

## CHRISTMAS DAY

DECEMBER 25, 2025

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

Missouri Synod



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Mercedes, Texas 78570

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

### Website:

[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:

[Misionemanuel.com](http://Misionemanuel.com)

Office Hrs, M-F

8 am to 12 pm

CCLI # 2585510



**“But as many as received Him,  
to them He gave the right to  
become children of God, to  
those who believe in His name”**

**John 1:12**

## **CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 25, 2025**

### **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.

Today 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** - Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set me free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - "If it bleeds, it leads." That's the mantra of modern news media. Good news doesn't seem to get the traction that destruction and division do. But good news is what God speaks through His Son, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. God publishes peace, salvation, and the good news of happiness through the Word and reminds us, "Your God reigns" (Isaiah 52:7) That's good news!

**DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR**

**PAGE 203**

**PRELUDE**                    *(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)*

# OPENING HYMN

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;

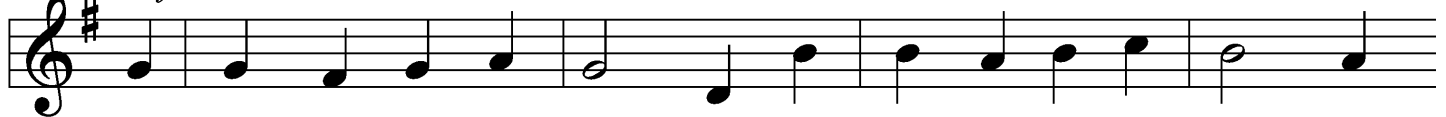


come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!

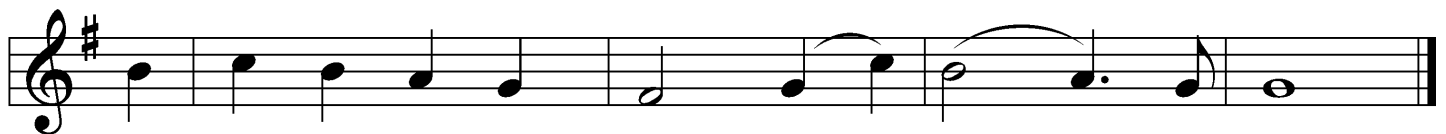


Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

## *Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

## OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 26:8; 1 Kings 8:27; Matthew 1:23; John 1:14*

**P** Lord, I have loved the habitation of Your house, And the place where Your glory dwells.

**C** “But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!

**P** “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they

*(Continue on next page)*

shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”  
**C And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.**

## **INVOCATION**

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

**C Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**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.**

*(Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination)*

**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; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6*

P For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C **Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.**

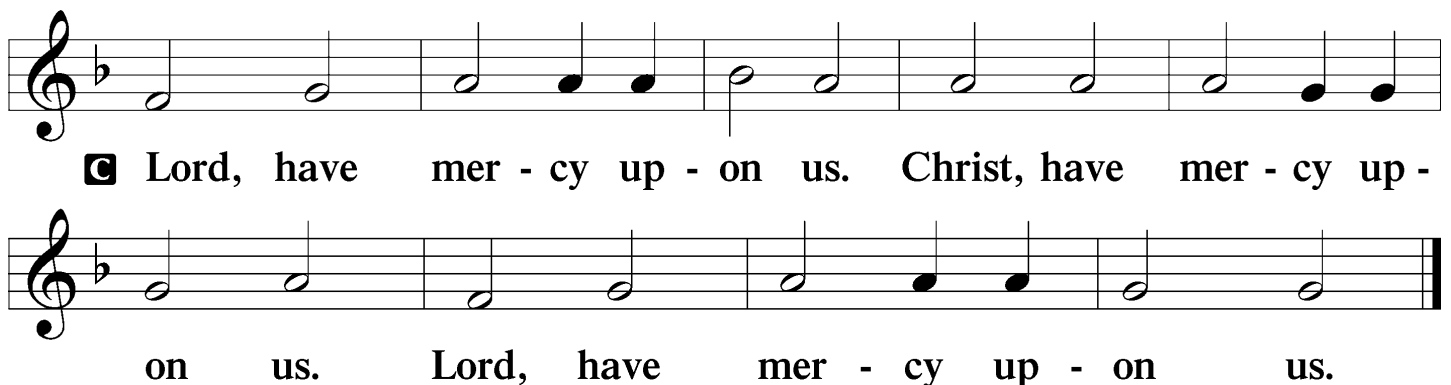
P The Lord has made known His salvation; His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations.

