

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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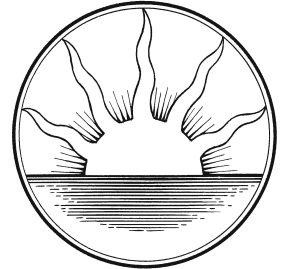
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First Sunday in Advent November 29, 2020



Color of the Day: BLUE-the color of the sky-helps convey that powerful message. Our Christian faith rests on the hope that Christ, who came in history assuming our flesh, will also return on the last day of time from that same blue sky he ascended long ago. Advent, a preparatory time of waiting and watching, communicates the message of hope.

OPENING HYMN

#351 – Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 Thou, griev - ing that the an - cient curse
3 Thou cam'st the Bride - groom of the bride,
4 At whose dread name, ma - jes - tic now,



Thy peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing Light:
Should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
As drew the world to e - ven - tide,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;



O Christ, Re - deem - er, save us all
Hast found the heal - ing, full of grace,
The spot - less Vic - tim all di - vine
All things ce - les - tial Thee shall own,



And hear Thy ser - vants when they call.
To cure and save our ru - ined race.
Pro - ceed - ing from a vir - gin shrine.
And things ter - res - trial, Lord a - lone.

5 O Thou, whose coming is with dread
To judge the living and the dead,
Preserve us from the ancient foe
While still we dwell on earth below.

△ 6 To God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally. Amen.

Text and tune: Public domain

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

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)

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.

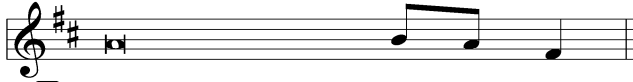
C Amen.

(Stand)

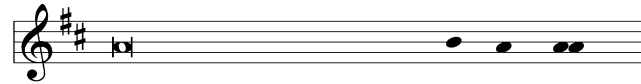
+ Matins +



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



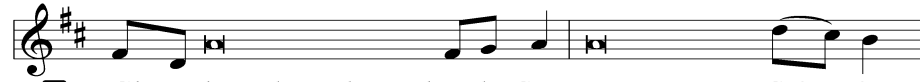
C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



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



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ PSALMODY +

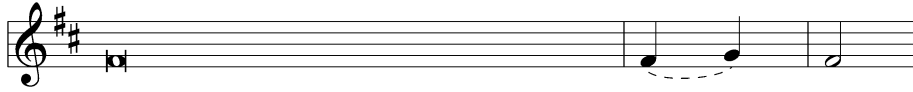


L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



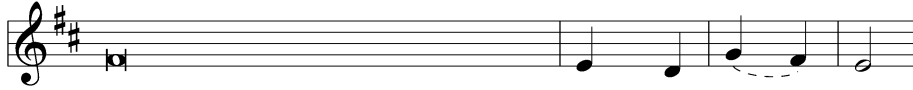
☐ O come, let us wor - ship Him.

VENITE



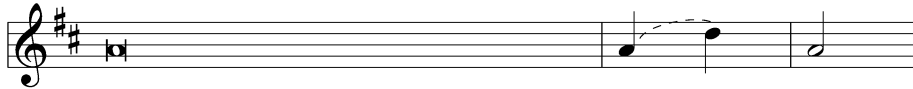
☐ 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

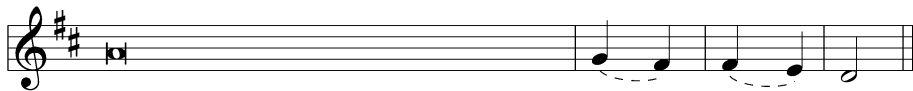


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



☐ Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.



☐ O come, let us wor - ship Him.

(Sit)

+ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome things that we did not look for,

you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From of old no one has heard
 or perceived by the ear,
 no eye has seen a God besides you,
 who acts for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
 those who remember you in your ways.
 Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
 in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
 and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
 We all fade like a leaf,
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls upon your name,
 who rouses himself to take hold of you;
 for you have hidden your face from us,
 and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
 and remember not iniquity forever.
 Behold, please look, we are all your people.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake.

³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

(Sit)

RESPONSORY



- L** 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.



- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

#332 – Savior of the Nations, Come



- 1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



- here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



- That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 God was there up - on His throne.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

- 5 God the Father was His source,
 Back to God He ran His course.
 Into hell His road went down,
 Back then to His throne and crown.
- 7 From the manger newborn light
 Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides;
 In this light faith now abides.
- 6 For You are the Father's Son
 Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole
 All our ills of flesh and soul.
- △ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
 Glory to the Son, our king,
 Glory to the Spirit be
 Now and through eternity.

