

**MID-WEEK 2
ADVENT SERVICE
DECEMBER 8, 2021**

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
*Missouri Synod***



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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**

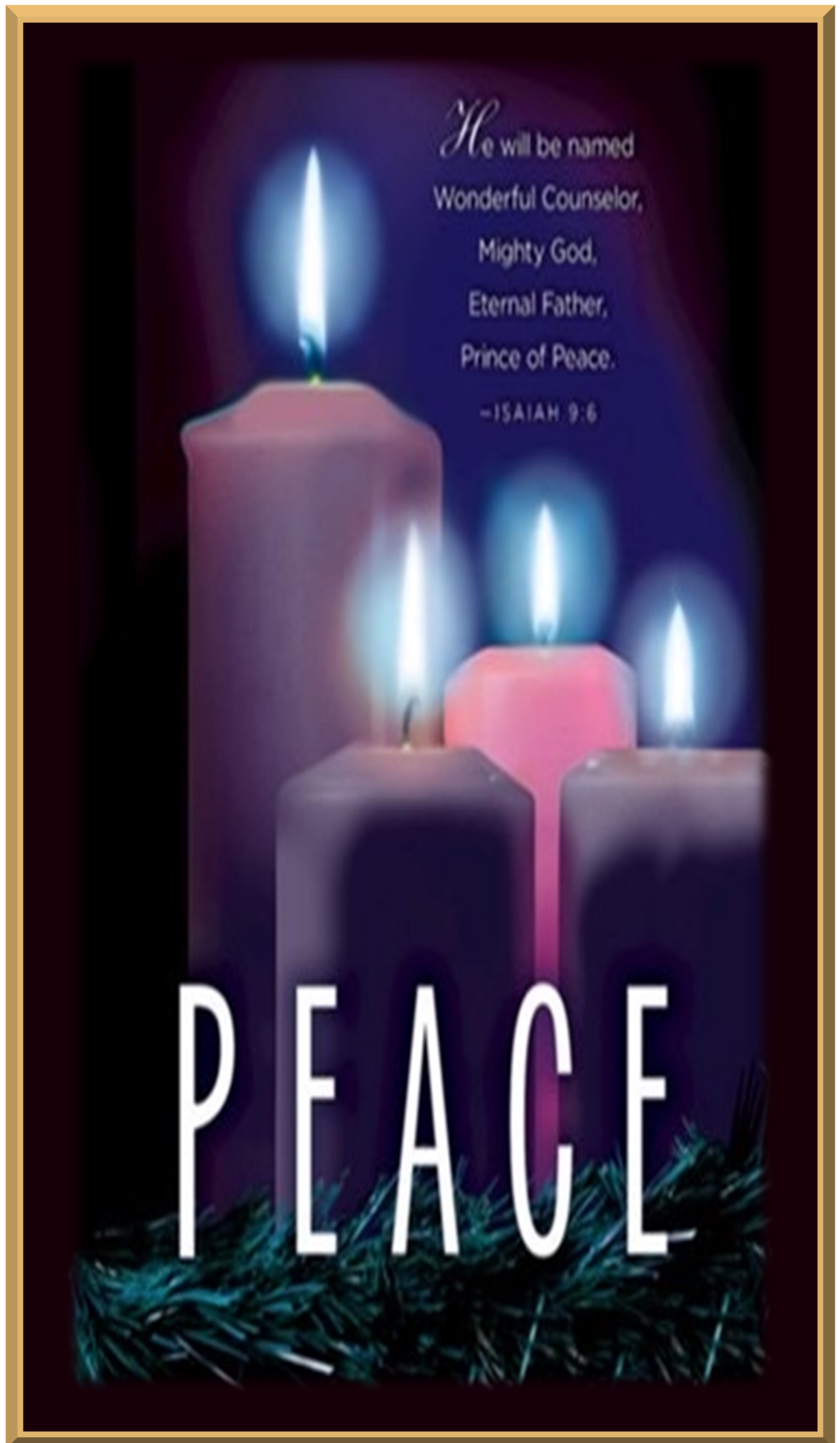
Website:

lutheranmercedes.com

FACEBOOK:

***www.facebook.com/
lutheranmercedes/***

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



*He will be named
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Eternal Father,
Prince of Peace.*

