

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31, 2023

WAITING FOR GOD

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus. As we worship, we pray that you will open your heart in preparation as our Savior comes to us through the word and sacraments. If you are a guest, please sign your name, address and most importantly your phone number in our Guest Book in the entrance and come and worship with us again. If we can be of assistance to you in your spiritual walk through life please let us know. We invite you to join us for refreshments after the service in the room adjoining the worship facility.



AS WE GATHER

The Gospel for the First Sunday after Christmas takes us to the temple in Jerusalem, where Simeon, a “righteous and devout” man is “waiting for the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25). And his wait is more than worthwhile. He gets to hold the infant Christ Child and to express his thanks firsthand for the salvation that Jesus will accomplish. The waiting for Simeon was over. God knew the exact right time for His beloved Son to come to earth into this sin-filled world. God had a plan for salvation that was carried out faithfully and completely by Jesus. As we worship, we echo the words of Simeon, thankful that our waiting for Immanuel is over and that we are assured of the salvation brought by Jesus, the one for whom Simeon was waiting so patiently.

COMMUNION PRACTICE

Lamb of God celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see MATTHEW 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-34.

CAUTION

It is prudent and wise to let our church family know you have broken people sitting around you; this is a place for the broken as Jesus describes in the gospels. We have/may have folks in the congregation that have been alcoholics, drug abusers, spousal abusers, formerly violent and even sexual offenders. This is a house for the broken. We certainly understand that this is a Lamb of God Lutheran Church Ministry and have taken diligent steps to create a safe environment for all who would like to worship our Father.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN



We are very happy that you are here today, whether this is your first or fiftieth time with us. If you need a little help, please ask. There are many people here at Lamb of God who will lend you a hand.

Here are some suggestions to help make worship with your children easier:

- ✝ **Relax!** Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Lamb of God.
- ✝ **Please dare to sit toward the front**, where your children can easily see the pastor, note the colors, embrace the action at the altar, and wonder at the symbols in the great stained-glass windows. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.
- ✝ **Explain** the parts of the Divine Service to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy! And with your spirit! I believe! Our Father!* All of this belongs to them, too.
- ✝ **Sing the hymns**, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn by following your lead.
- ✝ **If you have to leave the service** with your child, feel free to do so – but please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out (there are soft toys and books in the nursery, and activity sheets with colored pencils in the fellowship hall which can be brought into the worship hall to help engage your child)
- ✝ **Remember** that the way we nurture children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- ✝ **Please know** that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words **"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these"** (LUKE 18:16)

We know that your children are a gift to the church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all.

+ PREPARATION +

NEW HYMN

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory



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,

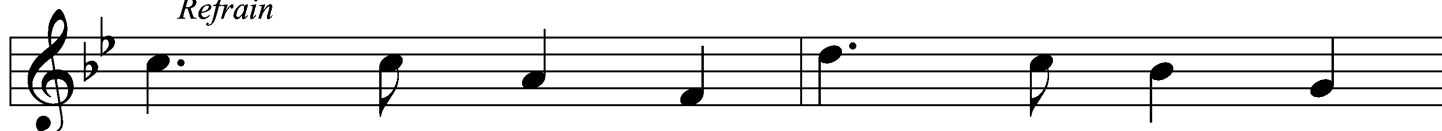


all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



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.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

G 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.

