

Christ,
THE SAVIOR IS BORN!

December 25, 2023

The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day

Opening Hymn: 387 Joy to the World

LSB 387



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

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5 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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

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

[John 20:19-23] LSB 185

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.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

Mark 10:47 LSB 186

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

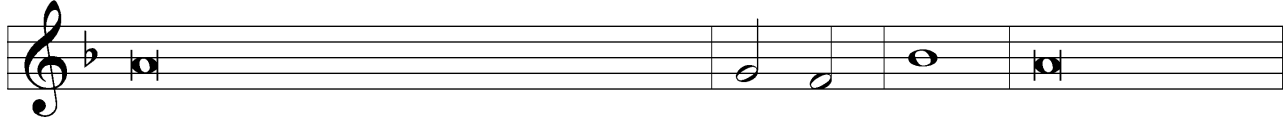
Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 187

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.



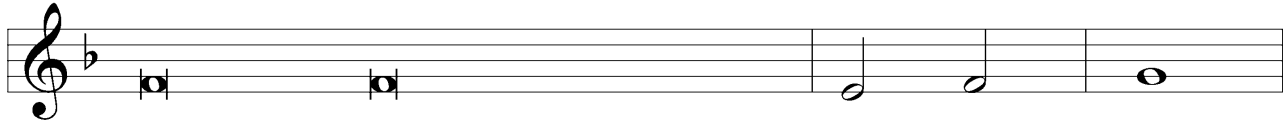
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



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.

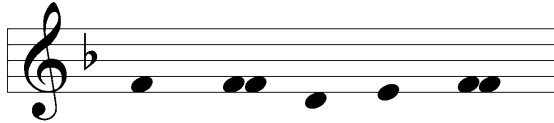


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

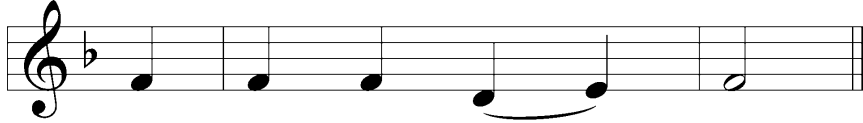


art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

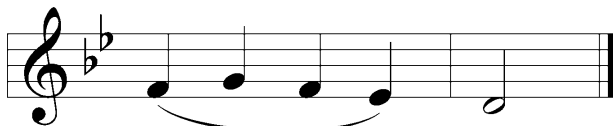


P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir-it.

P 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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 52.

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

A The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 1.

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.

Alleluia

LSB 190



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

☐ Alleluia. 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. Alleluia.



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



☐ 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.

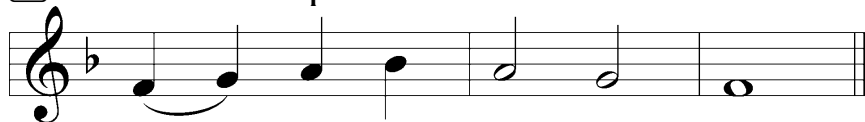
⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

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.

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☐ 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.**

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: 403 O Savior of Our Fallen Race LSB 403



1 O Sav - ior of our fall - en race, O Bright - ness
 2 O Je - sus, ver - y Light of Light, Our con - stant
 3 Re - mem - ber, Lord of life and grace, How once, to
 4 To - day, as year by year its light Bathes all the

of the Fa - ther's face, O Son who shared
 star in sin's deep night: Now hear the prayers
 save our fall - en race, You put our hu -
 world in ra - diance bright, One pre - cious truth

the Fa - ther's might Be - fore the world knew
 Your peo - ple pray Through - out the world this
 man ves - ture on And came to us as
 out - shines the sun: Sal - va - tion comes from

day or night, Al - le - lu - ia!
 ho - ly day. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Mar - y's son. Al - le - lu - ia!
 You a - lone. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 For from the Father's throne You came, 6 And we are jubilant today,
 His banished children to reclaim; For You have washed our guilt away.
 And earth and sea and sky revere O hear the glad new song we sing
 The love of Him who sent You here. On this, the birthday of our King!
 Alleluia! Alleluia!