-ISAIAH 9:6

**Mid-Week 2 Advent Service
December 8, 2021**

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

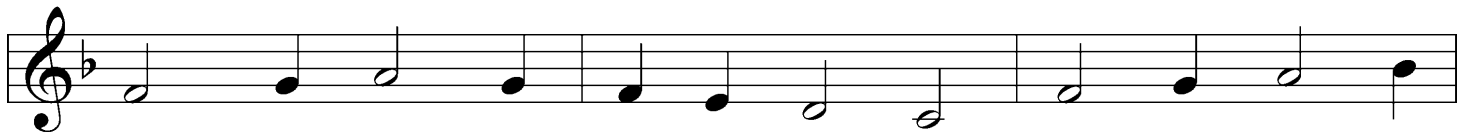
We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this evening. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance.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

AS WE GATHER It seems that no December goes by without hearing the song “Mary, Did You Know?” With that seasonal serenade, there is rightful theological reflection that could be had, especially considering what we heard last week with the announcing of the virgin birth from the angel Gabriel. There is no song asking, “Jesus, Did You Know?” Today we ask that question and gain theological insight and answers. We do so by going beyond the Bethlehem birth and learning from Jesus as a twelve-year-old boy in the Jerusalem temple. We ask the question, “When Jesus was a boy, did He know He was God?”

OPENING HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 347



1 “Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace,” thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

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+ VESPERS +

P O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright?

C **Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's
delight!**

P In this Advent season, reflecting on and anticipating the joy to come when heaven met earth through the promised and long-awaited Savior, we seek answers to our questions as we remain on this earth.

PSALM

Psalm 85:1-7

P LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C **You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.**

P You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger.

C **Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away Your indignation to ward us!**

P Will You be angry with us forever?

C **Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?**

P Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?

C **Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.**

HYMN

O Come, O Come, Immanuel

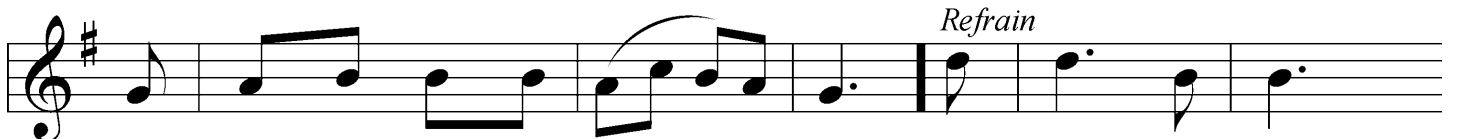
LSB 357; vv. 1,3,7



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - jice! Re - jice!
In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - jice! Re - jice!



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

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

7 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**

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FIRST READING *Isaiah 7:13–17*

13 Then he said, “Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. 15 Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the Child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land that you dread will be forsaken by both her kings. 17 The Lord will bring the king of Assyria upon you and your people and your father’s house—days that have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING *Luke 1:5-25*

5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and

ordinances of the Lord blameless. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years. 8 So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, 9 according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. 10 And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. 11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. 15 For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. 16 And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” 18 And Zacharias said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years.” 19 And the angel answered and said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. 20 But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time.” 21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. 22 But when he came out, he

could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless. 23 So it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. 24 Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, 25 “Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.”

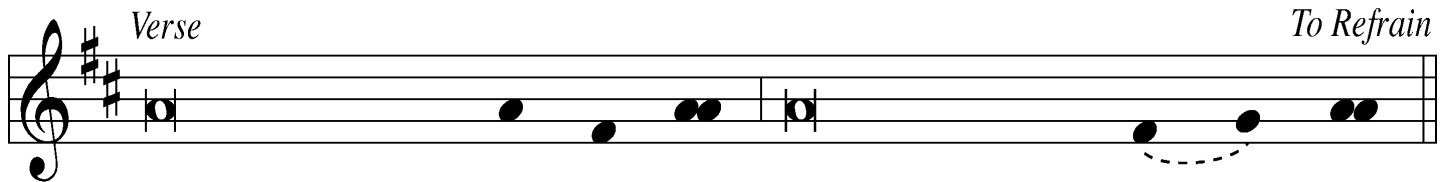
P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

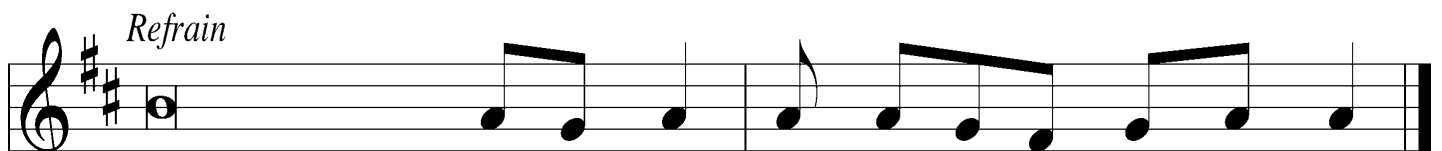
P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