C **He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

P Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

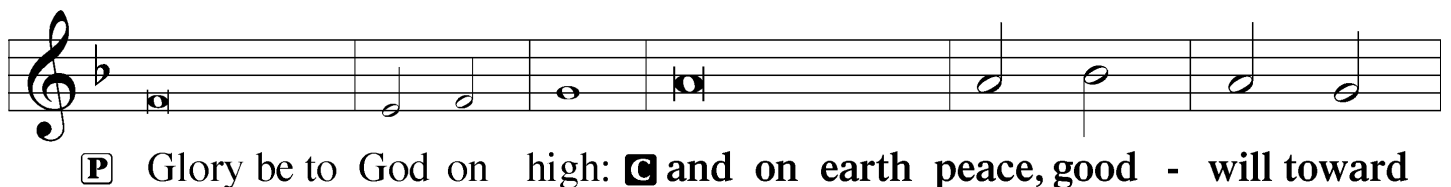
C **For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

## KYRIE

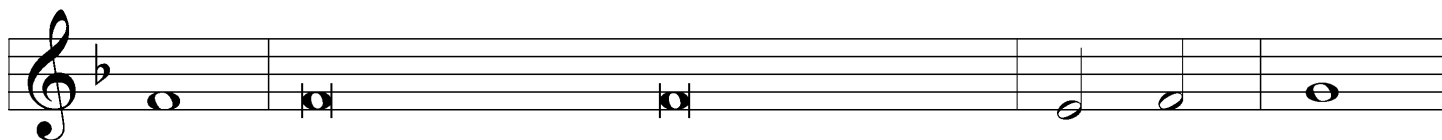


Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



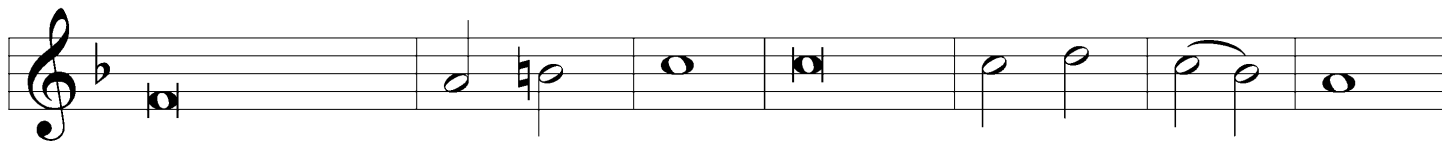
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



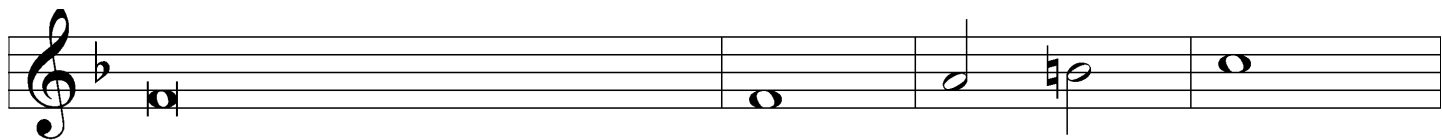
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



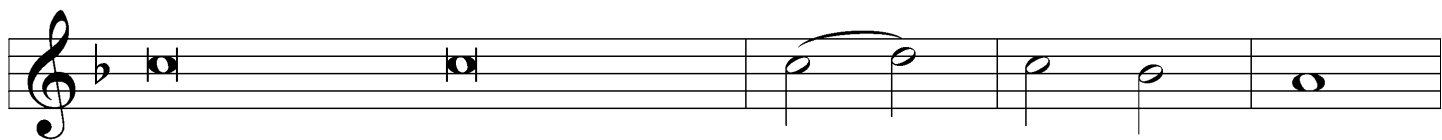
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



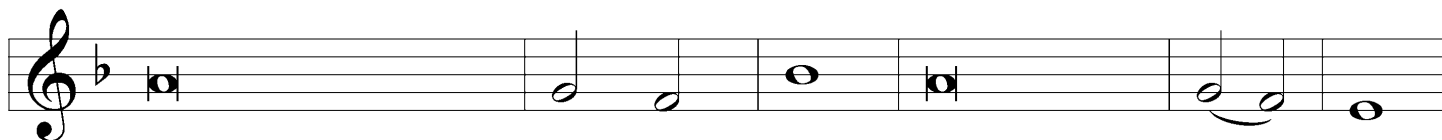
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



