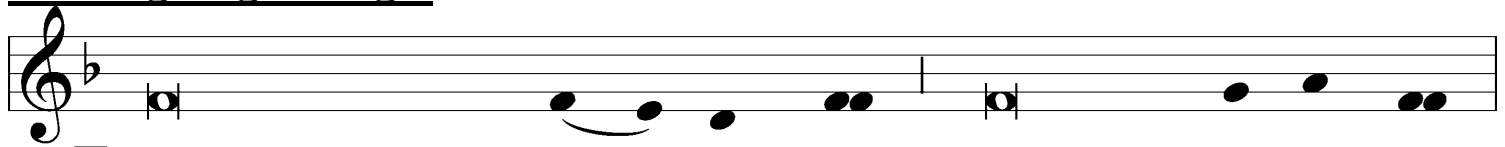
ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



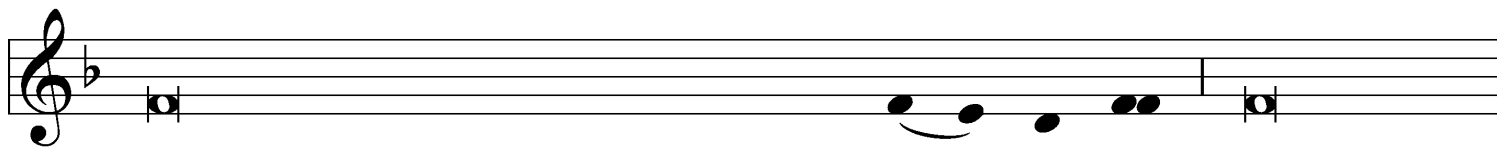
the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

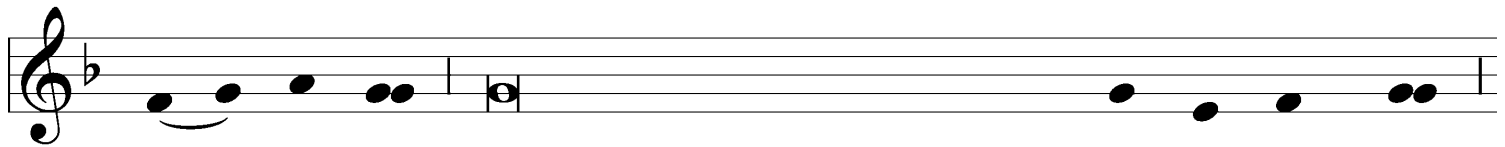
LSB 245



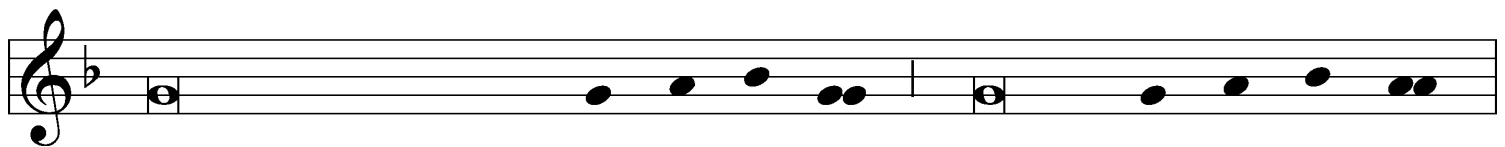
L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,



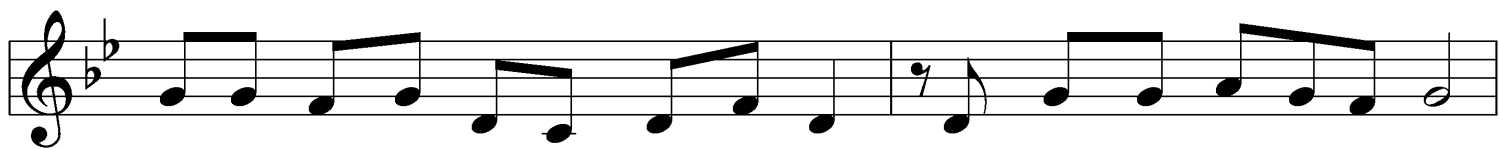
who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of



fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;



