

**MID-WEEK 3
ADVENT SERVICE**

DECEMBER 15, 2021

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



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**Immanuelmercedes
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**Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor
eweber10@aol.com
956.463.1305**

Sunday

9:00 AM

Worship Service

10:30 am

Adult Bible Class

Sunday School

**Holy Communion:
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday**

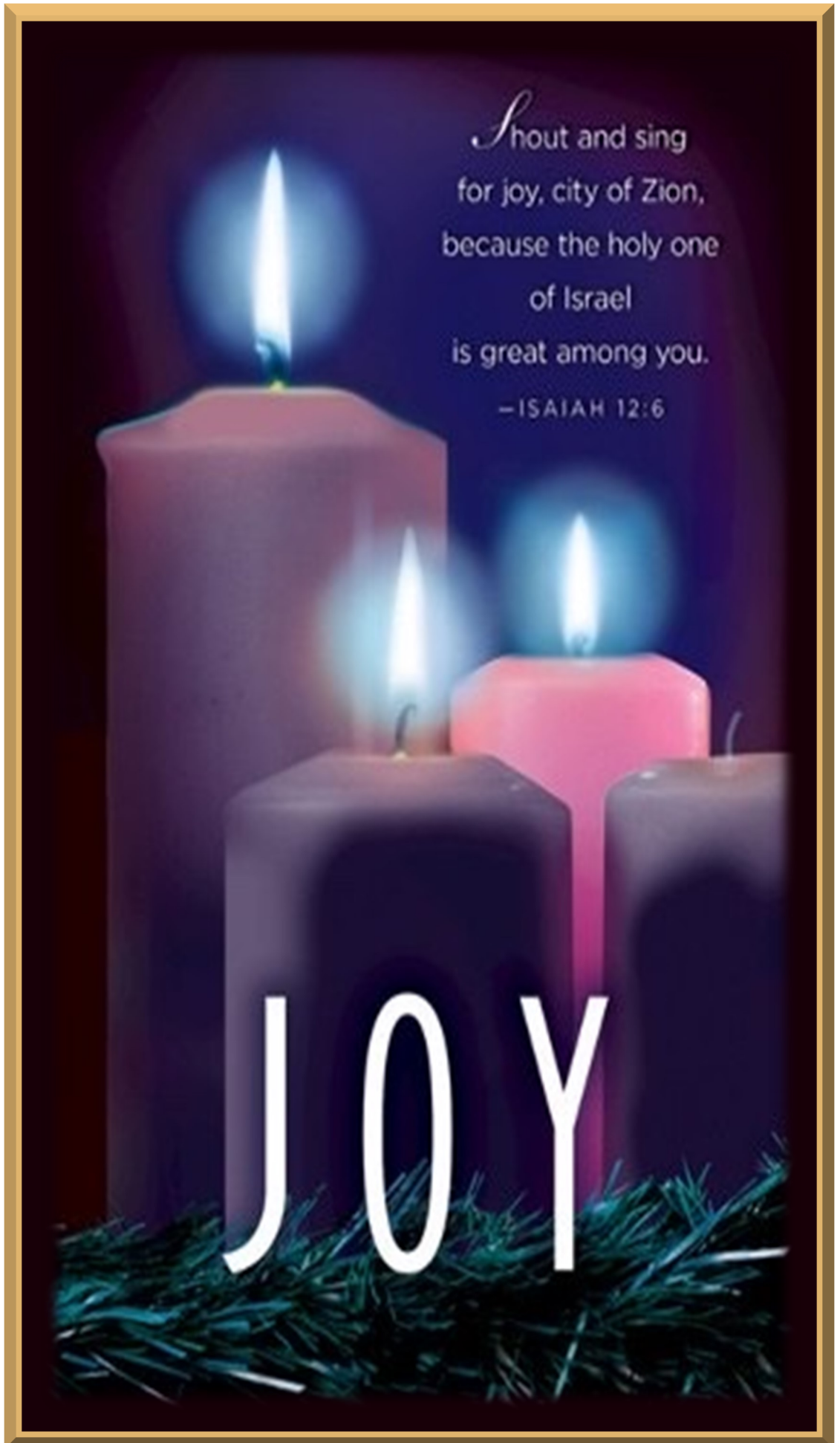
Website:

lutheranmercedes.com

FACEBOOK:

**[www.facebook.com/
lutheranmercedes/](http://www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/)**

**Office Hrs, M-F
8:00 am to 12:00 pm
CCLI # 2585510**



**Mid-Week 3 Advent Service
December 15, 2021**

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this evening. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

AS WE GATHER “Why are you crying?” It is a question parents may ask their child, a person may ask a friend, or a husband or wife may ask each other. It is asked at times out of curiosity, but also asked so help can be offered and comfort given. As Jesus was true God and true man entering this world in our flesh, He too with full human emotions cried. “Jesus, why are You crying?” We ask that question and find our answer in God’s Word as we continue and close our Advent series. As an infant, to a young boy, to an adult fulfilling the mission His Father had given to Him for the sake of the world, Christ shows compassion and care. There was no help or comfort any person could give. Through His fully human and divine natures and the life He would give, He assures an eternal and lasting help and comfort for us in our times of trials and times of tears.