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



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



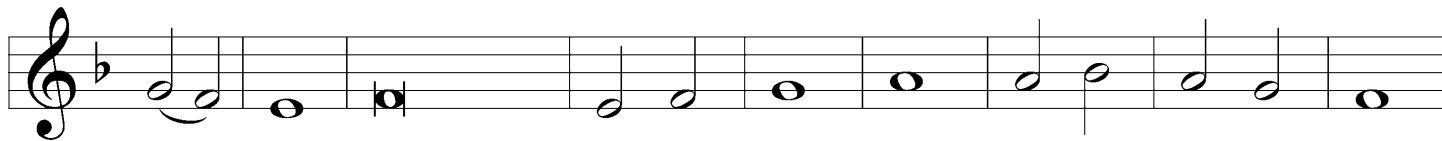
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



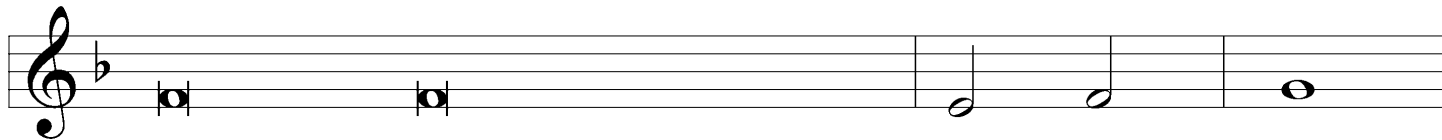
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



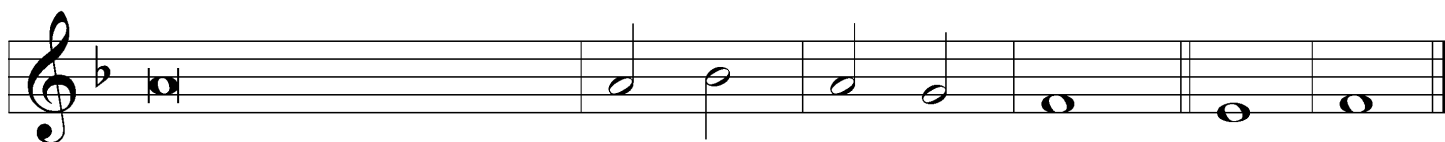
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



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**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. Heavenly Father, in ages past, You spoke through the prophets. Today You have spoken to us through Your Son, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. Tune our ears to Your Word and nourish us with the flesh and blood of Your Son, who is always with us; through the same Jesus Christ, who rules and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

C **Amen.**

*Please sit*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *Isaiah 52:7-10*

(The feet of the one who brings good news of peace, happiness, and salvation are beautiful.)

7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" 8 Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, with their voices they shall sing together; for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord brings back Zion. 9 Break forth into joy, sing together, You waste places of Jerusalem! For the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. 10 The Lord has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM**      *Psalms 2*

P Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?

*(Continue on next page) 7*



- C The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying,**
- P “Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us.”**
- C He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision.**
- P Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:**
- C “Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.”**
- P “I will declare the decree: the Lord has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You.**
- C Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.**
- P You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.’ ”**
- C Now therefore, be wise, O kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth.**
- P Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.**
- C Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.**

## **EPISTLE** *Hebrews 1:1–12*

(God used to speak through prophets; now He speaks to us through Jesus.)

1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

5 For to which of the angels did He ever say:



“You are My Son, today I have begotten You”?

And again:

“I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son”?

6 But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says:

“Let all the angels of God worship Him.”

7 And of the angels He says:

“Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.”

8 But to the Son He says:

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”

10 And:

“You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.

11 They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment;

12 Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.”

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.



These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

*Continue on next page* 9



**HOLY GOSPEL**      *John 1:1-18*      (God becomes a human being.)

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

**C    Glory to You, O Lord.**

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' "

16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

P    This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C<sub>10</sub>    Praise to You, 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, 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.

