# December 18, 2022 Fourth Sunday in Advent Christmas Program (10:30AM)

Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Precious Ransom, ComeLSB 350



Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt Text and tune: Public domain

# 10:30AM - Children's Christmas Program (8:00 AM turn to page 5)

#### Reader 1:

- A What great love the Father has given to us,
- **C** That we should be called children of God!
- A He sent His Son to save us from death,
- **C** That we should be called children of God!
- A Jesus was born to take our place,
- C That we should be called children of God!
- A His work on the cross gives us new life;
- And we are called children of God!

# Song: Little Baby Jesus

#### Reader 2:

A Our heavenly Father created a perfect, sinless world. He created people to love and care for. The first two people, Adam and Eve, were created perfect and sinless too. But they disobeyed God, and sin and death entered the world. Right away, God provided a plan. He would not let His children die eternally. He would send a Savior.

#### Reader 3:

A Thousands of years passed, and God's children continued to disobey God. But God kept loving them, and He did not forget His promise. When the time was right, He sent His Son—His only Son—Jesus in the world. Jesus is the perfect Son who never sinned. He was born, He lived a perfect life, He died the death we should have died, and He rose again so we can have eternal life.

#### Reader 4:

A God has called each of us to be His child through faith in His perfect Son, Jesus. See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are!

# Song: Away in a Manger

#### Reader 2:

A In this precious baby boy,
We are given peace and joy.
By the Spirit, hope is won—
Mary bore the Father's Son.
Son of God and Son of Man:
He fulfills the holy plan.

#### Reader 3:

A God's own children, we have strayed,
Constantly have disobeyed
In the garden, in the sand,
Through the river, in the Land.
But the Child who takes our place
Bears the cross to earn us grace.

#### Reader 4:

A Through this baby in the hay, God has given us the Way To inherit life above, Rescued by His perfect love. In this Child, we all may be Children of eternity.

#### Reader 1:

- A For to us a child is born,
- **C** To us a Son is given;
- A Reader: And the government shall be upon His shoulder
- **C** And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

# Prayer

- **A** Let us pray.
- Father in heaven, thank You for Your great love for us. Forgive us for the many times we disobey and stray from You. Thank You for sending Jesus to pay for our sins so that through faith in Him, we can live as Your children forever. In His name we pray. Amen.



as

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His

love.

love, Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain as,

won

And

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.

### **Confession of Sins**

LSB 184

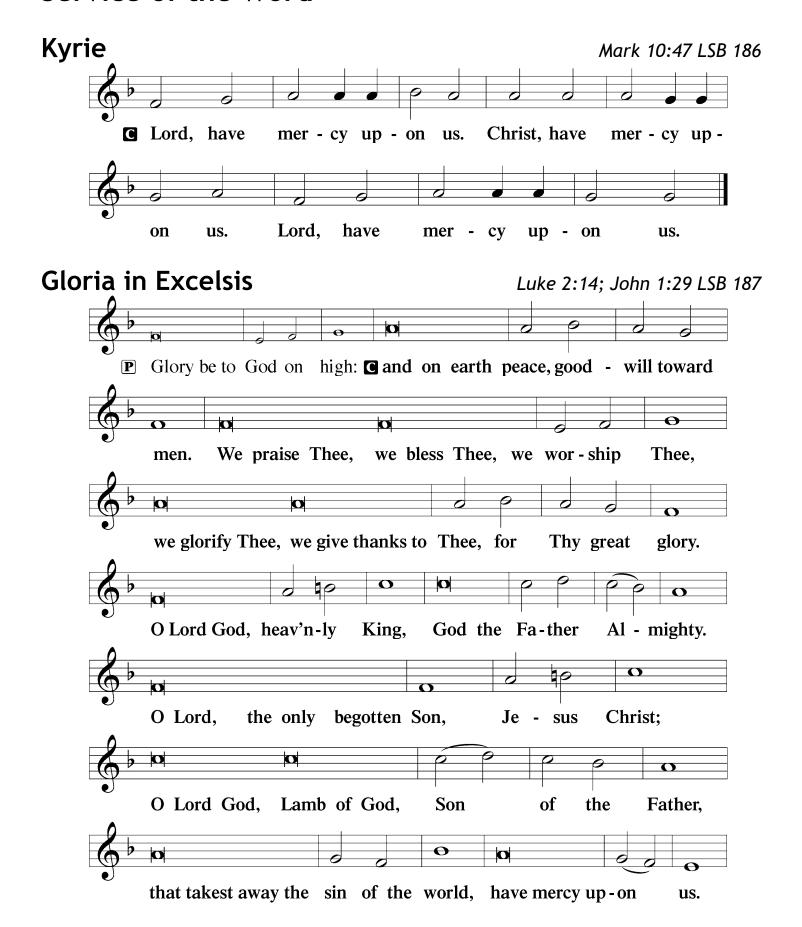
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless 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

