

MID-WEEK 3
ADVENT SERVICE
DECEMBER 17, 2025
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



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Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor
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956.463.1305

Sunday
9:00 AM
Worship Service

10:30 am
Adult Bible Class
Sunday School

Holy Communion:
Every 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

Three Lambs Depict **the Coming Jesus**

1. Foreshadowed
JESUS OUR
PASSOVER
LAMB



2. Incarnate



3. Glorified



Mid-Week 3 Advent Service

December 17, 2025

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 During Advent, we wait for Jesus, with Jesus. The darkest part of the year is brightened by the hope that the Savior who came for the world once is coming again. And we do not wait alone. Together, the whole Christian Church is accompanied in this waiting by the Christ who promises to be with His people always. Jesus' mother, the virgin Mary, knows a lot about waiting. With pregnant anticipation, Mary waited for Jesus, the promised Messiah who would reign from David's throne forever. But Mary was always waiting with Jesus, the Son of the Most High nestled within her womb. Throughout this Advent, we will listen with Mary, sing with Mary, and wait with Mary. Because, on darkest days, the Christ comes as near to you as He did to Mary to wait with you for the glorious sunrise that's coming.

The lighting of the third Advent candle on the Advent wreath occurs during the singing of the hymn.

OPENING HYMN

There Is a Redeemer

LSB 971



- 1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;
- 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;
- 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.
There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.



Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

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Please Stand

+ VESPERS +

PSALM

Psalm 85:1-4, 9-11; antiphon: v. 7

- P** Show us Your mercy, Lord, and grant us Your salvation.
- C** **Lord, You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.**
- P** You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin.
- C** **You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger.**
- P** Restore us, O God of our salvation, and cause Your anger toward us to cease.
- C** **Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.**
- P** Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed.
- C** **Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- P** Show us Your mercy, Lord, and grant us Your salvation.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O light of the nations, Your spectacular reign is the hope of all peoples. Grant us humble hearts to anticipate the second advent and preserve us for Your kingdom, that we might declare the praises of Jesus, our coming King, to the ends of the earth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please Sit

FIRST READING *Isaiah 61:1–4, 10–11*

1 “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn,

3 To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.”

4 And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.

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.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Luke 1:39–56

39 Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, 40 and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. 45 Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.”

46 And Mary said:

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.
48 For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.
49 For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.
50 And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
51 He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
52 He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly.
53 He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.
54 He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy,
55 As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.”

56 And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

Continue on next page

C Thanks be to God.

THIRD READING *Revelation 5:6-14*

6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying:

“You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals;
for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your
Blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we
shall reign on the earth.”

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,

12 saying with a loud voice:

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and
riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory
and blessing!”

13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

“Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who
sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!”

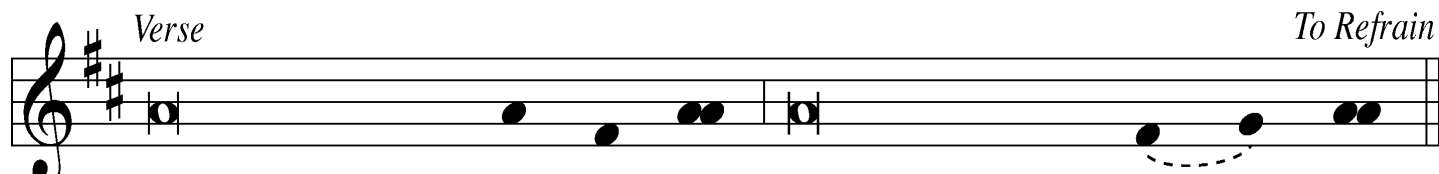
14 Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

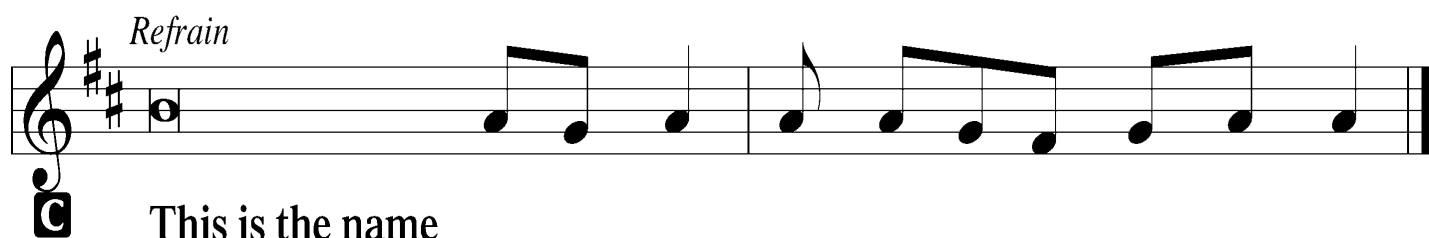
C Thanks be to God.