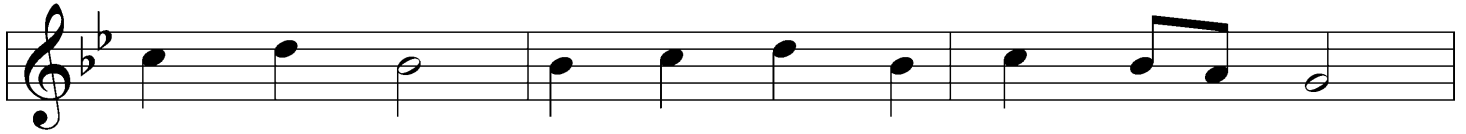
OPENING HYMN

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

LSB 352



1	Let	the	earth	now	praise	the	Lord,	Who	has	tru	-	ly				
2	What	the	Fa	-	thers	most	de	-	sired,	What	the	proph	-	ets'		
3	A	-	bram's	prom	-	ised	great	re	-	ward,	Zi	-	on's	help	-	er,
4	As	Your	com	-	ing	was	in	peace,	Qui	-	et,	full	of	2		



kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

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 death.

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.

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+ VESPERS +

PSALM *Psalm 42:1-6a, 8-11*

P As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for You,
 O God.

C My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

P When shall I come and appear before God?

**C My tears have been my food day and night, while they
 say to me continually, "Where is your God?"**

P These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would
 go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house
 of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude

keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

C Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.

P By day the LORD commands His steadfast love, and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. I say to God, my rock: "Why have You forgotten me?"

C Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"

P As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually,

C "Where is your God?" Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

P Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,

C my salvation and my God.

HYMN

O Come, O Come, Immanuel

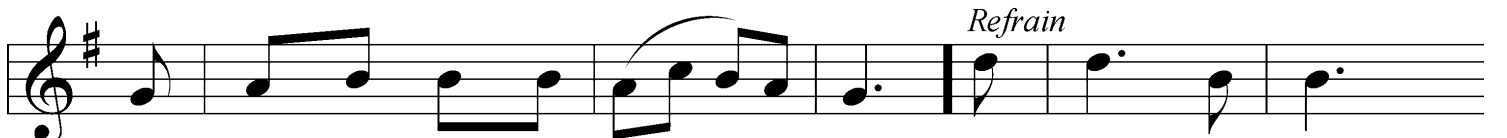
LSB 357; vv. 1, 4, 5



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's
5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,
heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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FIRST READING

Luke 19:41-44

41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. 43 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, 44 and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

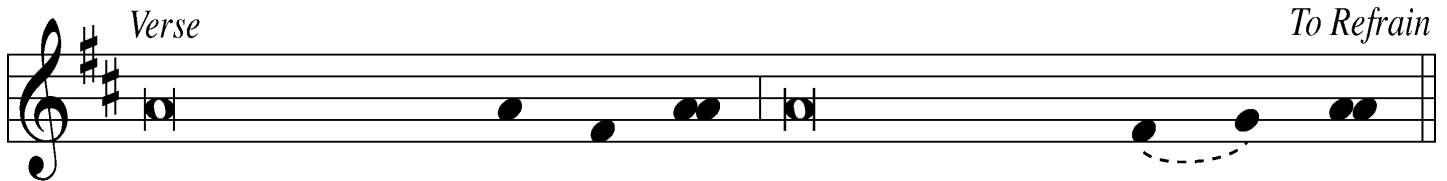
P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

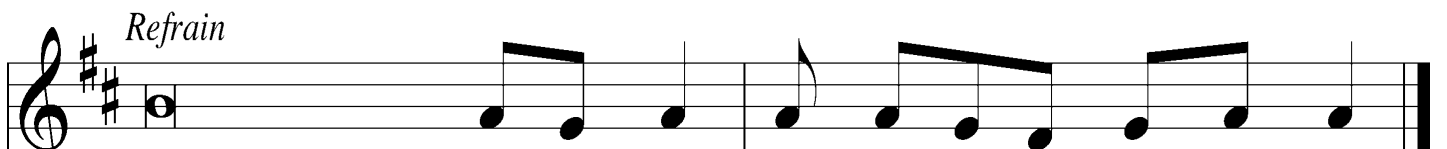
P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

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

RESPONSORY *Based on Jeremiah 23:5–6; Acts 2:36; Luke 1:32–33*



L 1 Behold, the days
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise
up for David a righteous Branch.
2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will
dwell securely.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.



