

**FIRST SUNDAY  
AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**Missouri Synod**



**703 W 3<sup>RD</sup> Street**

**Mercedes**

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**956.463.1305**

**eweber10@aol.com**

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

***Sunday***

**9:00 AM**

**Worship Service**

**10:30 am**

**Adult Bible Class**

**Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:**

**1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

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**Website:**

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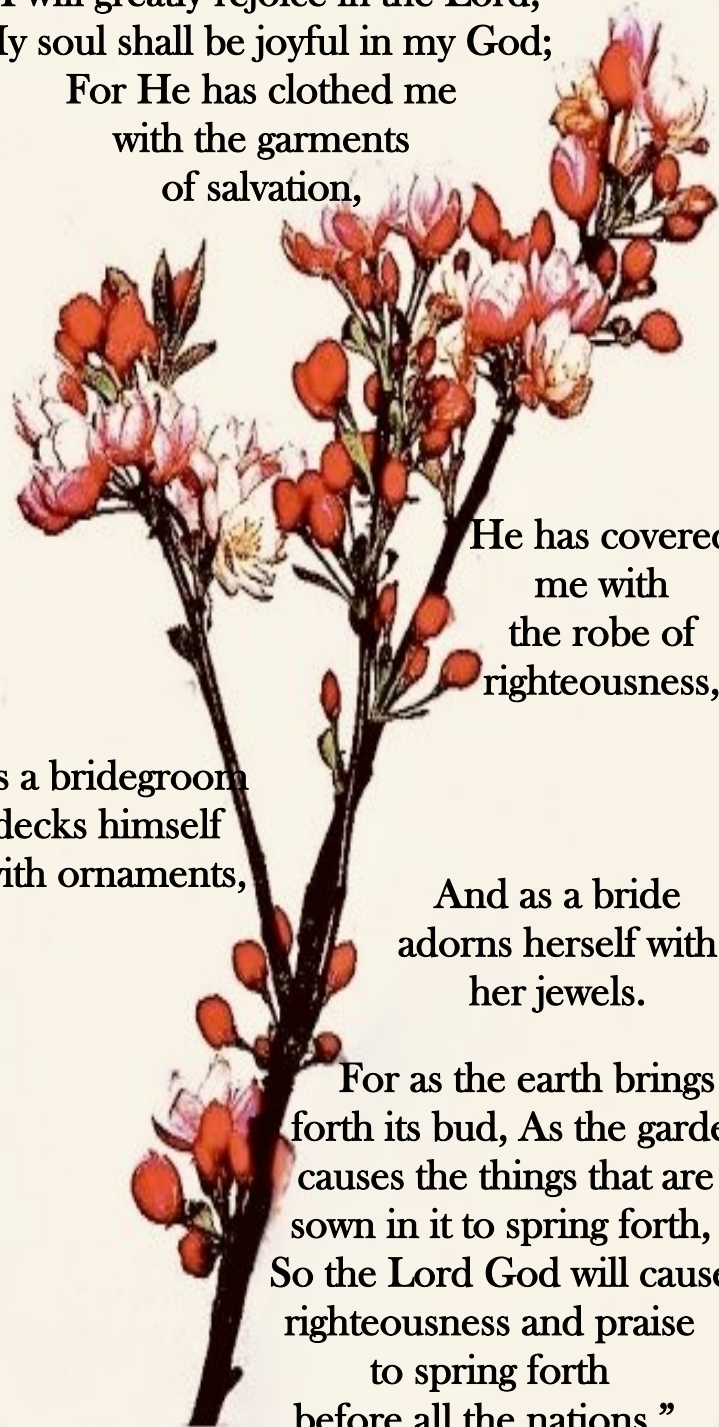
**Office Hrs, M-F**

**8 am to 12 pm**

**CCLI # 2585510**

## Isaiah 61 : 10 - 11

“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
My soul shall be joyful in my God;  
For He has clothed me  
with the garments  
of salvation,



He has covered  
me with  
the robe of  
righteousness,

As a bridegroom  
decks himself  
with ornaments,

And as a bride  
adorns herself with  
her jewels.

For as the earth brings  
forth its bud, As the garden  
causes the things that are  
sown in it to spring forth,  
So the Lord God will cause  
righteousness and praise  
to spring forth  
before all the nations.”

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. 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.

This week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

**A Prayer Upon Entering Church** - O God, my Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created me and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored my human nature. Grant that I may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like me; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**AS WE GATHER** - How long is a generation? Keepers of statistics suggest that a generation is between twenty and thirty years and note that at the present time there are six distinct generations living in the United States. The current generations range from our oldest citizens, known as the Greatest Generation through our youngest, given the group name of Generation Z. In the account of the presentation of our Lord in the temple at Jerusalem, we see Jesus as a baby from the youngest generation and we meet Anna the prophetess, well advanced into the most elderly generation, and Simeon, who is often portrayed as an older man. The temple is the place for all generations to experience the presence and blessing of God! The psalmist exults in praise to God: "One generation shall

commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts" (Psalm 145:4). As we worship, we continue that praise in this generation.