△ 7 O Christ, Redeemer virgin-born,
 Let songs of praise Your name adorn,
 Whom with the Father we adore
 And Holy Spirit evermore.
 Alleluia!

Sermon

Rev. Chris Streeper

Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12 LSB 192

C 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

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would lift our hearts to hope and joy in the celebration of our Savior's birth; and that we would manifest this joy in witness to the world, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For churches, schools and every place where the good news of God-in-our-flesh is taught, that the voice of truth may be discerned from all error so we may know and confess with joy the good news of our Savior, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would preserve those threatened by persecution for the sake of Christ and grant them courage, comfort and peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the nations of this world, that they would be given a spirit of peace, so that conflicts would cease and all would see in the birth of Jesus the salvation of our God, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would give peace to those troubled in mind and heart, deliver them from the taunts and temptations of the evil one, and enable us to show them compassion, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would grant healing, relief, comfort and peace to all the sick, suffering, dying and those who grieve [especially _____]; that the Lord would bless doctors, nurses, all medical professionals and caregivers in their service; and that all would rejoice in the good news of Christ, our light and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord would teach us generosity for the work of His kingdom; that we would return to Him tithes and offerings; and that by them, we may display before the world our trust in His provision and goodness, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all communicants, that we may receive the great love of God, which laid His Son in a manger and now lays His flesh and blood before us in the Sacrament; and that we may bow our hearts before Him with all those in heaven and on earth who adore Him, receiving His forgiveness and life with repentance and joy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Lord God, in the birth of Your Son You have called people from every time and place into His Body, the Church. We give You thanks for the believers who went before us, especially who were with us in Christmases past and who now live with You. Grant us sure confidence in Your promise of resurrection and eternal life, and bring us with them at last into Your presence; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

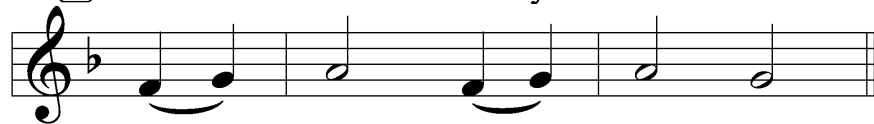
Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



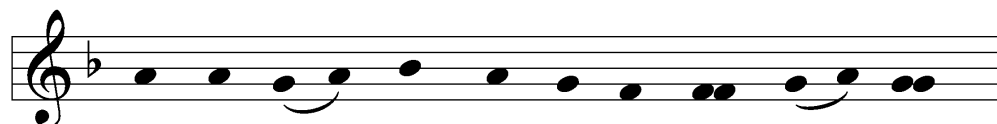
C And with thy spir - it.



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

P It is truly meet, right, and sal - u - tar - y that we should at all

times and in all places give thanks to You, ho - ly Lord, al - might - y

Fa - ther, ev - er - last - ing God, through Je - sus Christ, our Lord;

for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a

new rev - e - la - tion of Your glo - ry that, seeing You in the person

of Your Son, we may know and love those things

which are not seen. There - fore with angels and arch -

an - gels and with all the company of heav - en we laud and mag -

nify Your glo - rious name, ev - er - more prais - ing You and say - ing:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 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

Matthew 6:9-13 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.

The Words of Our Lord *Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25 LSB 197*

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 IHS 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 IHS 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

John 20:19 LSB 197

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

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 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.

Sit

Distribution

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
 - Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
 - Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
 - Kneel or stand as you are able.
 - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
 - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
 - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any questions.