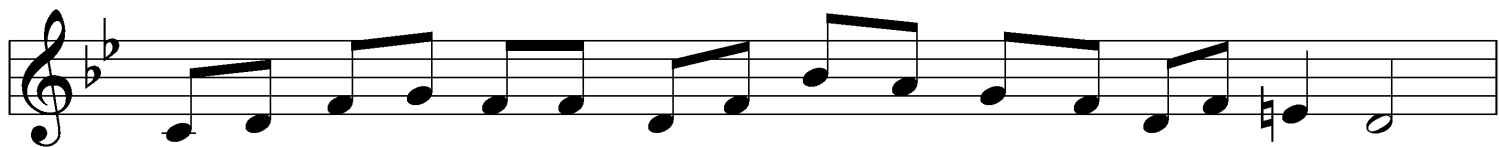
may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;



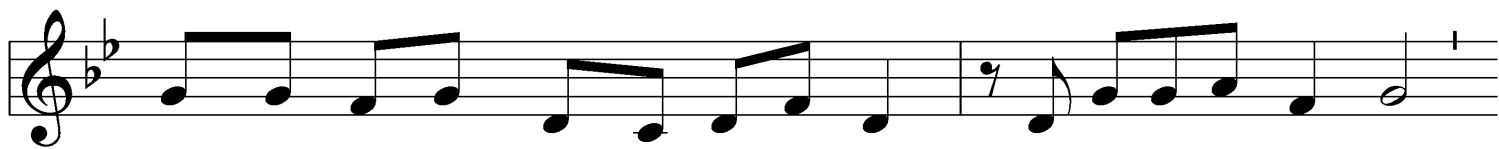
II Set a watch be-fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in-cline to an-y e-vil thing;



let me not be oc-cu-pied in wick-ed-ness with e-vil-do-ers.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.



Strip me not of my life.

☐ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and



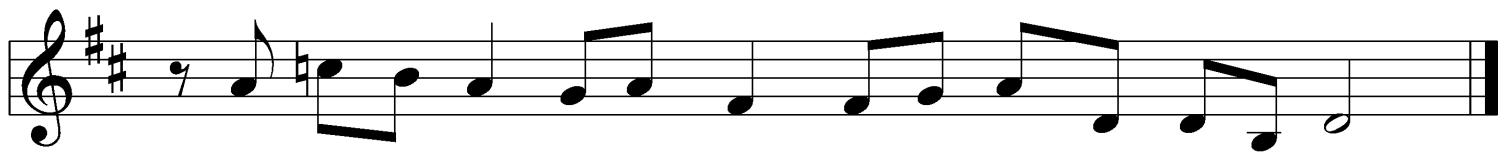
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in



the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.



Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

Psalm Prayer

L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 118:15–29 (Antiphon v. 27)

¹⁵Glad songs of salvation

are in the tents of the righteous:

“The right hand of the LORD does valiantly,

¹⁶the right hand of the LORD exalts,

the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!”

¹⁷I shall not die, but I shall live,

and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸The LORD has disciplined me severely,

but he has not given me over to death.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them

and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate of the LORD;

the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹I thank you that you have answered me

and have become my salvation.

²²The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone.

²³This is the LORD’s doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵Save us, we pray, O LORD!

O LORD, we pray, give us success!

²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷The LORD is God,
and he has made his light to shine upon us.
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,
up to the horns of the altar!

²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

Hymn 'The Night Will Soon Be Ending'

LSB 337



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. 110001879

Tune: Public domain

Reading

Isaiah 9:1–7

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,

on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation;

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,

as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden,

and the staff for his shoulder,

the rod of his oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult

and every garment rolled in blood

will be burned as fuel for the fire.