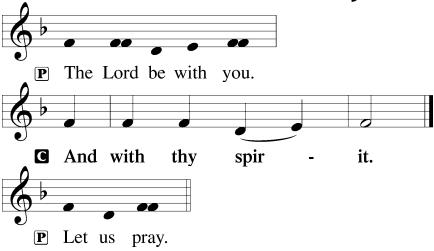
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 
  Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# Service of the Word





# Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



# **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 7:10-17

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 7.

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." <sup>13</sup>And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

### **Gradual**

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle Romans 1:1-7

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 1.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand



# Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.



<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



### 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.

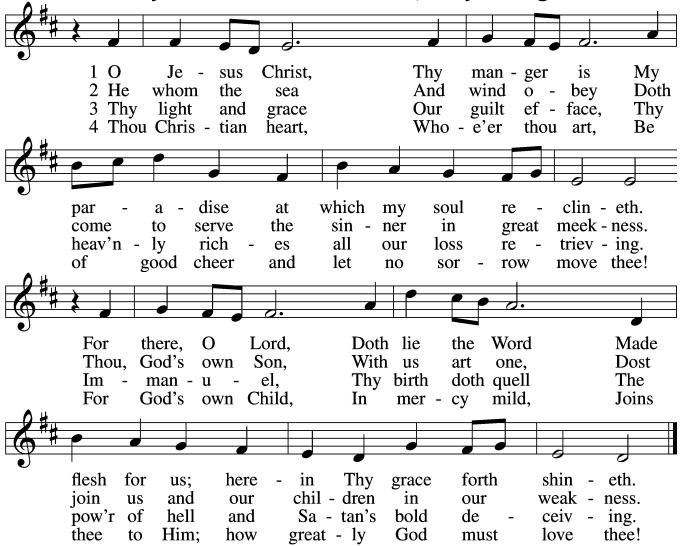
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

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: 372 O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is LSB 372



#### 5 Remember thou

What glory now

The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.

The angel host

Can never boast

Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.

### 6 The world may hold

Her wealth and gold;

But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.