Distribution Hymn: 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LSB 380



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



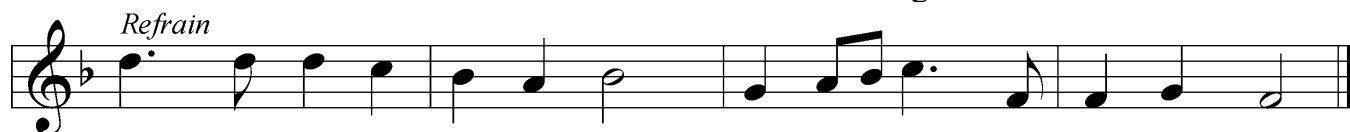
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec-ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.
 Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47
 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 370 What Child Is This

LSB 370



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

Distribution Hymn: 365 Away in a Manger

LSB 365



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Text (sts. 1-2): Little Children's Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.
 Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The Dismissal

199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 199



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

Psalm 107:1 LSB 200

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

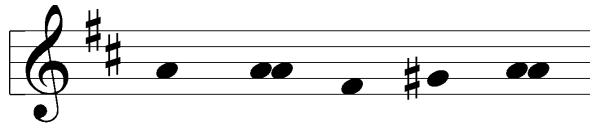
Post-Communion Collect

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

2 Timothy 4:22 LSB 201



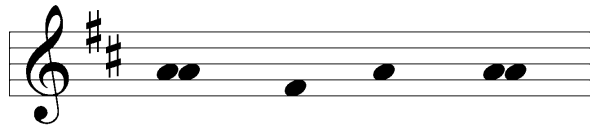
P The Lord be with you.



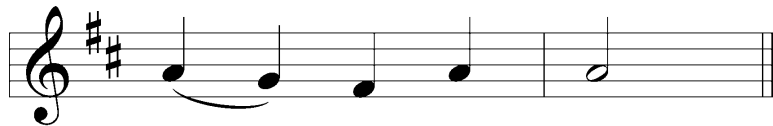
C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

Psalms 103:1 LSB 202



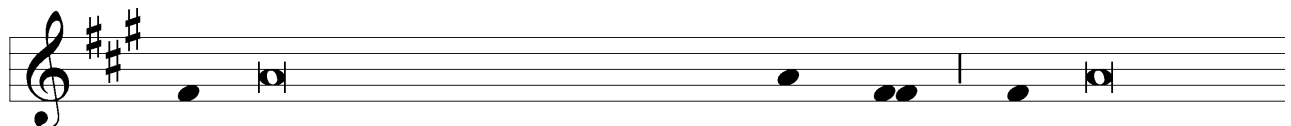
A Bless we the Lord.



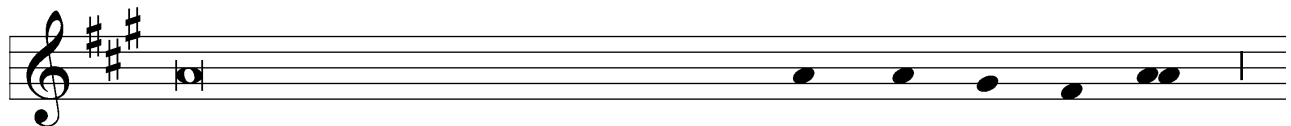
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

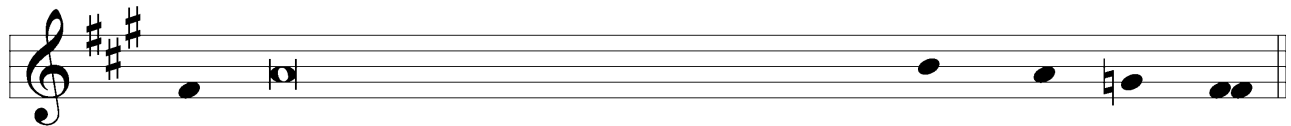
Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 202



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.

Closing Hymn: 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 Δ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.
 Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Sunday School
Today		NO Walk-In Communion
Monday	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Worship
Monday		NO Confirmation
Tuesday		NO Walk-In Communion
Wednesday		NO Bible Study

BIG THANK YOU to the SPVC Youth Group who did a marvelous job preparing, cooking and serving the congregation at the Advent soup supper. Those who made desserts were also greatly appreciated! There was much fun to be had at the 1st Annual Ugly Sweater Contest. Congratulations to those who wore “Ugly” beautifully!

YOUTH GROUP Grades 6-12 meet every other Wednesday here at SPVC at 6:30 PM.
NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Questions? Please contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

PORTALS OF PRAYER the 2024 Jan-March devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take a copy home today.