ADVENT 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 righ-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 Righ-teous-ness.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Lamb

LSB 547



- 1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ-teous - ness.
His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

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SERMON

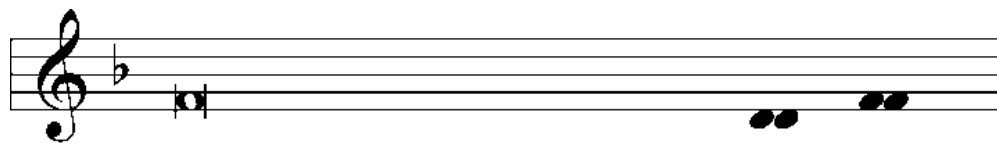
The Enthroned Lamb (glorified)

Revelation 5:6-14

OFFERING

Please Stand

CANTICLE

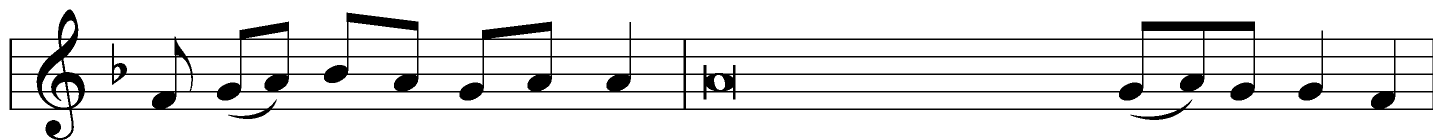


L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,

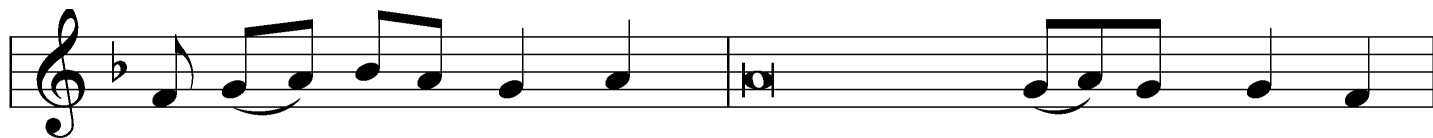


C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

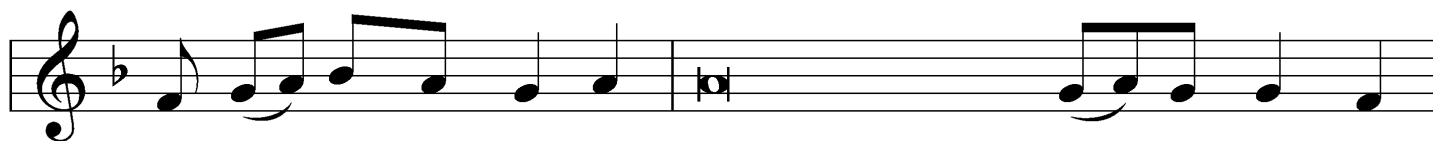
Magnificat



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



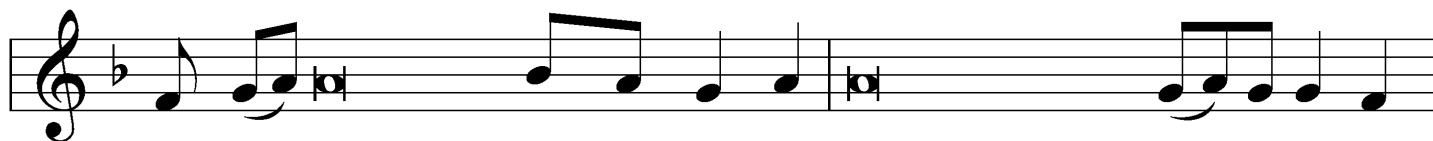
for He has re - gard - ed the lowliness of His hand - maid - en.



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



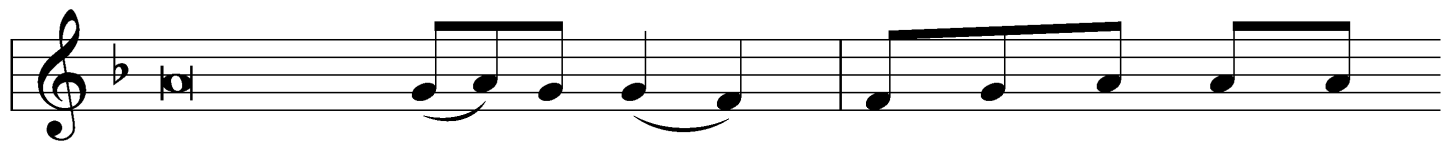
For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



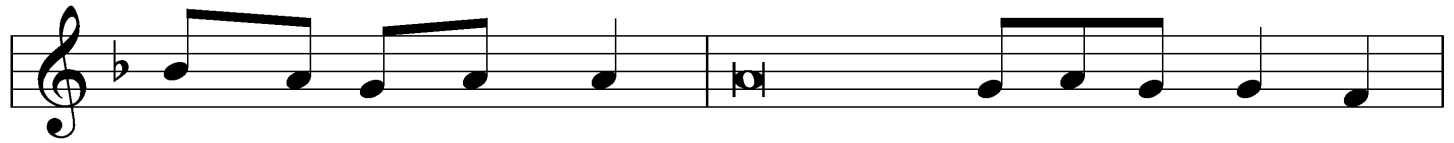
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