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.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace

there will be no end,

on the throne of David and over his kingdom,

to establish it and to uphold it

with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

2 Corinthians 4:3–6

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

John 1:1–9

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.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Final Reading Response

LSB 247

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Advent Catechism

LSB 322

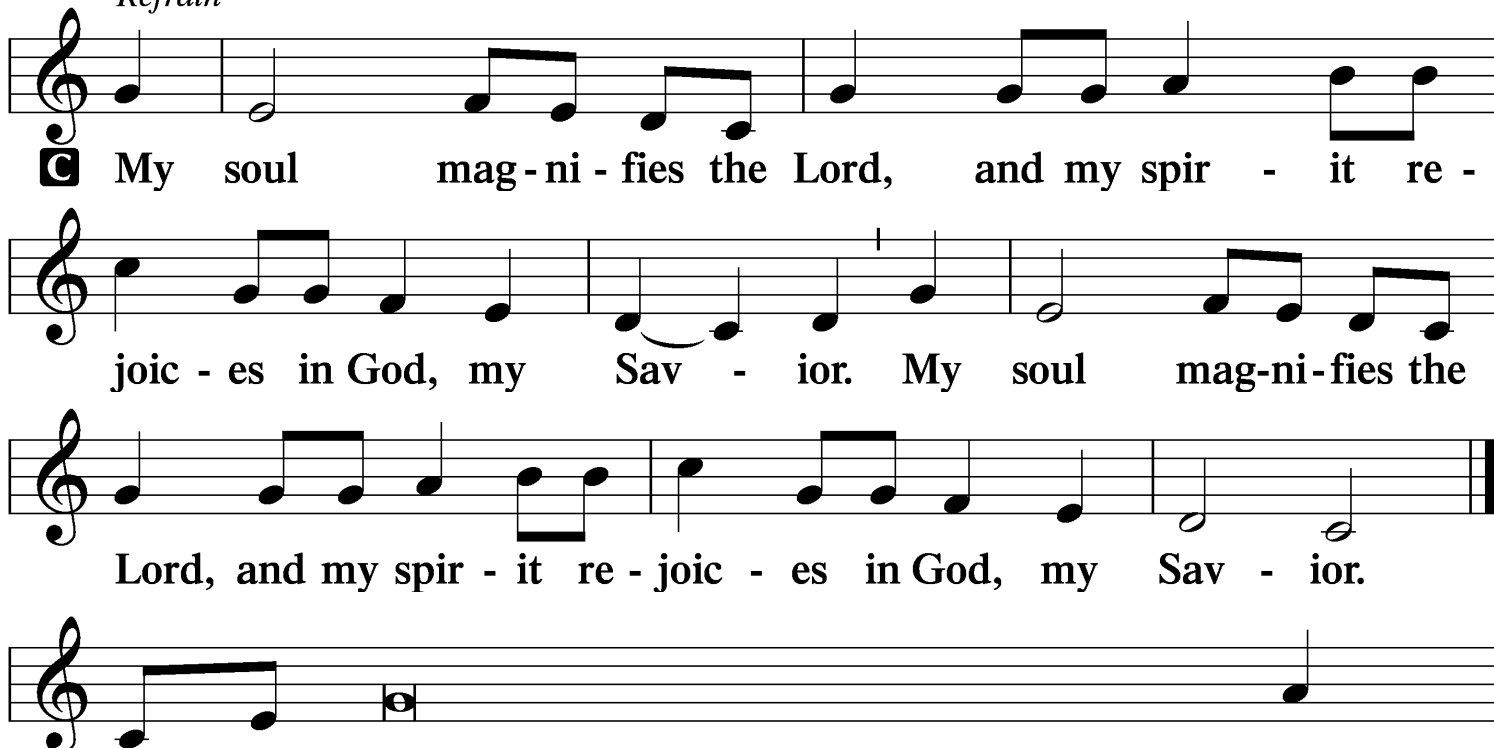
P [Jesus Christ] suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

C [He] has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.