THANK YOU FROM THE LWML for your generous donations for our Veterans. The hats, gloves, scarves & socks were much appreciated. A special thank you to Don Gotsch for delivering them to the men in need.

HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the anonymous giver for the gas card. Christine Cox

THANK YOU to the congregation for all the cards, well wishes and for the beautiful shall that was given to me. I appreciate all your prayers as well. Noreen Fischer

PEACE CAME TO EARTH Advent Devotionals for adults are available in the Narthex hallway, please take one home today.

LITTLE JESUS, BORN FOR ME Advent Children's books are at the Welcome Center. Please help yourself.

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Join us on Thursdays starting January 4th, 2024 as we will meet in the church basement from 11:00 AM - 1:00 **PM** for light lunch and playtime for kids! (Please bring your own lunch.) Kids of all ages are welcome. There is potential for this group to blossom into a homeschooling group, as we have several homeschooling families at St. Paul! If you are interested in this or have any other questions, contact Sarah Moser.

GENTLE REMINDER You are welcome to take home your Worship folders, otherwise, you may place all worship folders in the blue plastic tub in the Narthex Hallway. **We do recycle the black combs** for the Large Print bulletins. **(PLEASE DO NOT PLACE YOUR USED TISSUES IN THIS TUB.)** Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP Please take a moment to collect your worship folders, filled out, or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

WIGGLE BAGS Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities kids may engage and participate in the worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that “big church” is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the “Used Wiggle Bag” plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for “walk-in” communion below. Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

“Walk-In” times at Church:

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit www.spvc.org and click “Book with Pastor” to see available times for appointments.

TITHES & OFFERINGS are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
2. Mail your contributions to the church.
3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on "Give Online" - you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

PRAYER REQUESTS can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

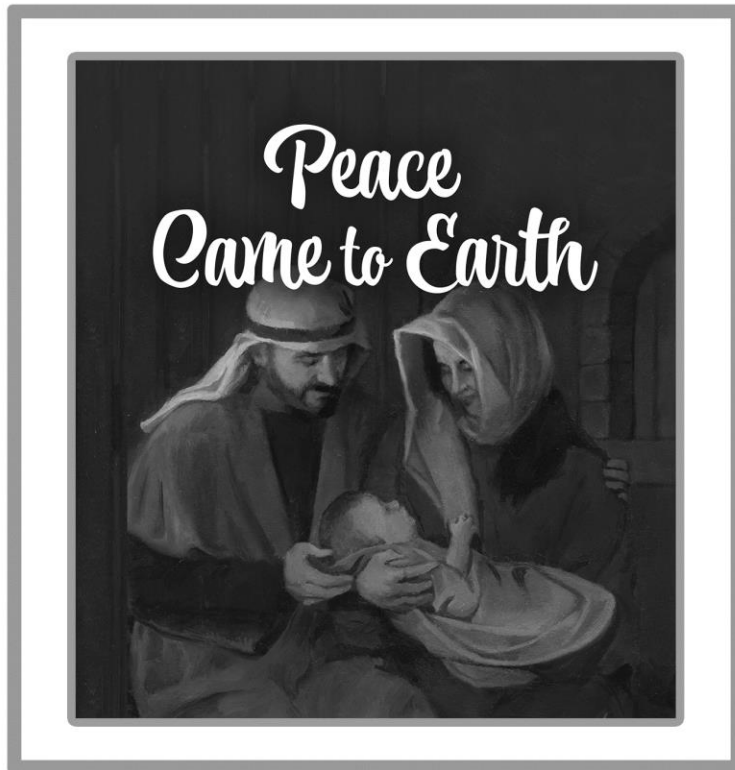
ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE If your mobile app needs updated and it's asking for an "online code" please use "SPVC" and that should reconnect the app.