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

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### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)

### OPENING HYMN

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

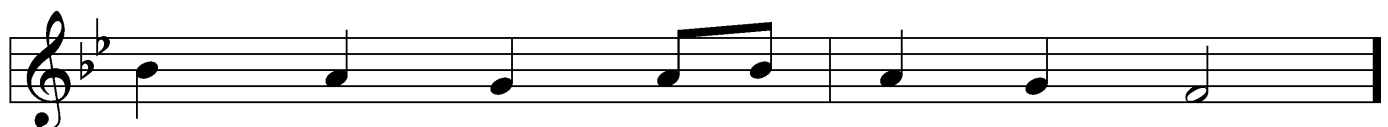
LSB 367



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  
△ 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.

*Please stand*

## INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 89:1, 52; 71:19, 23*

P I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

C **with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.**

P Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.

C **You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?**

P My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;

C **my soul also, which You have redeemed.**

P Blessed be the LORD forever!

C **Amen and Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)*

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.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**INTROIT**     *Psalm 98:1-4; Isaiah 52:10*

**P** The 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.

**C Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

**P** The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

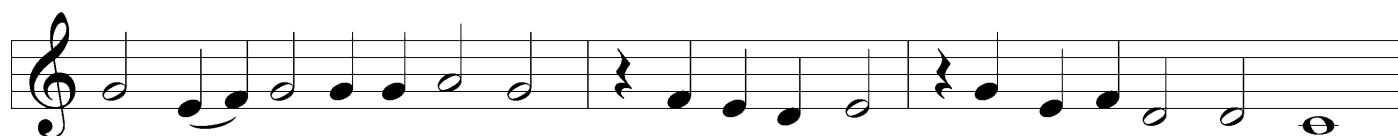
**C He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

**P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** The 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.

**GLORIA PATRI**

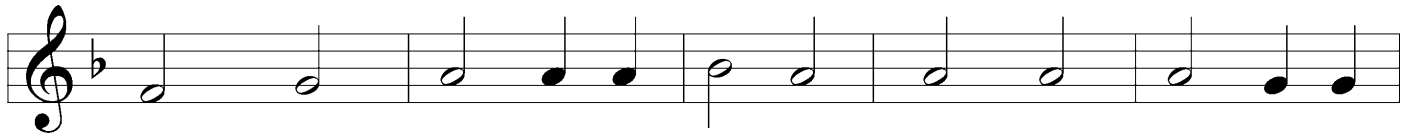


**Glo - ry** be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## KYRIE

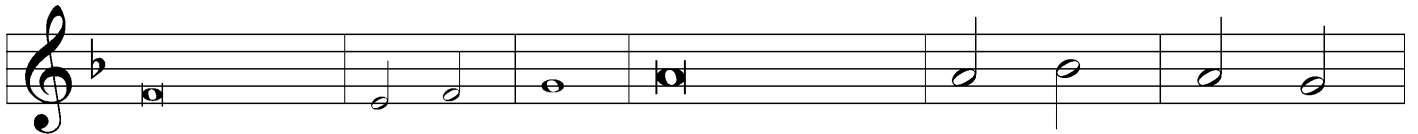


**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



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

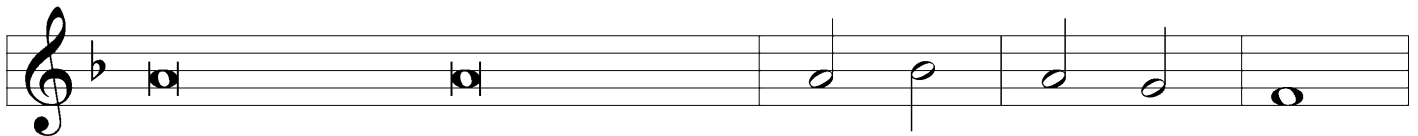
## GLORIA in EXCELSIS



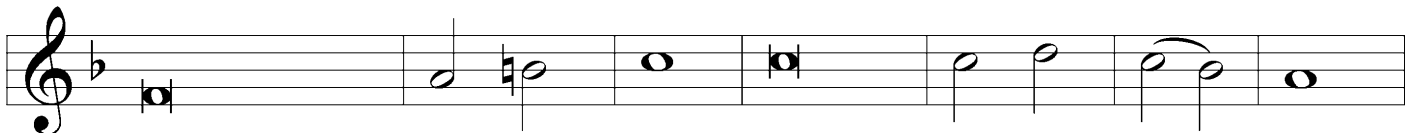
**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



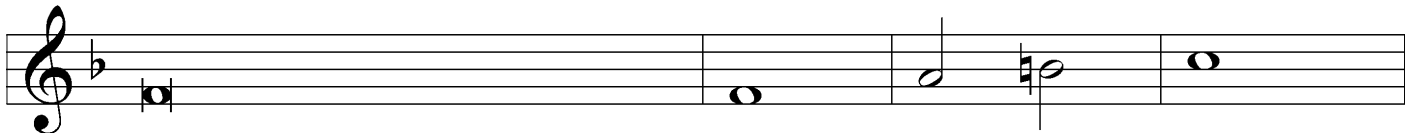
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