+ CANTICLE +

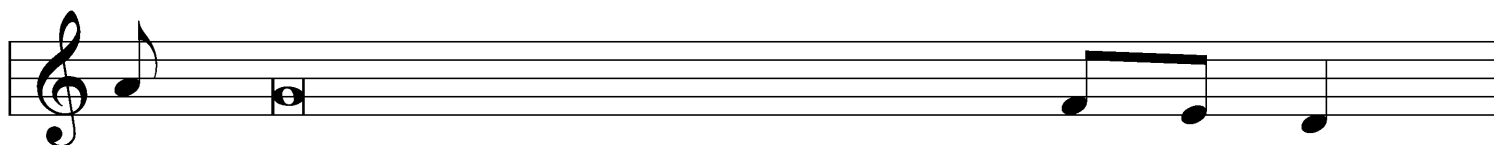
Magnificat

LSB 248

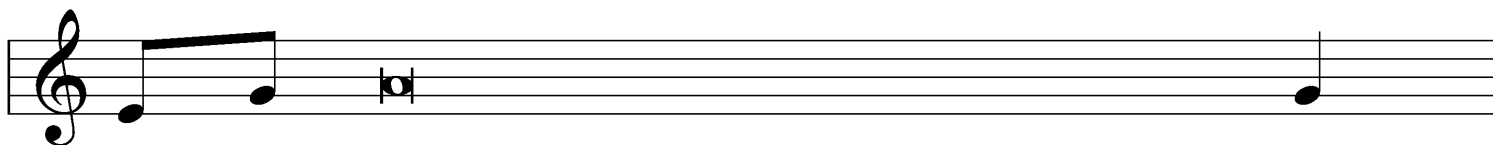
Refrain


My soul mag-ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
 joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the
 Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

- 1 For _____ He has re - - - - - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 the lowliness of His hand - maiden.
- 2 and holy is His name;
- 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.
- 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;



- 1 For be - hold, from this day
2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



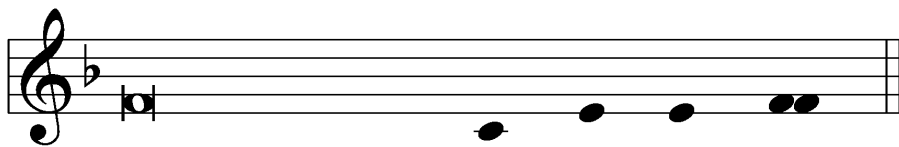
- 1 all generations will call me blessed.
2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
5 is now, and will be forever. A - - - - - men. *Refrain*

+ PRAYER +

Litany

LSB 249

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.



[L] In peace let us pray to the Lord:



[C] Lord, have mer - cy.

[L] For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

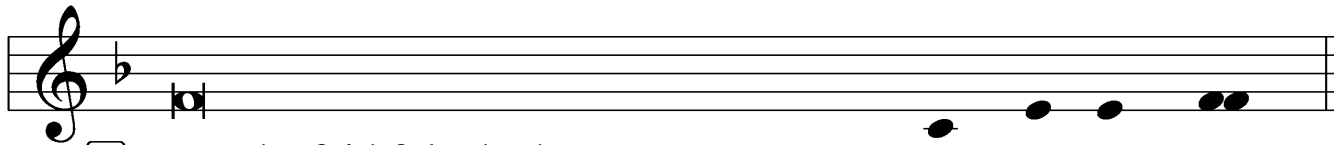
[C] Lord, have mercy.