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SERMON

Be On Guard! Be Alert!

Mark 13:24-37

Introduction

If I had known you were coming _____.

“Be on Guard!”

Be on guard, keep awake is _____.

God created Adam and Eve _____.

Soon after creation the devil, _____.

However, God, being a God of love _____
God did not immediately _____
Jesus did come to earth _____

Before He Ascended

Before Jesus left earth _____
But there is more, _____
So far Jesus has waited _____

"Be On Guard"

Jesus says, _____
Our focus again today is _____
We know we are ready when _____
We know we are ready when _____
This morning, then, just as Jesus says, _____
When will Jesus return? _____
God gives _____
Finally, as you are ready _____

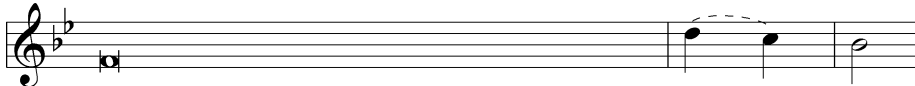
Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor's blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez's blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>

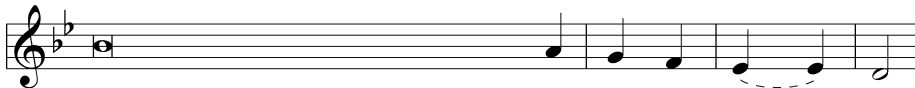
+ CANTICLE +

(Stand)

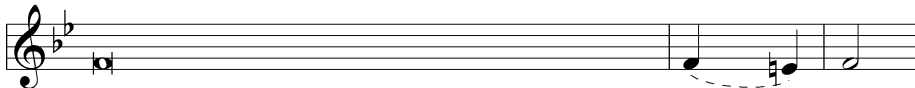
TE DEUM



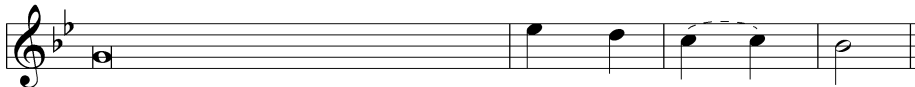
- 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
- 3 The noble army of martyrs praise — You.



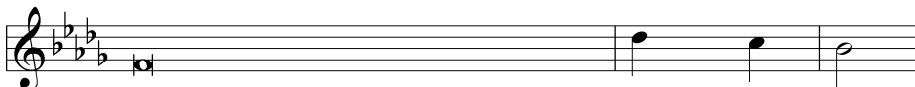
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
- 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



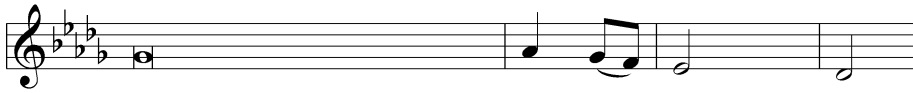
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.
- 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise — You.
- 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
- 4 You are the king of glory, O — Christ;



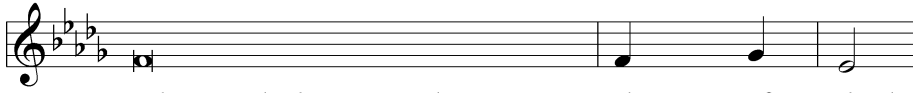
- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
- 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise — You.
- 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com-fort - er.
- 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



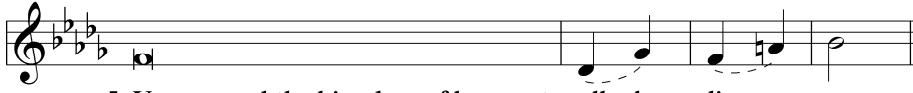
- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
- 6 You sit at the right hand of God



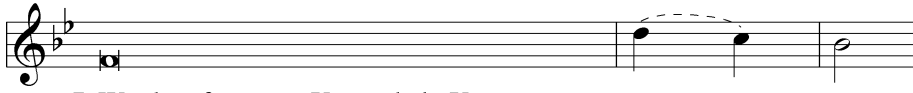
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



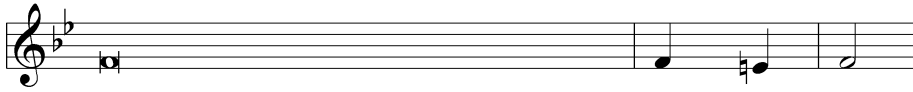
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