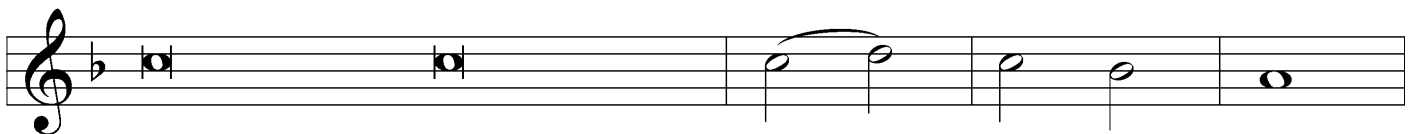
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



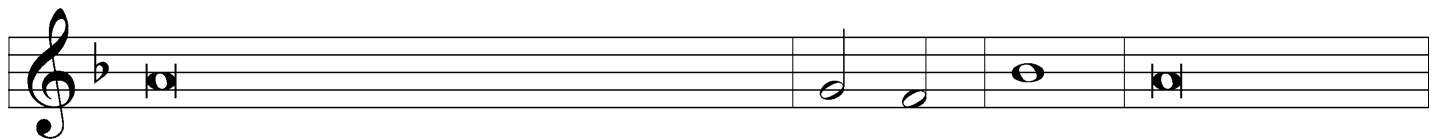
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



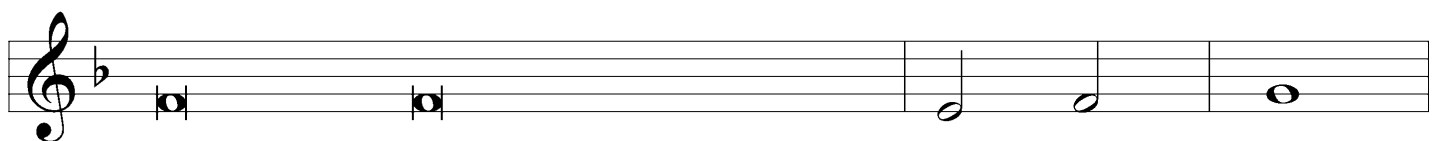
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



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.

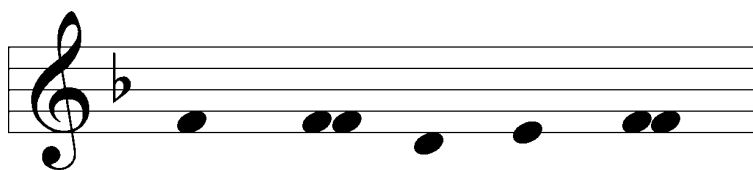


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

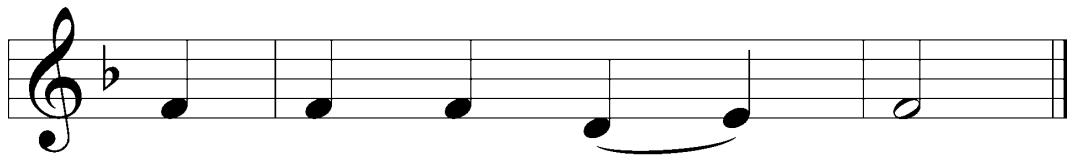


art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

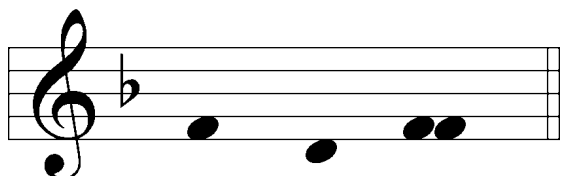
### SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



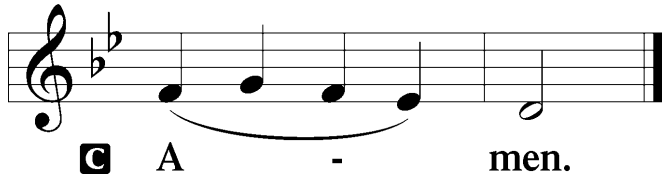
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Gracious God of endings and beginnings, we commit to Your grace and forgiveness the year now being completed and

commend to Your kindness and love the year about to begin. Throughout the coming weeks and months make the presence of Your Holy Spirit known in our lives, drawing us ever closer to Jesus and uniting all generations of Your faithful people in bonds of love and care, as we continue to grow in our baptismal grace and await the joy of eternal life in Your glorious presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.



*Please sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 61:10–62:3*

(Nations will acknowledge His righteousness.)

10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11 For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

1 For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. 2 The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord will name. 3 You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Psalm 111*

P Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in



them.

**C Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.**

P He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**C He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.**

P He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

**C The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

P He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name!

**C The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**EPISTLE**      *Galatians 4:1–7*

(At the right time, God sent His Son into the world.)

1 Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, 2 but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. 3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. 4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!”

7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Alleluia and Verse



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

**C Hallelujah! Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad before the Lord: for He hath made known His salvation. Hallelujah!**




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

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 2:22-40*

(Jesus is presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph.)

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, 28 he took Him up in his arms

and blessed God and said:

29 “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace,  
according to Your word;

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation

31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

32 A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your  
people Israel.”

33 And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were  
spoken of Him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His  
mother, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many  
in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against 35 (yes, a sword  
will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many  
hearts may be revealed.”