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

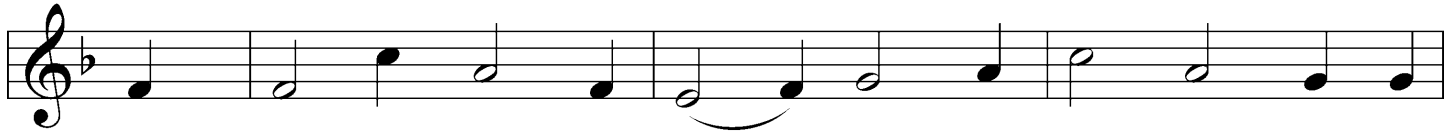
RESPONSORY Based on Jeremiah 23:5-6; Acts 2:36; Luke 1:32-33



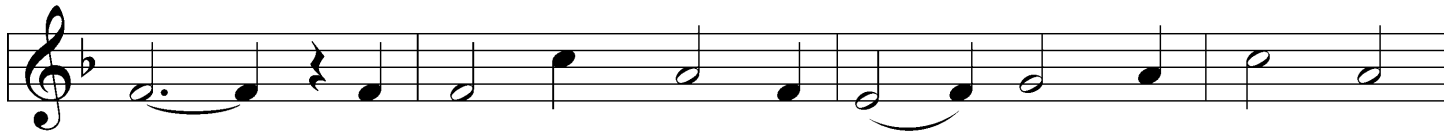
L 1 Behold, the days
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise
up for David a right-teous Branch.
2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will
dwell se - cure - ly.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



C This is the name
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Right-teous-ness.



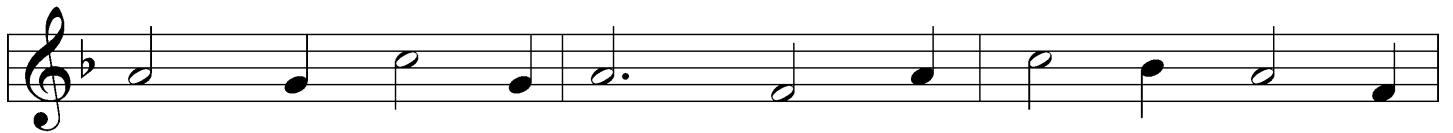
1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



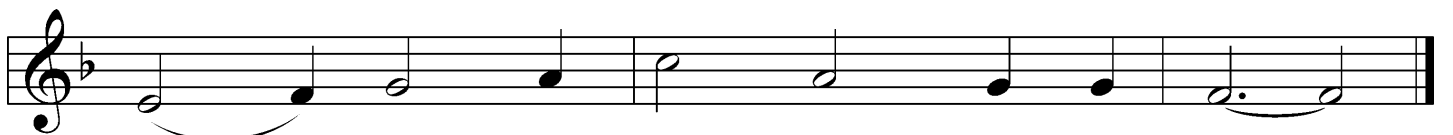
day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

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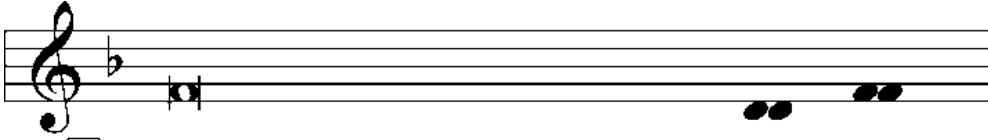
SERMON

“Elizabeth Prepares for Christmas”

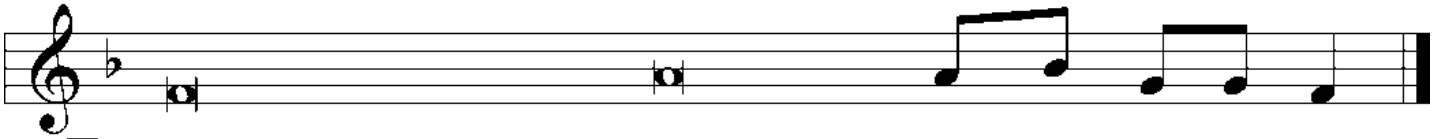
(Luke 1:5-25)