DECEMBER 2023

	SERVICE	December 3 SUNDAY Communion	December 6 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 10 SUNDAY Communion	December 13 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 17 SUNDAY Communion	December 20 Wednesday Advent Service 11:30am & 7pm	December 24 SUNDAY Christmas Eve Communion at the morning services only	December 25 Monday Christmas Communion 10am Service Only	December 31 SUNDAY Communion
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Jim Jackson	Tim Wadle	Chris Duran	Chris Duran	Steve Kato	Steve Kato	S Kato / J Jackson	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson		Sam Jakabcic		Jim Jackson		Jim Jackson		Sam Jakabcic
USHERS	8am	Jim Sherry		Dave Hesketh		Mark Gordon				Jim Sherry
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	N/A	Jay Moser	N/A	Rich Proeschel	N/A	Elders to Assign	N/A	Erich Gottl
GREETERS	8am	H & I Cordes		D & M Duran		D & B Bremke				H & I Cordes
	10:30am	Barb Pjior		R & J Proeschel		Joe Bennet				Barb Pjior
ELDER INFO										
Stephen Kato 330-242-7183 Tim Wadle 216-214-7109 Jim Jackson 330-391-6393 Chris Duran 216-577-5164 Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076								4:00 S Kato / T Wadle		
								7:00 S Kato / C Duran		

January 2024

	SERVICE	January 7 SUNDAY Communion	January 14 SUNDAY Communion	January 21 SUNDAY Communion	January 28 SUNDAY Communion
ELDER	8am	Tim Wadle/Dave Hesketh	Steve Kato	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Sam Jakabcic	Dave Hesketh	Jim Jackson
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Mike Scahel	Jim Sherry	Steve Kato
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	Erich Gottl	Rich Proeschel	Joe Bennet
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Dean & Beth Bremke	Steve & Colleen Kato	David & Mackenzie Duran
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Joe Bennet	Barb Pjior	Rich & Jenny Proeschel
ELDER	Stephen Kato 330-242-7183	Tim Wadle 216-214-7109	Jim Jackson 330-391-6393		
INFO	Sam Jakabcic 216-789-1076	Chris Duran 216-577-5164	David Hesketh 330-410-6150		



Wednesdays 11:30 am & 7:00pm (supper @ 6pm)
in Advent December 6, 13, & 20

Christmas in the Valley at St. Paul

Sunday, December 10

Sunday School Program 10:30am

Christmas Tea 2:00pm

Christmas Town Train, Hot Cocoa, Until 4:00pm
Ornaments & Cookies to Decorate

Christmas Eve 4:00pm & 7:00pm

Candlelight Lessons and Carols 3:30pm & 6:30pm Carols by Request

Christmas Day 10:00am

www.spvc.org

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

*by Kathleen Burns
by David & Carol Hesketh
By Larry Mitchell*

IN HONOR OF:

*Our Parents ... Brian & Cherly Dearth
Nieces & Nephews Carlson, Henry Silk ... Joyce Ellenberger
Our Parents ... Jay & Sarah Moser
Family & Friends ... Paula Pietch
Lois Schultz ... Bob & Ethel Schiemann
Dorothy Silk, Joyce Ellenberger ... Henry Silk*

IN MEMORY OF:

*Our Loved Ones ... Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes
Parents: Tom & Helen Smith and Siblings: Carl, Ruby & Lucille ... Evelyn Dearth
My Parents: Walter & Magdalene Dill ... Walter Dill
Perry Ellenberger, Gary Cebula, Mom & Dad McCormick ... Joyce Ellenberger
Sam Jakabcic Sr. ... Sam Jakabcic
William & Janet Kato ... Stephen & Colleen Kato
Loving Grandparents Earl & Adiline Keller, My caring Father Hugh ... Rachel LaChance
Dave Pastorius ... Jeanette Pastorius
Family & Friends ... Rich & Jenny Proeschel
Parents: Thomas & Ruth Rafter, Andrew & Margaret Hibler ... James & Jeanette Rafter
Herb Rauhaus ... Marilyn Rauhaus & Family
Roland & Elsie Ruhrkraut ... Chris & Cindy Ruhrkraut
Patty Silk, John Silk ... Henry Silk
Lois Weirauch, Pedro & Ramona Torres ... Zach Torres
Loved Ones ... Sandy Turner*

Please Note:

*Christmas plants may be taken home after the
Christmas Day Morning Worship Service.
Thank you.*