36 Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel,  
of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a  
husband seven years from her virginity; 37 and this woman was a  
widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the  
temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and

day. 38 And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and  
spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

39 So when they had performed all things according to the law of the  
Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. 40 And the  
Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the  
grace of God was upon Him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## NICENE CREED

***All: 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,***  
Continue on next page 11

*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.*

*Please sit*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth*

**LSB 382; vs.1,2,5,6,7**



1 We praise You, Je - sus, at Your birth; Clothed in flesh You  
 2 Now in the man - ger we may see God's Son from e -  
 5 The ver - y Son of God sub - lime En - tered in - to  
 6 In pov - er - ty He came to earth Show - ing mer - cy  
 7 All this for us our God has done Grant - ing love through



came to earth. The vir - gin bears a sin - less boy  
 ter - ni - ty, The gift from God's e - ter - nal throne  
 earth - ly time To lead us from this world of cares  
 by His birth; He makes us rich in heav'n - ly ways  
 His own Son. There - fore, all Chris - ten - dom, re - joice



And all the an - gels sing for joy. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 To heav - en's courts as bless - ed heirs. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 As we, like an - gels, sing His praise. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 And sing His praise with end - less voice. Al - le - lu - ia!

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**SERMON** *“Springing forth into the New Year with Jesus’  
 righteousness and praise”* (Isaiah 61:10-11)

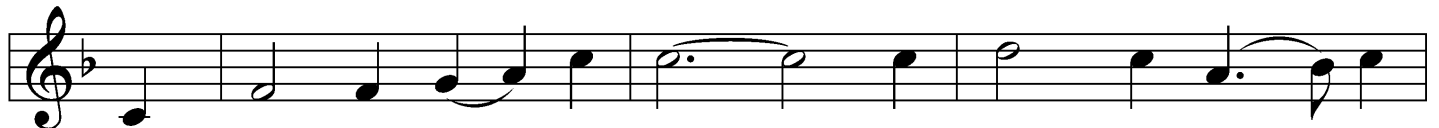
**OFFERING**

*Please stand*

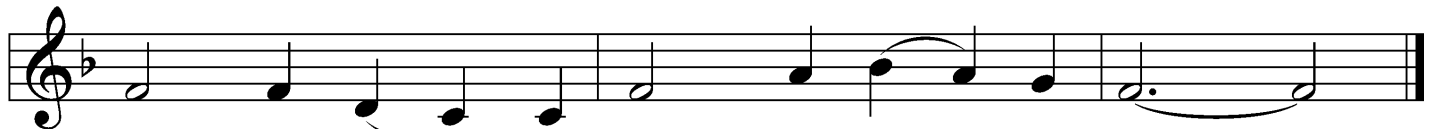
**OFFERTORY** *Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace* **LSB 937**



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,  
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,  
 Δ 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -  
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing  
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.  
 in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.  
 Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

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**SHARING OF THE PEACE** *“Peace be with you”  
 [through use of American Sign Language]*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*LSB, p. 215*

**P** Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [names] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to

subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

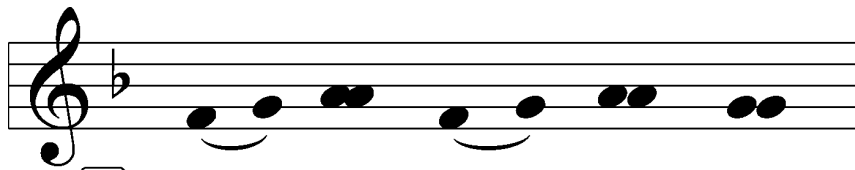
**C** hear our prayer.

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

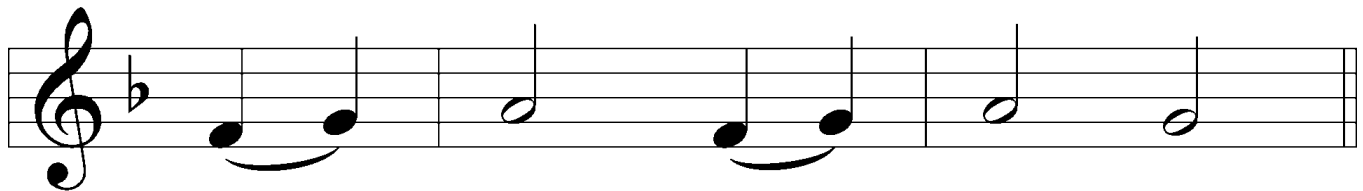
**C** Amen.

## + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

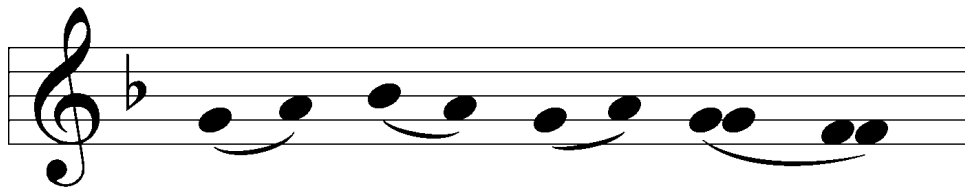
### PREFACE



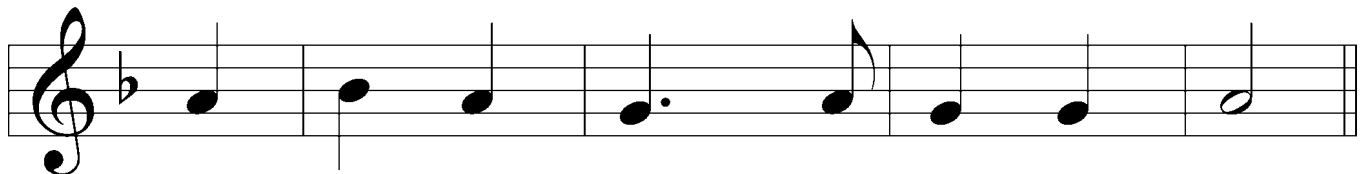
**P** The Lord be with you.



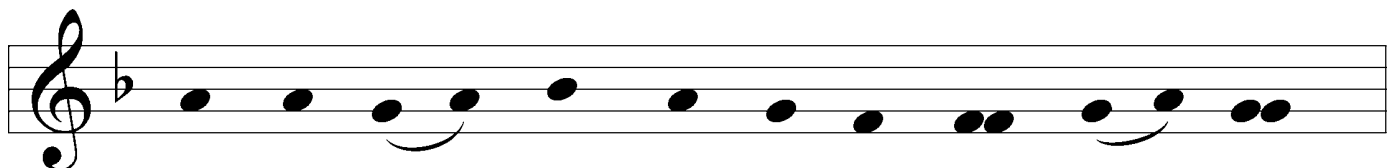
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

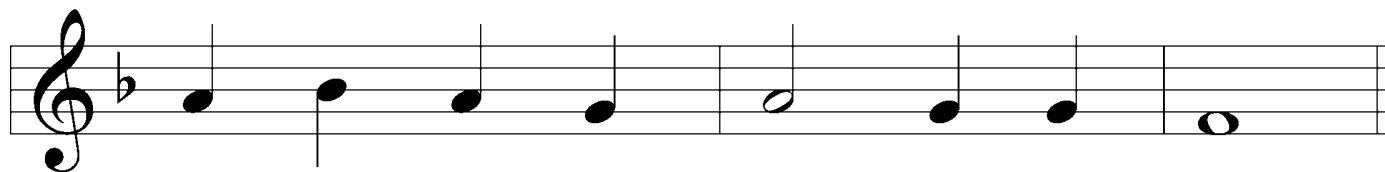


**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

Continue on next page



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, because You have called us through the waters of Holy Baptism and welcomed us to Your Table of grace. As we rejoice in the salvation won for us by our Savior, strengthen us to heed always the call to share the Gospel message in our times and days with the generations yet to come that Your praise may echo until the end of time and the start of eternity. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, forevermore 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 *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



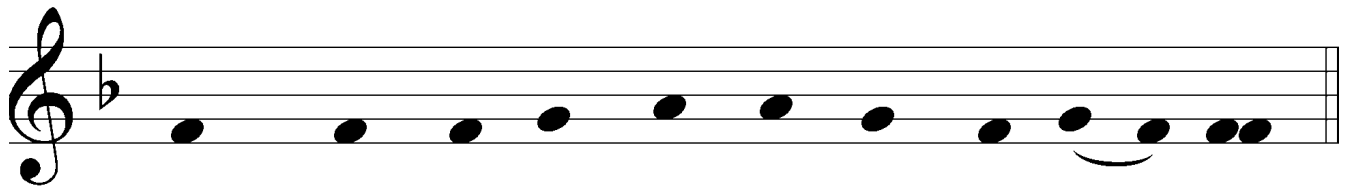
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

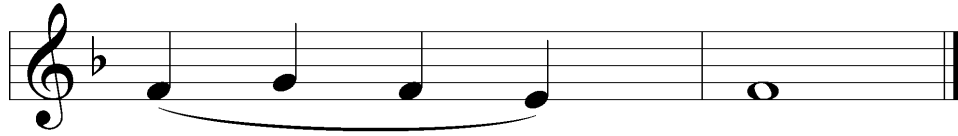
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