To Him hold fast

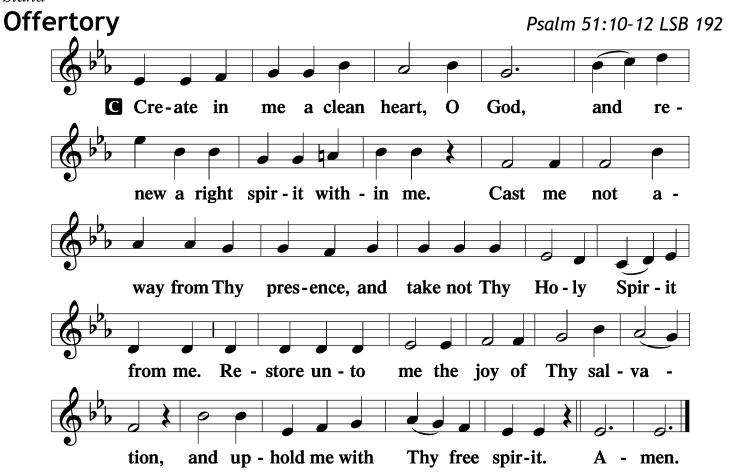
Until at last

A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

### Sermon

# Rev. Philip Zielinski

Stand



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

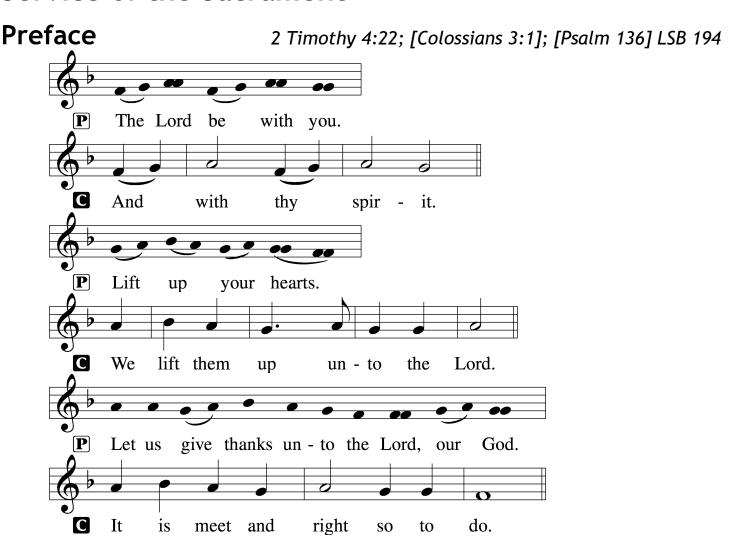
- Lord God, You promised the virgin-born Son to reluctant King Ahaz, and in the fullness of time the Word became flesh. Open our hearts and strengthen our faith gladly to receive Your Son in the signs where He is present: not in signs of our own choosing, but in the Holy Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- P Lord God, preserve Your apostolic Gospel and its ministers. Cause the name and the resurrection of Christ Jesus to be proclaimed among all the nations, including among us who are called to belong to Him, that the obedience of faith may be brought about in every place. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Lord God, it is Your will that we live chaste and decent lives in all that we say and do. Preserve all couples who are engaged to be married in faithfulness and honor, that they may come to their wedding day without fear, shame or disgrace. Since Christ is Immanuel, who saves His people from their sins, clothe all brides and grooms in the forgiveness of Jesus, in which all can stand before You cleansed and confident of Your blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God, You do not bear with the tiresome flattery and unbelief of kings and rulers forever. Have mercy on us, Lord, and spare our nation. Clear away all empty shows of piety and renew genuine faith in the virgin's Son, that His coming at the last may not be a sign against us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Lord God, You named Your Son "Jesus" because He was born to save us from our sins. Give us repentant hearts. Do not let us bow to temptation or abuse His name by seeking our own way, but lead us to confess our sins and rejoice in His salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God, look with kindness on the sick and those in any need [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_\_]. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is truly Lord and ruler of the house of Israel. With the Holy Spirit, You spoke to Moses out of the burning bush and gave the law in terror to test Your ancient people, that the fear of You would be before them. As Moses stretched out his arm at Your Word to bring Israel out of bondage, and as he stood in the breach against Your wrath, so You have given Christ to redeem us with His arms outstretched on the wood of the

cross. Grant that, as we recall with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; for You live and reign, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

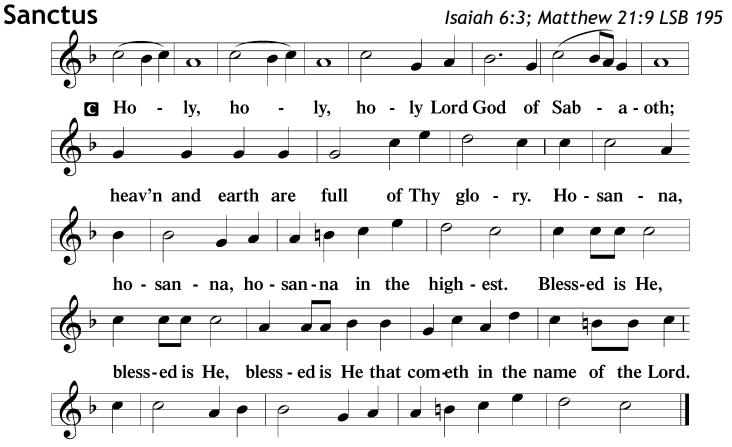
# Service of the Sacrament



# **Proper Preface**

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:



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.