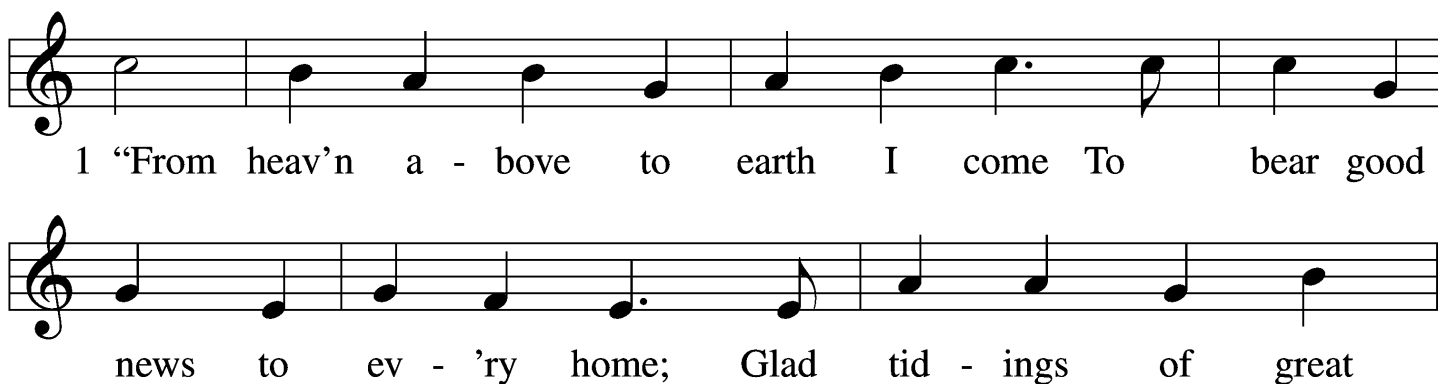
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission 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

*From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

**LSB 358 vs. 1-5**



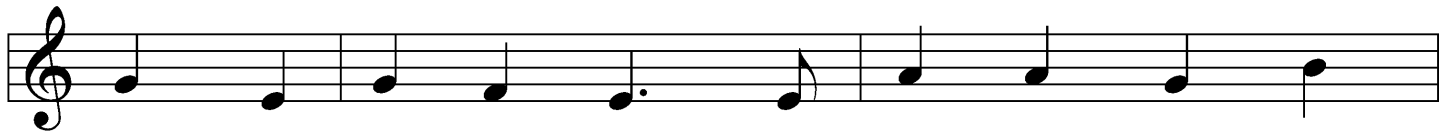
*Continue on next page* 11



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:



2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,  
3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your  
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by  
5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swad-dling



cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your  
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,  
clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the



low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.  
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.  
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.  
in - fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*"God's Christmas children!"*

John 1:12

## OFFERING

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

LSB 367 vs. 1,2



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



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.

*Refrain*  
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;

Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

*"Peace be with you"*

*(John 20:21)*

*(Sharing through ASL (American Sign Language))*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray. Holy Lord, almighty God and Father, You laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. You nourish us and all creatures through Your created world. Guide us in being good stewards of Your world. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Lord Jesus, the world we live in was created through You. In these last days, our Father has spoken to us through You. Give us ears to hear Your voice and willing hearts and minds to not only receive grace and truth but also live them out in our homes, neighborhoods, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Holy Spirit, we thank and praise You for the feet of those who brought us the Good News. We ask for Your blessing on all pastors, parents, grandparents, and servants in Christ's church that they may continue to share the good news of peace and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Great physician and healer, comfort all who are struggling  
*(Continue on next page)* 13

**C** hear our prayer.

**C** hear our prayer.

P O God, we boldly and confidently lift these prayers to You, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## +SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