## Pax Domini



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

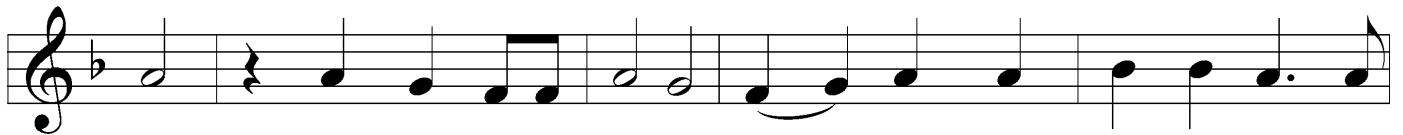


**C** A - men.

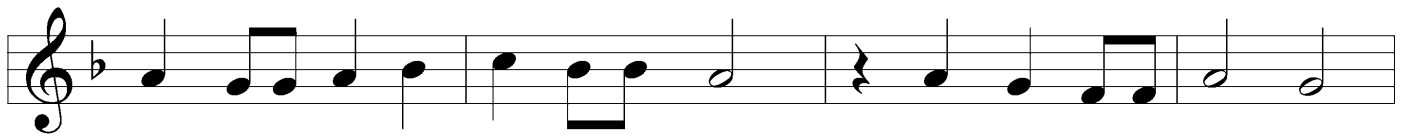
## AGNUS DEI



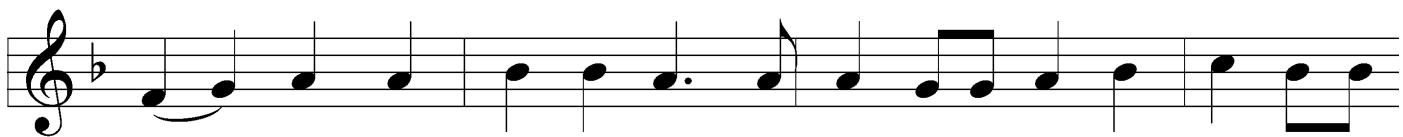
**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



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.

*Please sit*

## SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be

18 Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy

body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins.  
 Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a  
 place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and  
 drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ,  
 Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy  
 Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

**COMMUNION HYMN** *At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing* **LSB 633**



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go  
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
 You have conquered in the fight,  
 You have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,  
 Now no more the grave enthrall;  
 You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.

Alleluia!

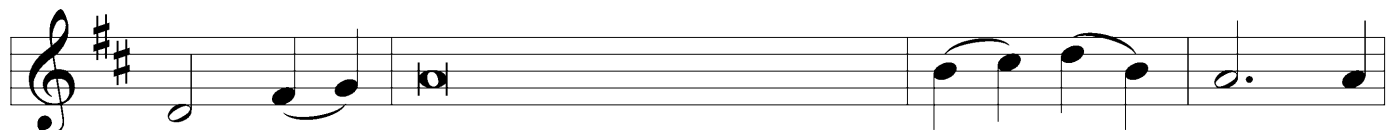
△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.

Alleluia!

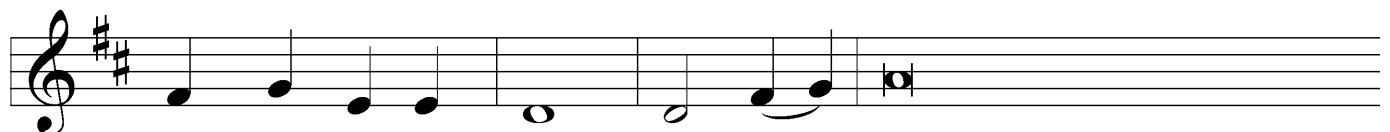
Text and tune: Public domain

*Please 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 without end. A - men.

## THANKSGIVING

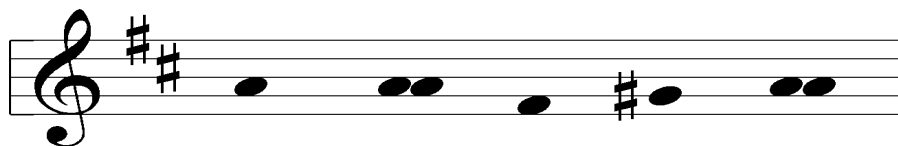
**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

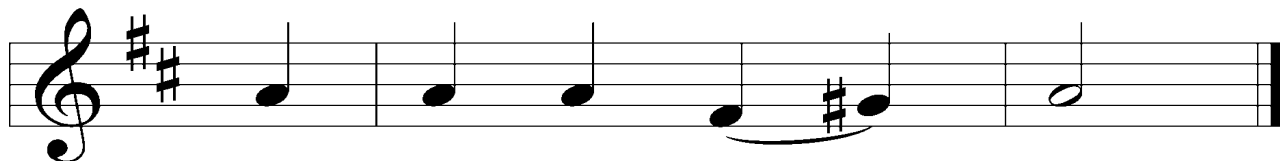
**P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the Church. And we ask that You would help us by Your Holy Spirit that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works that You desire us to do, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom with You and the same Spirit, be praise in all generations, forever and ever.

**C** A - men.

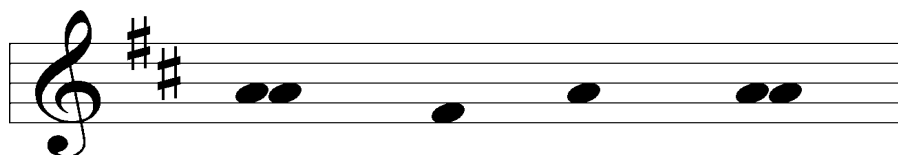
## BENEDICAMUS



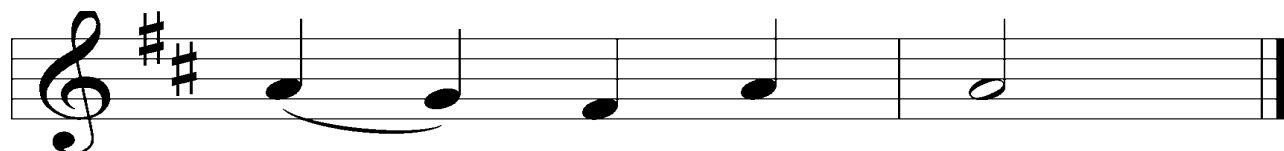
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