OFFERING

CANTICLE

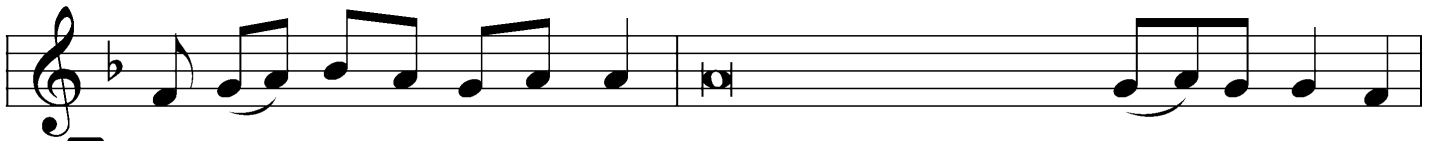


L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,

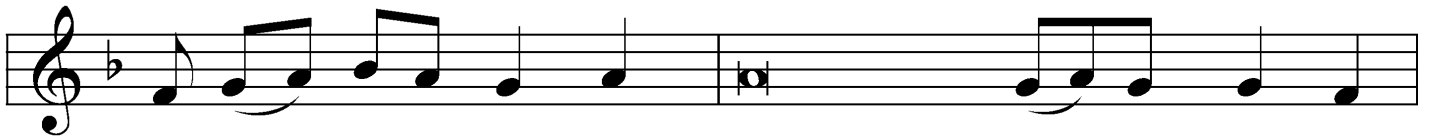


C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

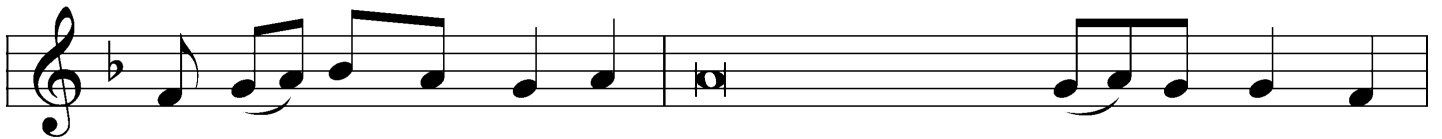
Magnificat



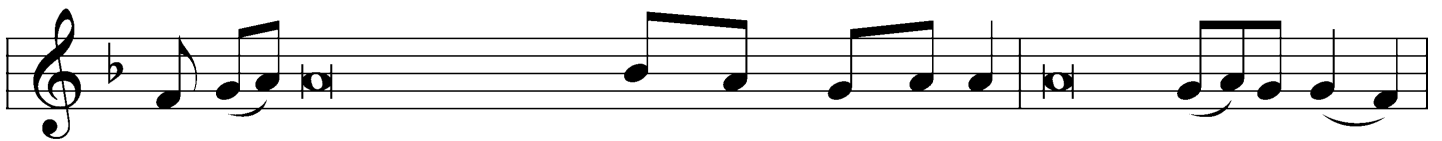
C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



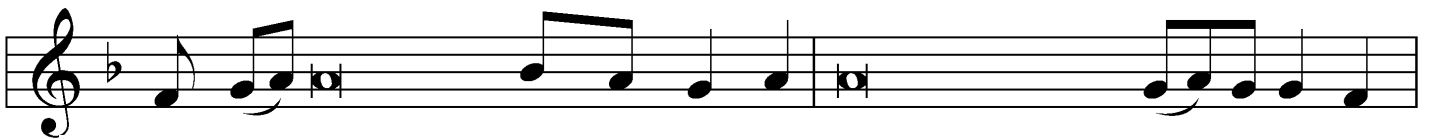
— for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



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;



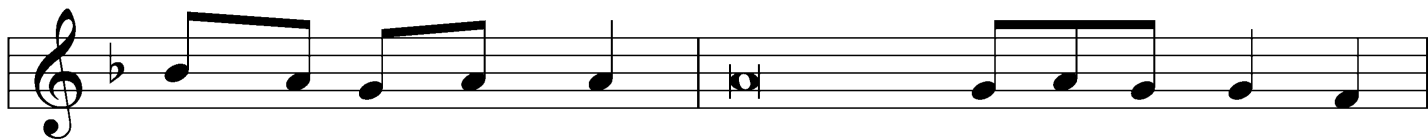
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



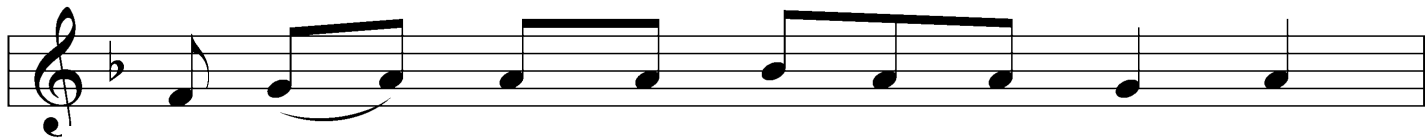
He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the