P The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

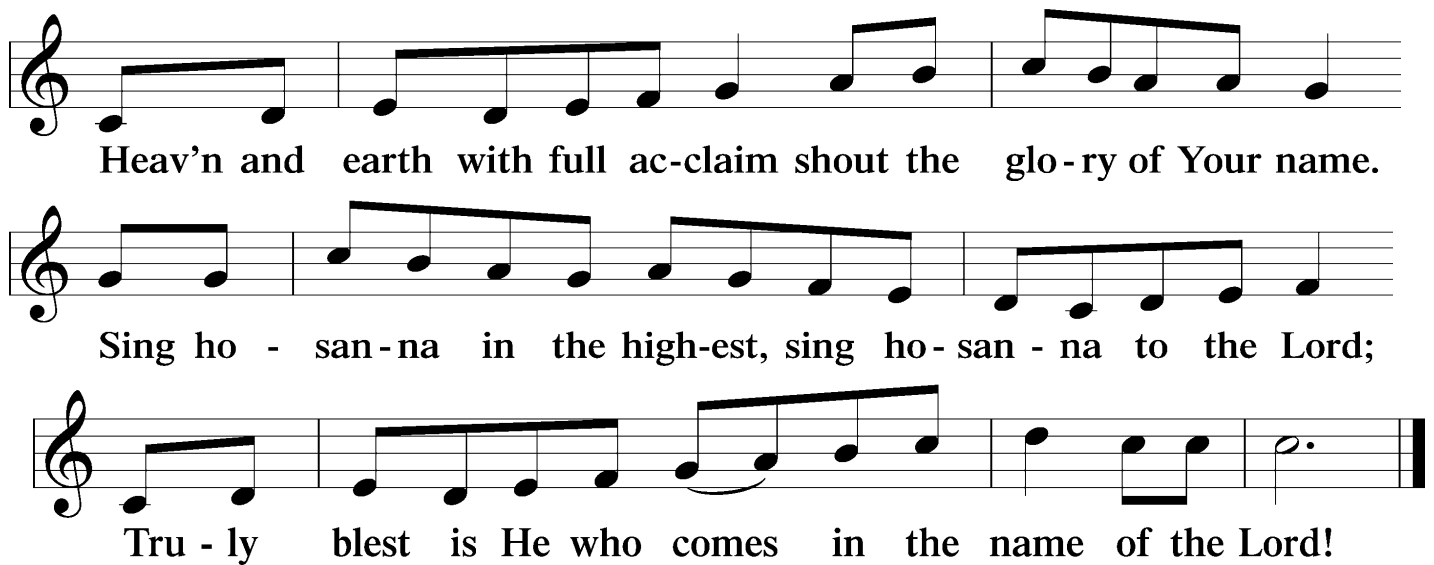
**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

# SANCTUS





## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and in these last days have spoken grace and truth to us through Your Son, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us.

Through Your Son, You created the world and everything in it and uphold the universe by the power of His Word. Let Your Son dwell within us that faithfully eating and drinking His body and blood we may receive peace and salvation.

Hear us as we confidently pray in His name the prayer He taught us:

## 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. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## 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."

**P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He

*Continue on next page*



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 always.

**C** Amen.

## **AGNUS DEI**

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 be seated*

## **SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING**

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

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

**LSB 643**



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.  
The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed  
The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.  
The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,  
Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us  
To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.

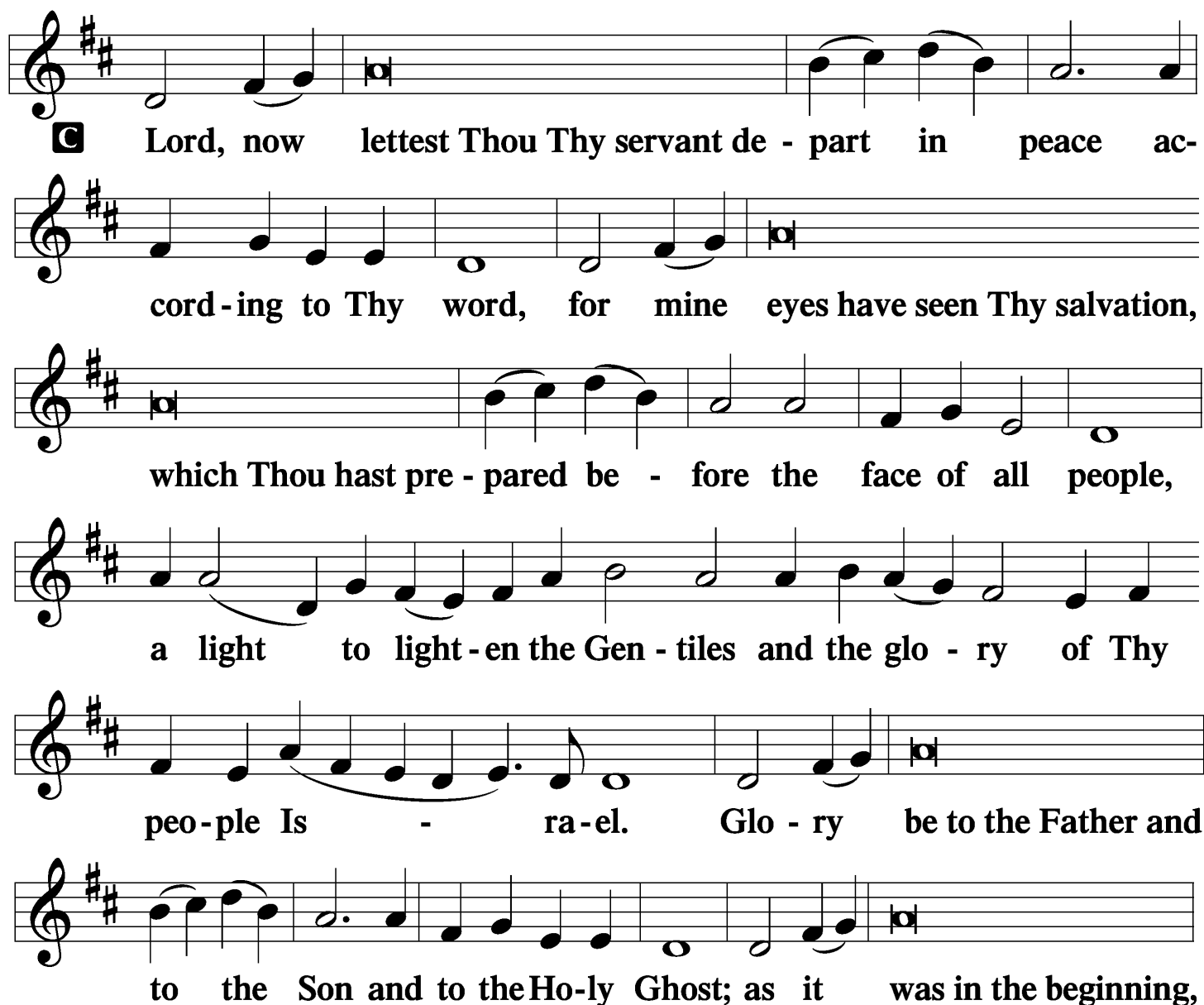
2 With praise and thanksgiving  
To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.