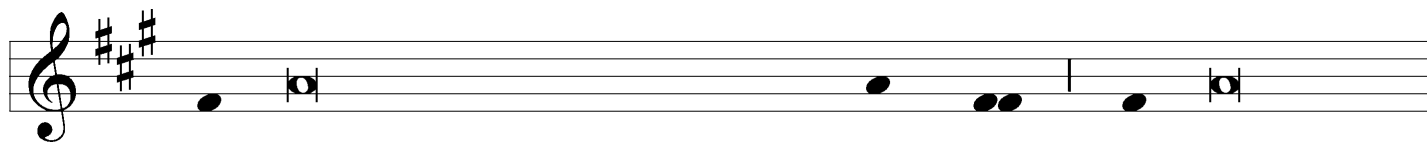


**A** Bless we the Lord.

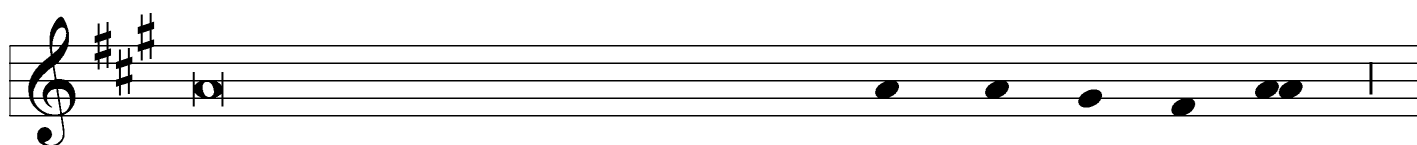


**C** Thanks be to God.

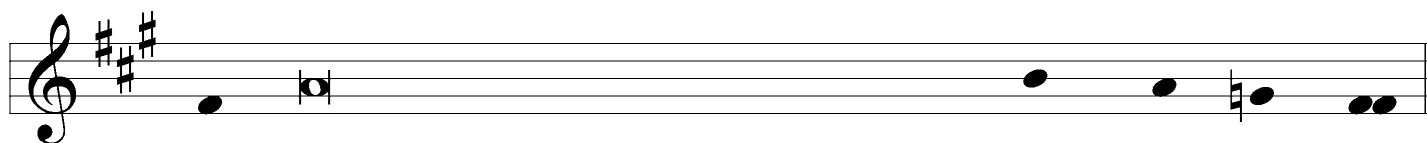
## BENEDICTION



**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.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Please sit*

**SENDING HYMN**

*Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*

**LSB 390**



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,  
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,  
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?  
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.



Who, to bid our hearts re - jice, His own Son hath giv - en.  
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.  
There-fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.  
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

Text and tune: Public domain

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Portals of Prayer for January to March 2024 are available in the Narthex or office.

Join us for **Sunday School and Bible Study**  
at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.  
Rev. Weber is leading the class.

### January Activities

**Men's Steak Night Bible Study**  
Thursday, January 18th  
6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

**LWML Women's Retreat**  
January 26-27, 2024 at the Harlingen Convention Center.  
See flyer/enrollment form for complete information  
(Forms available in the Narthex, Office, and Social Hall)

**Polka Fest**  
Saturday, January 27th  
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Volunteers needed to help with cooking! (talk to Dan Wehling)  
Sign up sheet for sides and desserts posted on the door.