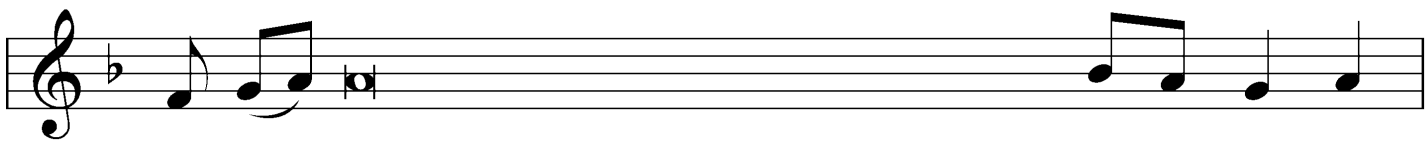
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



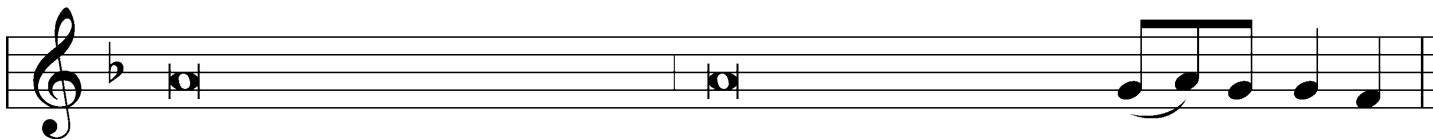
He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



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



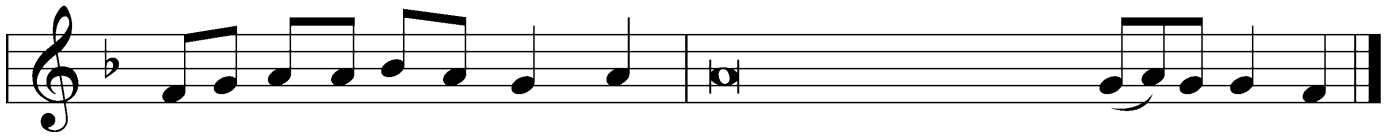
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



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 Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, in this season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate again the coming of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and await His promised return. As questions enter our minds, such as “Did Jesus know He was God?,” we thank You for Your Word of truth, which gives the answers we need to know as we live in this world to which Christ came. By Your Spirit’s work through Your Word, enliven our hearts and minds, nourish our faith, and be with us as we wait and watch this season and each day. Let us, like Jesus, be about the things of You, our Father, as we gather in Your house to receive the gifts You freely give through Your Spirit, where heaven has met earth through Your Son. We pray to You, Lord:

C “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

P Heavenly Father, as Your Son took on our human flesh, He remained divine and knew all things. As all things are known to You, only You know all our hurts and struggles, our trials

and temptations. Only You can bring comfort and peace to troubled hearts, minds, bodies, and souls in this season and always. Give Your comfort to those who seek our prayers, [including . . .]. Grant healing according to Your will, along with peaceful minds and hopeful hearts. We pray to You, Lord.

C “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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 *Isaiah 65:24; Psalm 10:17; Zechariah 13:9b*

P “Before they call I will answer;

C while they are yet speaking I will hear.”

P O LORD, You hear the desire of the afflicted;

C You will strengthen their heart; You will incline Your ear.

P “They will call upon My name, and I will answer them. I will say, ‘They are My people’;

C and they will say, ‘The LORD is my God.’”

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

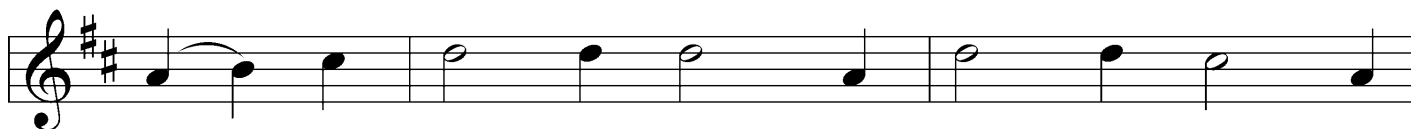
P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

C **Amen.**

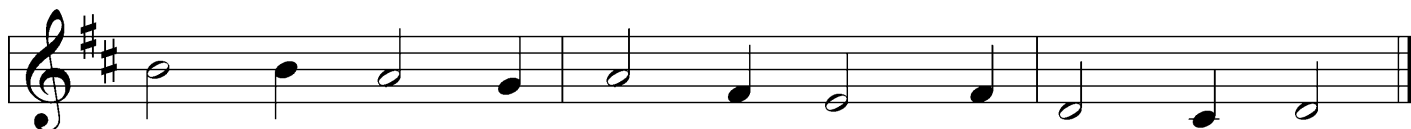
CLOSING HYMN *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* **LSB 344**



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, And let us all our
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

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