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



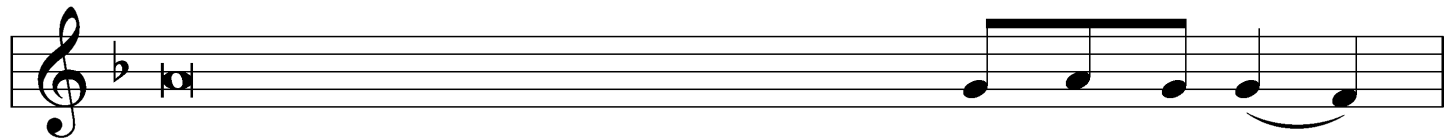
imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the



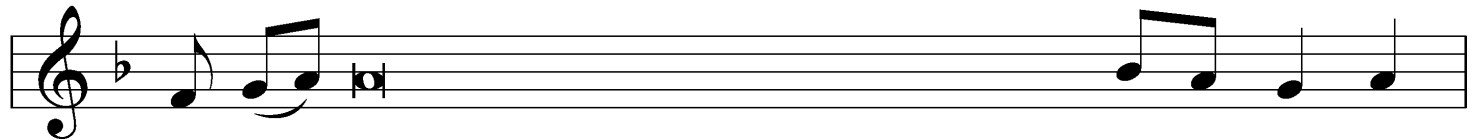
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



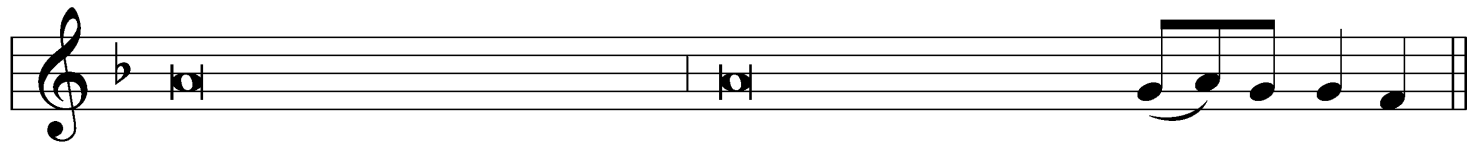
He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



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



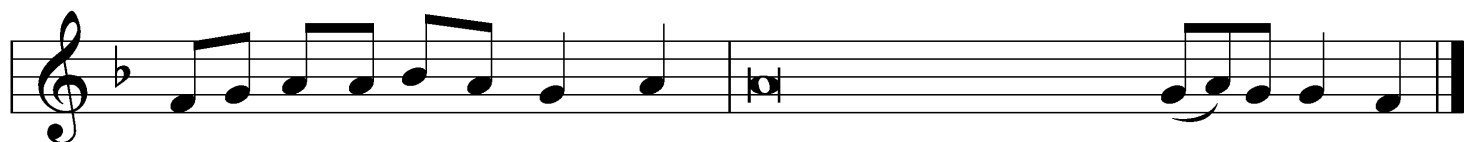
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



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.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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 The Lord be with you.
C **And with your spirit.**

COLLECT FOR TODAY

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers
and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation;
for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.
C **Amen.**

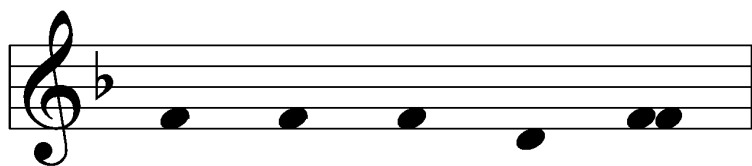
COLLECT FOR PEACE

P Let us pray. 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.**

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.

BENEDICAMUS



[L] Let us bless the Lord.

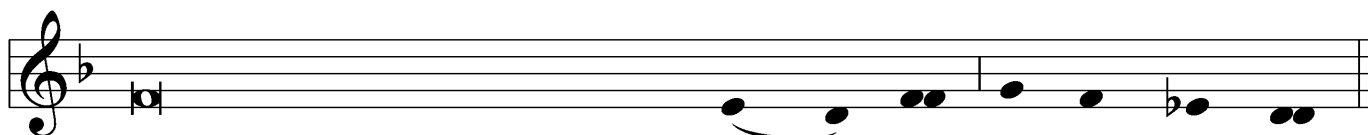


C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION



[L] The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spirit - it be with us all.

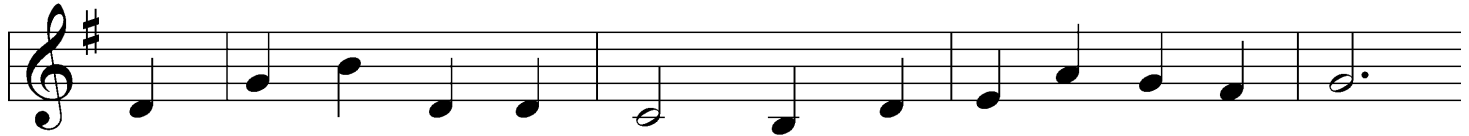


C A - men.

Please Sit



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