### ***Memory Verse Challenge***

This week's memory verse: ***Isaiah 26:3***

*You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.*



**Sermon Notes**

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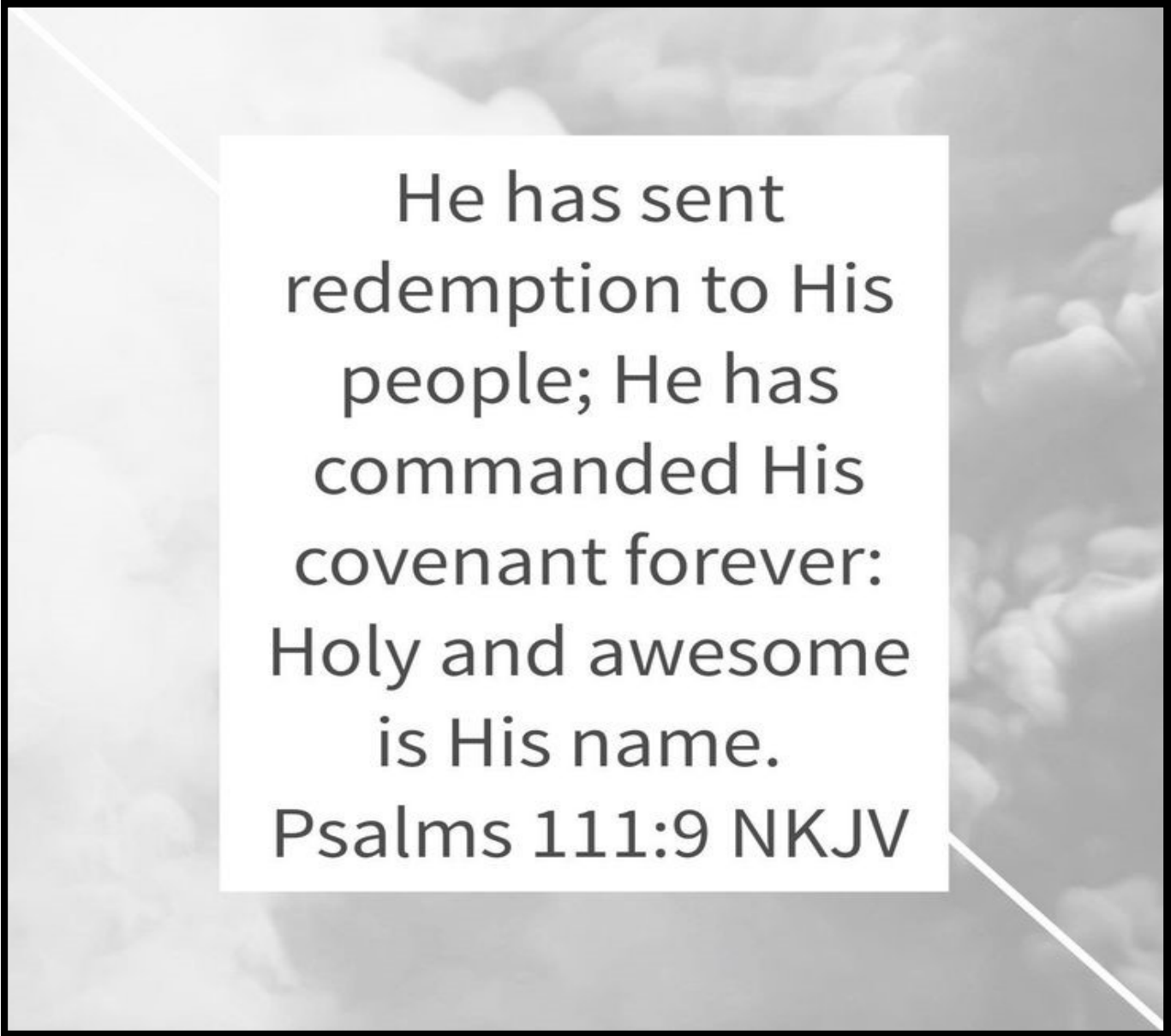
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He has sent  
redemption to His  
people; He has  
commanded His  
covenant forever:  
Holy and awesome  
is His name.  
Psalms 111:9 NKJV

**12/20/2023**

**Mid-Week Advent 3            36**  
 Plate:  \$ 87.00  
 Envelopes: \$ 335.00  
**Total:                    \$ 422.00**

**12/25/2023**

**Christmas Day Worship   35**  
 Plate:  \$ 60.00  
 Envelopes: \$ 475.00  
 Donation: **Bunkbed** \$ 350.00  
**Total:                    \$ 885.00**

**12/24/2023**

**Christmas Eve Worship   79**  
 Plate:  \$ 260.00  
 Envelopes: \$ 463.00  
 Donation: **Bunkbed** \$ 260.00  
**Total:                    \$ 983.00**

**Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule**

**December Sunday Servants:                    January Sunday Servants**

Elder:	Ken Eilers	Don Vogel
Altar Guild:	D. Jackson & L. Marchant	B.J. Neuhaus/Maribel Perez
Music:	Pam Terral	
<b>This Week</b>	First Sunday after Christmas	
Usher:	Don Vogel	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	The Baptism of Our Lord	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am

## The Time Has Fully Come for Redemption and Purification through Jesus Christ, Our Lord

“When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son,” born of the woman, “to redeem those who were under the law” (Gal. 4:4–5). Therefore, “according to the Law of Moses,” Mary and Joseph “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). There He was received and taken up into the arms of Simeon, who was righteous and devout, “waiting for the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25). Simeon praised God and blessed the parents by confessing the cross for which this child was appointed. “At that very hour,” old and faithful Anna, who had watched, prayed and worshiped in the temple for so long, came up and “began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem” (Luke 2:38). The Lord causes “righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations” (Is. 61:11). We also “greatly rejoice in the Lord,” because this child has clothed us “with the garments of salvation,” covered us “with the robe of righteousness” and called us “by a new name” (Is. 61:10; 62:2).

<b>12/24/2023</b>		
<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>44</b>	
Plate:		\$ 152.00
Envelopes:		\$ 2,680.00
Memorial: <b>Vicent Neuhaus</b>		\$ 8,000.00
Donations: <b>Turkeys</b>		\$ 250.00
<b>Bunkbeds</b>		\$ 460.00
<b>Total:</b>		\$ 11,542.00
Bible Class:	<b>22</b>	\$ 25.00

### ***The Baptism of Our Lord*** ***Readings:***

*Genesis 1:1-5*

*Psalms 29*

*Romans 6:1-11*

*Mark 1:4-11*