C This is the name
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

LSB 353



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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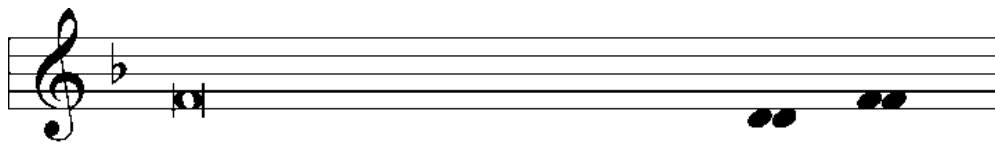
SERMON

“Joseph Prepares for Christmas”

(Matthew 1:18-25)

OFFERING

CANTICLE

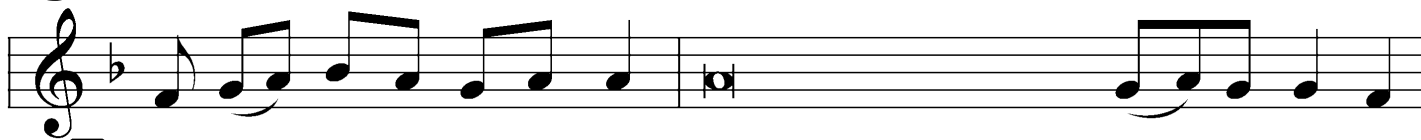


L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,

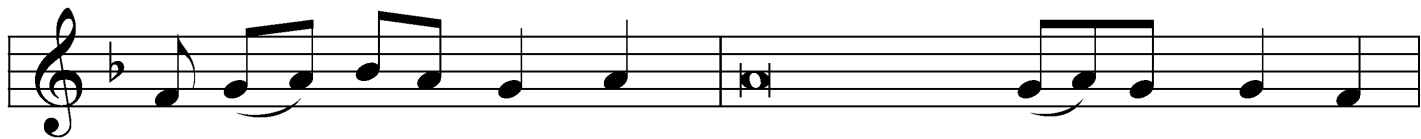


C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

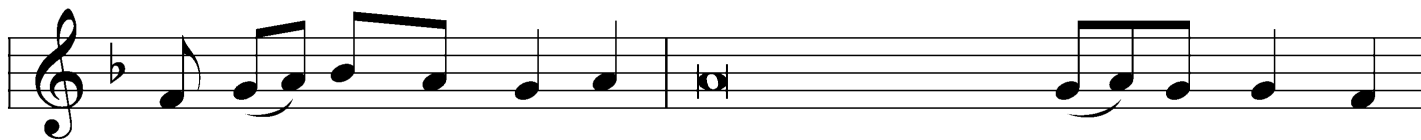
Magnificat



C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



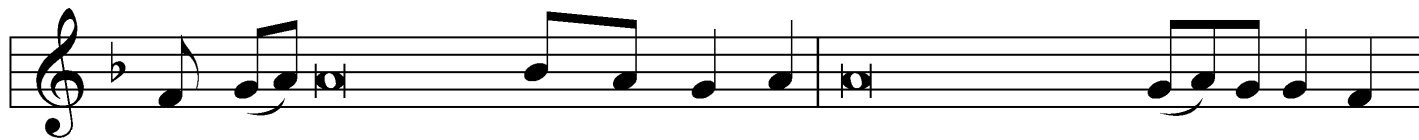
for He has re - gard - ed the lowliness of His hand - maid - en.



For be - hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



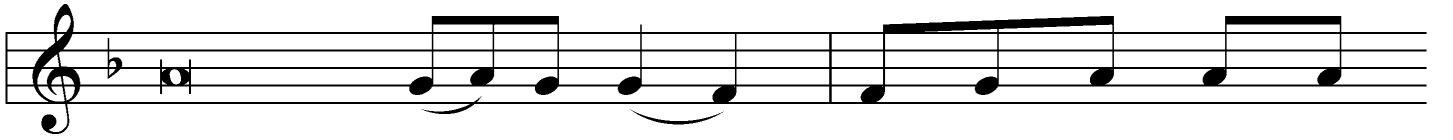
For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



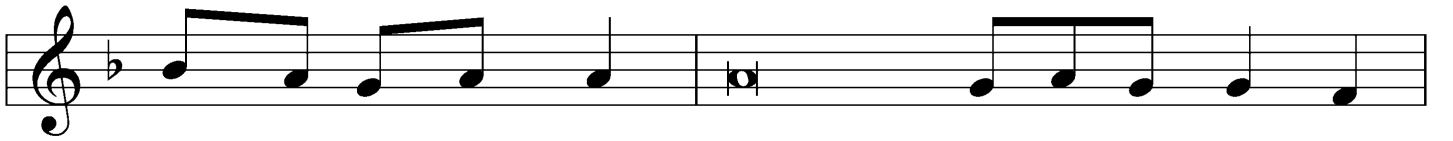
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