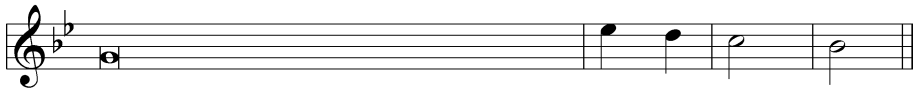
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
8 Govern them and lift them up for - ev - er.
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

(Sit)

FIRST FRUITS, TITHES, & OFFERINGS

+ PRAYERS +

(Kneel/Stand)

KYRIE



☐ Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

(Sit)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE



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 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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



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



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



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



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

LORD'S PRAYER

P Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD



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



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



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI



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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#353 – Jesus Came, the Heav’ns Adoring

1 Je - sus came, the heav’ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
 4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our

realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - giv’n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
 hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e’er be - falls us,

Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav’n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!

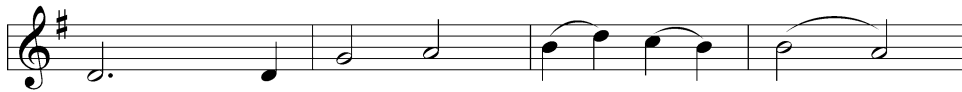
Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv’n.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#336 – Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - ’ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#508 – The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a - noint - ed,
 2 The fi - nal trum - pet then shall sound And all the earth be shak - en,
 3 The books are o - pened then to all, A rec - ord tru - ly tell - ing
 4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but car - nal plea - sures,



In all His pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom God ap -
 And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their sleep a -
 What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was
 Who here de - spised His pre - cious Word And loved their earth - ly



point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And flames on
 wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By God's al -
 dwell - ing, And ev - 'ry heart be clear - ly seen, And all be
 trea - sures! With shame and trem - bling they will stand And at the



flames shall rav - age earth As Scrip - ture long has warned us.
 might - y, bound-less pow'r, Be changed at His com-mand - ing.
 known as they have been In thoughts and words and ac - tions.
 judg - e's stern com - mand To Sa - tan be de - liv - ered.

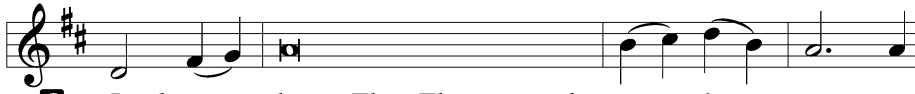
5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
 And for my sin was smitten;
 Within the Book of Life I know
 My name has now been
 written.
 I will not doubt, for I am free,
 And Satan cannot threaten
 me;
 There is no condemnation!

6 May Christ our intercessor be
 And through His blood and
 merit
 Read from His book that we
 are free
 With all who life inherit.
 Then we shall see Him face to
 face,
 With all His saints in that blest
 place
 Which He has purchased
 for us.

7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
 But hasten our salvation;
 We often tremble on our way
 In fear and tribulation.
 O hear and grant our fervent
 plea:
 Come, mighty judge, and set
 us free
 From death and ev'ry evil.

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 (Stand)*

NUNC DIMITTIS



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

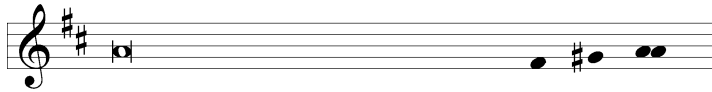


to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



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,



G 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.



G A - men.



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.

BENEDICAMUS

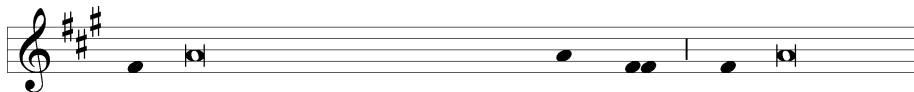


A Bless we the Lord.

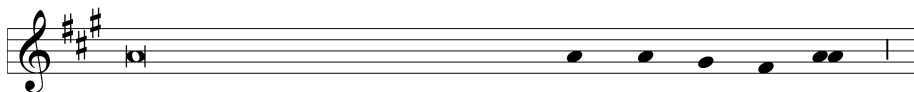


G Thanks be to God.

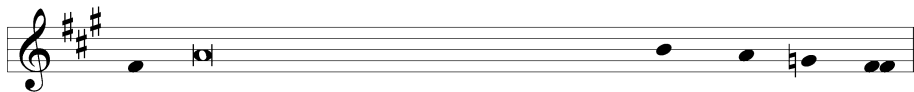
BENEDICTION



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.



G A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

#348 – The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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