[L] For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

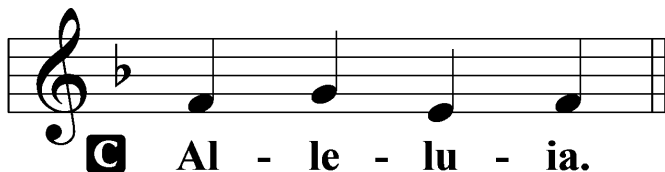
[C] Lord, have mercy.

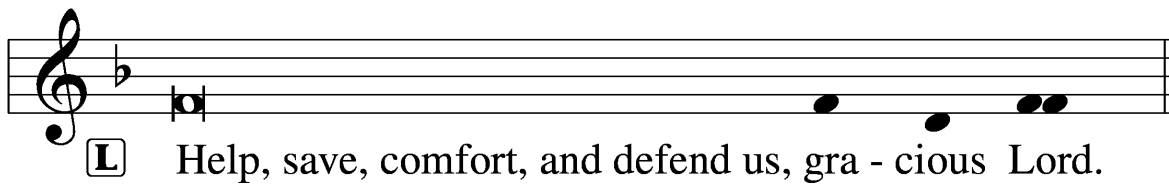
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.

The prayers then continue:



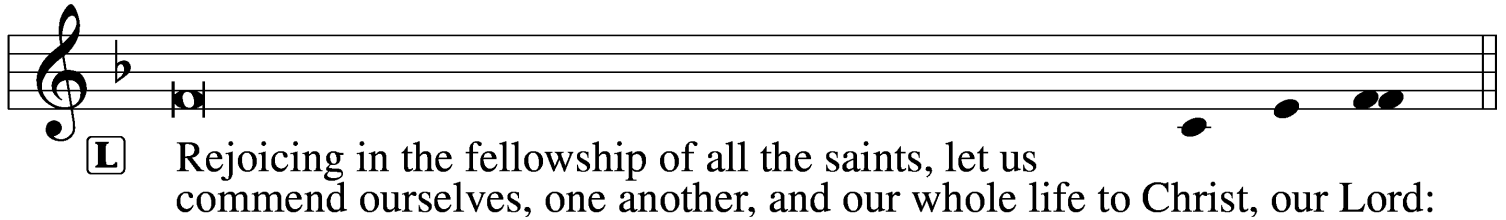
- L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:





L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.



L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us
commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:



C To You, O Lord.

Collect for Peace

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

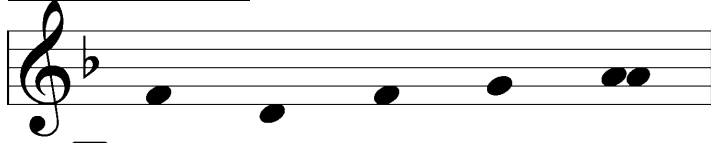
L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 252



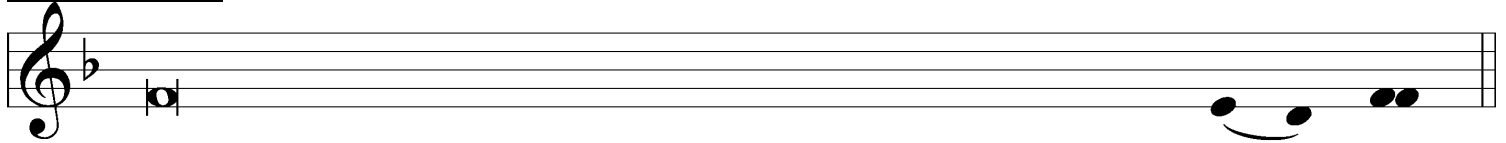
L Let us bless the Lord.



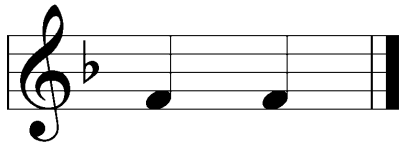
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 252



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'

LSB 357 sts. 1, 6





Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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Wednesday at 6:30pm

December 17

'Creche'

Fellowship Meal

5:15-6:15pm