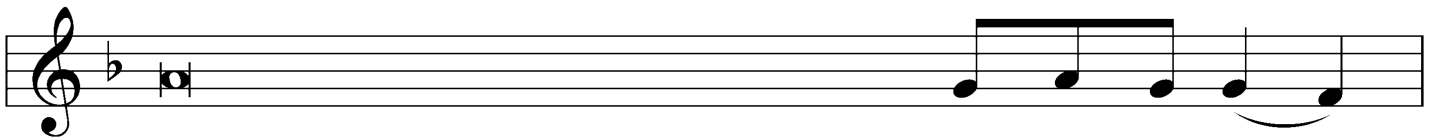
imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the



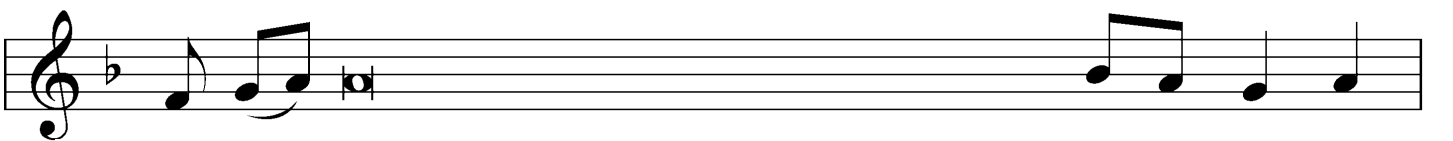
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



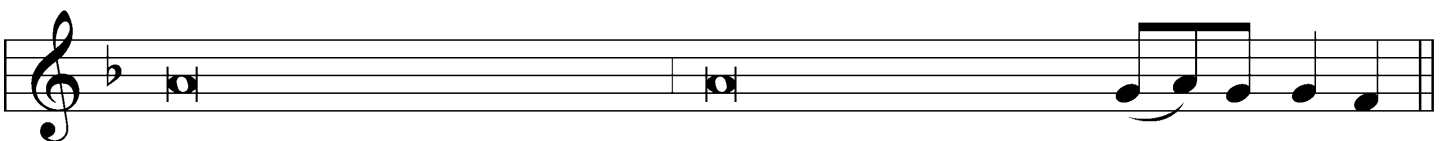
He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.



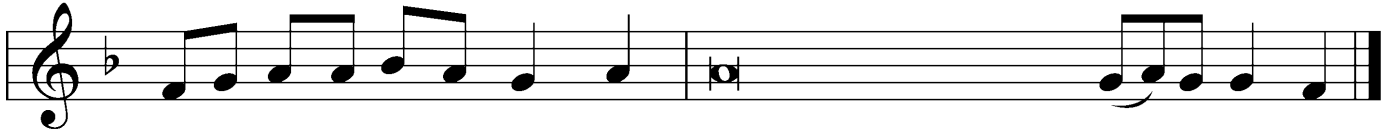
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir-it;



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

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

All: **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.**

COLLECTS

P Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son, Jesus Christ, came to visit us in great humility; that on the Last Day, when He shall come again in glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to life immortal; through Him who lives

and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Heavenly Father, in this world we cry tears of compassion for those we love, as well as tears of pain, distress, and discomfort for ourselves as we experience the brokenness of this world and our own bodies. In questions and even doubts during times of need, pour out the lasting comfort Christ has come to bring. We lift up before You those who request our prayers, [especially . . .]. Grant healing according to Your will, along with peaceful minds and hopeful hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this

night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

CLOSING SENTENCES *Matthew 9:36; Isaiah 63:9; Hebrews 5:7*

P When He saw the crowds, He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless,

C like sheep without a shepherd.

P In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His presence saved them;

C in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

P In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears,

C to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

LSB 813



1	Re -	joyce,	O	pil -	grim	throng!	Re -	joyce,	give
2	With	voice	as	full	and	strong	As	o -	cean's
3	With	all	the	an -	gel	choirs,	With	all	the
4	Yet	on	and	on -	ward	still,	With	hymn	and
5	Still	lift	your	stan -	dard	high,	Still	march	in



thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner
 surg - ing praise, Send forth the stur - dy
 saints on earth Pour out the strains of
 chant and song, Through gate and porch and
 firm ar - ray, As pil - grims through the



wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
 hymns of old, The psalms of an - cient days.
 joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 col - umned aisle The hal - lowed path - ways throng.
 dark - ness wend Till dawns the gold - en day.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

6 At last the march shall end;
 The wearied ones shall rest;
 The pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. Refrain



7 Praise Him who reigns on high,
 The Lord whom we adore:
 The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 One God forevermore. Refrain

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