Pax Domini

#### The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

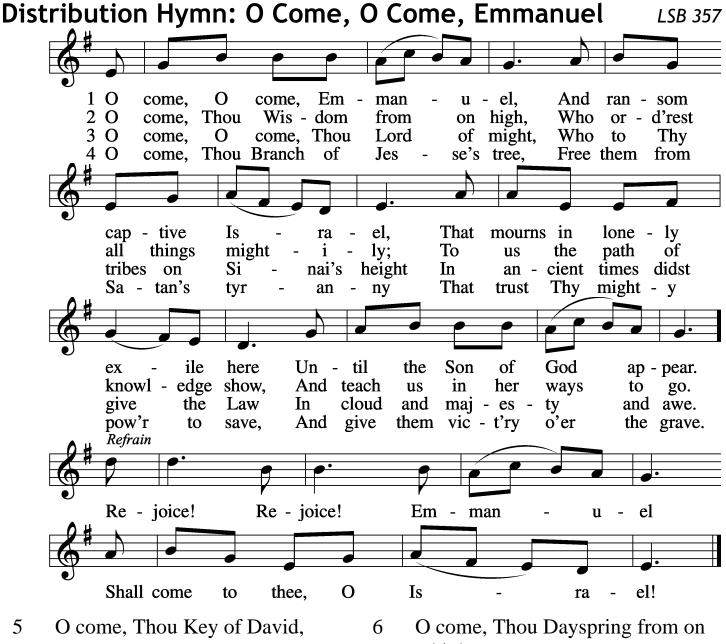
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

John 20:19 LSB 197



# Distribution AS YOU RECEIVE THE LORD'S SUPPER

- 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.
  - o Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
  - o 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.



5 come,

> And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,

And close the path to misery. Refrain

high,

And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

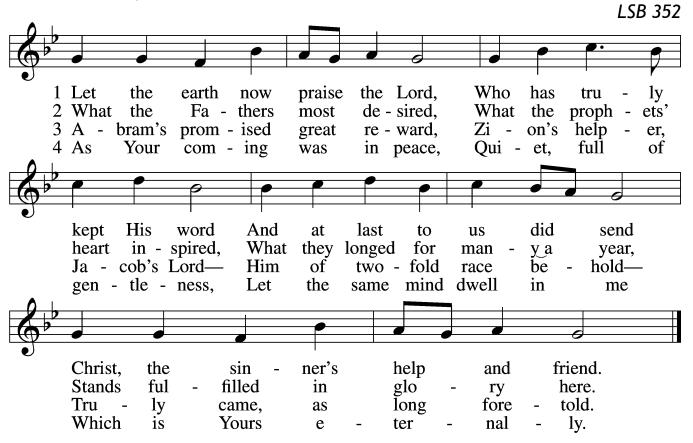
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain



# Distribution Hymn: Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
  That, set free from doubt and
  dread,
  I may cling to You in faith,
  Safely kept through life and
- 6 Then when You will come again
  As the glorious king to reign,
  I with joy will see Your face,
  Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain

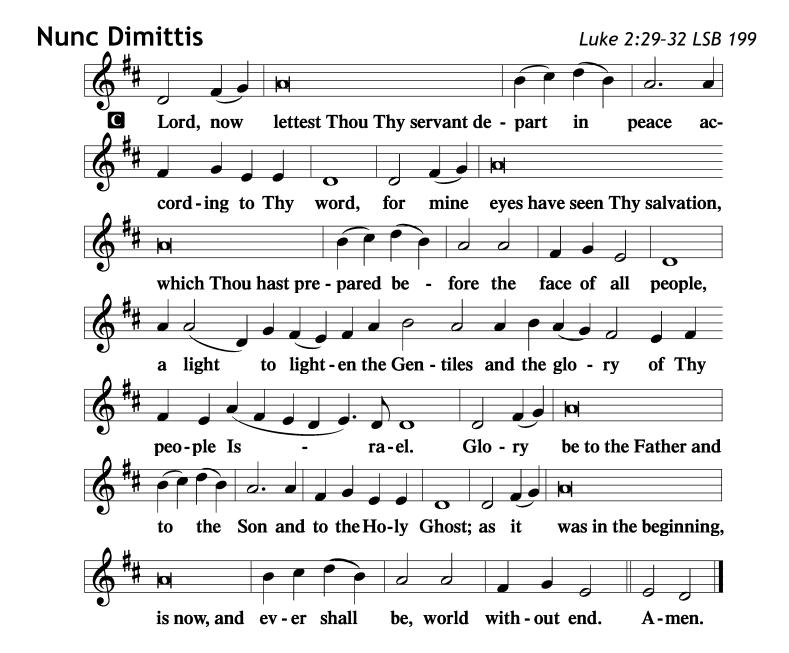
Stand

### The Dismissal

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

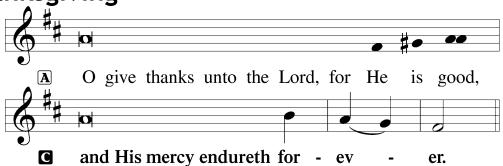
  → in peace.
- C Amen.

death.