*Continue on next page* 17

Our faith ever sharing,  
 In love ever caring,  
 Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
 With Your feast You feed us,  
 With Your light now lead us;  
 Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
 Then may all the living  
 With praise and thanksgiving  
 Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005188

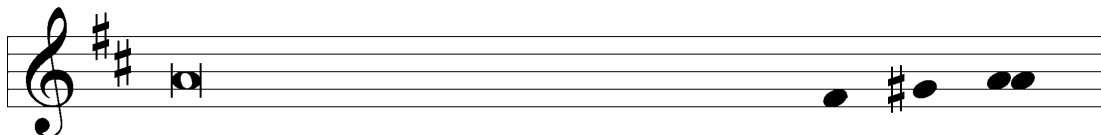
Please stand  
**NUNC DIMITTIS**



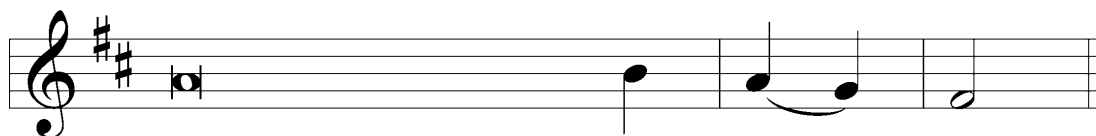
**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING



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



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

**P** Let us pray. In former days, O Lord, You required sacrifices for sin and spoke to our ancestors through the prophets. But in these last days, You have atoned for our sins through the blood of Your Son, through whom You have spoken to us. Lead us to bring good news of happiness and to publish peace and salvation as we lift up our voices and sing for joy; for You reign, one God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

*(Numbers 6:24–26)*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Please sit*

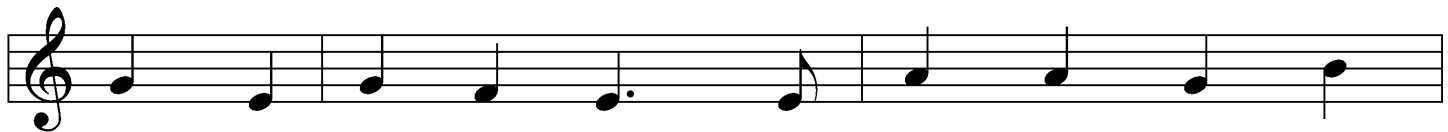
## SENDING HYMN

*From East to West*

LSB 385



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry  
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and  
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,  
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -  
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom  
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our  
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -  
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the  
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.  
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.  
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.  
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.  
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

Text and tune: Public domain

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace and Christmas joy as you serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

*Merry Christmas*



*and a Prosperous  
New Year*