# **Thanksgiving**

Psalm 107:1 LSB 200



### **Post-Communion Collect**

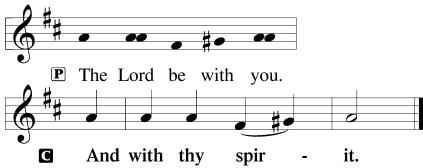
**A** Let us pray.

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.



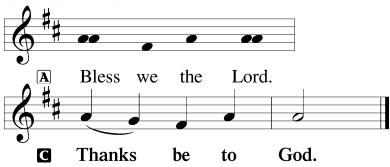
### **Salutation**

2 Timothy 4:22 LSB 201



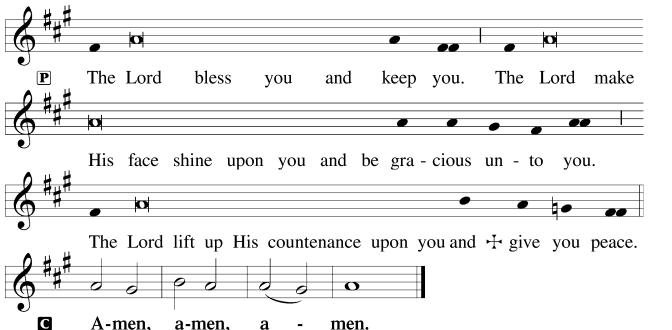
# **Benedicamus**

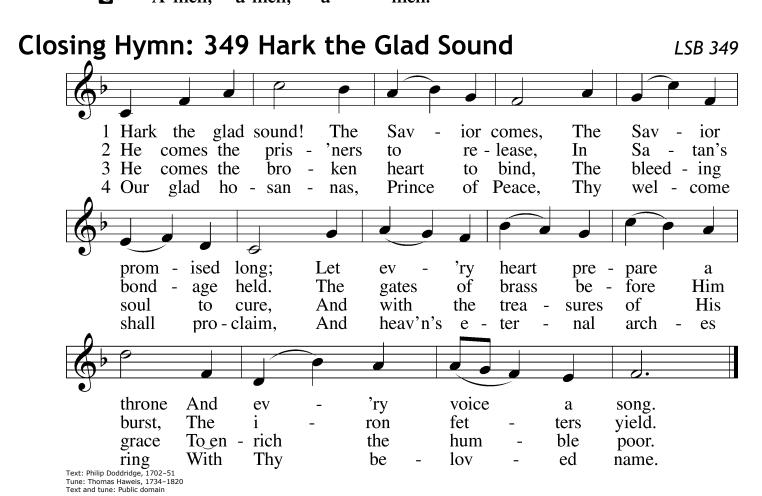
Psalm 103:1 LSB 202



# **Benediction**

#### Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 202





#### Acknowledgments

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#### THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

9:15 AM	Bible Class
9:15 AM	Sunday School
10:30 AM	Children's Christmas Program Worship
12-2:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
6-7:30 PM	Confirmation
5-7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
7:00 PM	Executive Meeting
10:00 AM	Bible Study
11:30 AM	Advent-4 Morning Worship
6:00 PM	Advent-4 Soup Supper
7:00 PM	Advent-4 Evening Worship
	9:15 AM 10:30 AM 12-2:00 PM 6-7:30 PM 5-7:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 6:00 PM

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** is today at the second service 10:30 AM.

<u>PORTALS OF PRAYER</u> the Jan-March devotion booklets are available in the Narthex hallway, you are welcome to take one home today.

**EPIPHANY POT-LUCK PARTY** Join-in taking down Christmas decorations followed by food and fellowship. Sign-up at the Welcome Center. Thank you.

<u>PICTORIAL DIRECTORY - NEW TIMES AVAILABLE</u> Saturdays, January 14th and January 21st, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. To sign up, see Len Maver in the narthex between services and after late service. Photos will be taken off to the side of the sanctuary behind the organ. Each household will receive an email of the digital photo that you can use however you'd like. Questions? Contact Len Maver (440-781-9009).

**YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP** Families with young children are invited to join in fellowship! Dates and times are to be decided, most likely first a weekday morning playdate. If you are interested in that or other gatherings, sign-up at the Welcome Center or contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** Adult devotion booklets are available in the Narthex hallway, please take one home today.

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

#### **COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES**

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future.

- 1. Check the posted times for "walk-in" communion below.
- 2. 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 <u>www.spvc.org</u> and click "Book with Pastor" to see available times for appointments.

<u>TITHES & OFFERINGS</u> 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 <a href="www.spvc.org">www.spvc.org</a> 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.

<u>WORSHIP BULLETINS & ATTENDANCE SLIPS</u> You're encouraged to take home your worship bulletins (use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions!). Please use the blue recycle tub that is located in the hallway as you leave the sanctuary to place <u>ONLY</u> bulletins and unused attendance slips. Thank you.

**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.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** at 10:00 AM. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and ondemand.

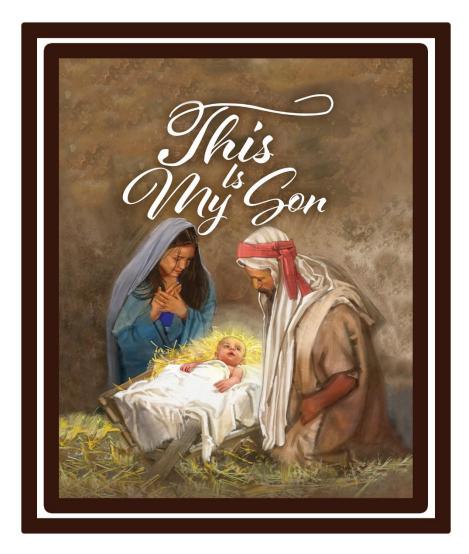
**HAPPY 175TH BIRTHDAY** to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod! Merchandise is available from the LCMS Store, such as T-Shirts, travel tumblers, magnets and more to commemorate this special event! Please visit: https://the-lcms-store.square.site/s/shop

<u>SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE</u> We continue to take offerings to provide relief to those affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL** If you're an eligible member, please consider directing Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Valley City, OH. 2022

**Choice Dollars expire March 2023,** so it's use it or lose it. You may learn more by visiting: www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice or by calling Thrivent at: 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." Thank you for helping to support the mission of St. Paul Church.

					DECEMBER 2022	022			
	SERVICE	December 4	December 7	December 11	December 14	December 18	December 21	December 24	December 25
		SUNDAY	Wednesday	SUNDAY	Wednesday	SUNDAY	Wednesday	Saturday	Sunday
			Advent Service		Advent Service		Advent Service	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
		Communion				Communion	Communion		Communion
ELDER	me8	Tim Wadle / Steve Kato	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle	Tim Wadle	Tim Wadle / Steve Kato	Sam Jakabcic	See Below	Steve Kato / Jim Jackson
	10:30am	<b>10:30am</b> Rob Zacharias / Sam Jakabcio		Jim Jackson		Rob Zacharias / Jim Jackson			
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon		Dave Hesketh		Mark Gordon			
	10:30am	Brian Dearth	N/A	Jay Moser	N/A	Brian Dearth	N/A	N/A	N/A
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes		David & Mackenzie Duran		Dean & Beth Bremke			
	10:30am	Elder		Jim Jackson		Elder			
ELDER INFO								11:30	
Stephen Kato								Tim Wadle / Steve Kato	
330-242-7183									
Tim Wadle								4:00	
216-214-7109								Steve Kato/ Sam Jakabcic	
Jim Jackson									
330-391-6393								7:00	
Rob Zacharias								Steve Kato / Jim Jackson	
330-416-6013									
Sam Jakabcic									
216-789-1076									



Christmas Tea Sunday, November 27, 2:00pm

Wednesdays 11:30 am & 7:00pm (supper @ 6pm)

in Advent November 30; December 7, 14, & 21

Sunday School Sunday, December 18

> **Program** 10:30am

**Christmas Eve** Candlelight Lessons and Carols

11:30am 11am Carols by Request

4:00pm & 7:00pm 3:30pm & 6:30pm Carols by Request

Christmas Day 10:00am Sunday, December 25 & January 1 - One worship service.

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.