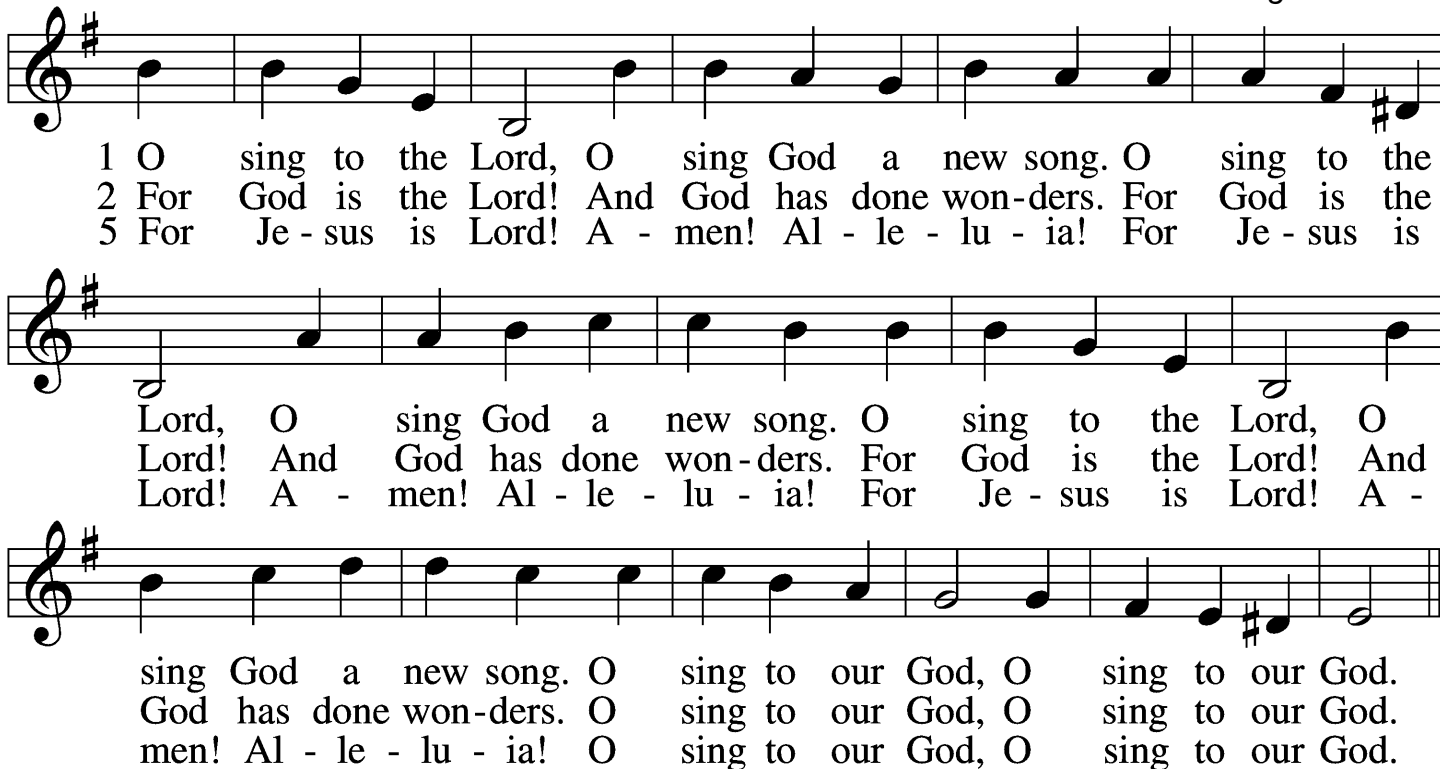
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned in thought, in word, and in deed. So often we have left undone those things which we ought to have done and have done those things which we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask for the grace and forgiveness that we know to be ours in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us, heavenly Father, to change what is sinful in our lives so that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.
- P** God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son, who has replaced slavery to sin with a priceless inheritance of freedom and joy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.
- C** Amen.

+ WORD +

ENTRANCE HYMN

808 O Sing to the Lord



1 O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song. O sing to the
 2 For God is the Lord! And God has done won-ders. For God is the
 5 For Je - sus is Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! For Je - sus is

Lord, O sing God a new song. O sing to the Lord, O
 Lord! And God has done won-ders. For God is the Lord! And
 Lord! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! For Je - sus is Lord! A -

sing God a new song. O sing to our God, O sing to our God.
 God has done won-ders. O sing to our God, O sing to our God.
 men! Al - le - lu - ia! O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

Text: tr. Gerhard Cartford, 1923–2016
 Text and tune: Brazilian

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 Tune: Public domain

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

- [L]** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- [C]** **Lord, have mercy.**
- [L]** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- [C]** **Lord, have mercy.**
- [L]** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- [C]** **Lord, have mercy.**
- [L]** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- [C]** **Lord, have mercy.**
- [L]** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- [C]** **Amen.**

SALUTATION

- [P]** The Lord be with you.
- [C]** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

L The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the sixty-first chapter.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult 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 like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 111

- P** Praise the LORD!
- C** I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- P** 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 4:4 – 7

- L** The Epistle is from Galatians, the fourth chapter.
- ⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.
- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

♩ ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68 LSB 156

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22–40

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in 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, ²⁸he 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*that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,*

³²*a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”*

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

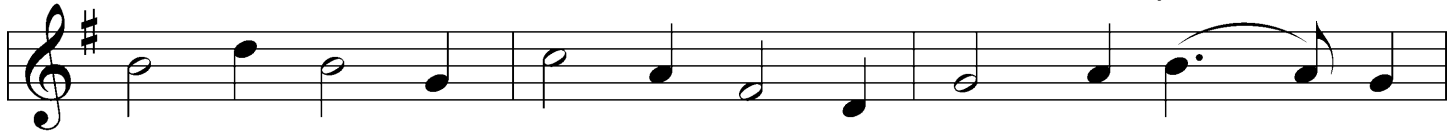
³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

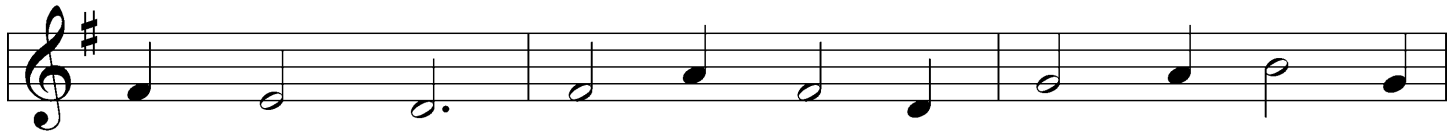
C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

519 *In His Temple Now Behold Him*



1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
 2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
 3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,



pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
 hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
 weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,



God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
 Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us



His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
 al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
 in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825–1903, alt.

Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659–95, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

📌 CREED

Nicene Creed LSB p 158

**C: 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Eternal Lord God, in the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem us and give us the adoption as Your sons and heirs. Hear us, Father, as we call to You in His name. Give us grace to rejoice in Christ's blessed incarnation, and grant us a glad new year. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lead Your Church, Lord, to follow the example of blessed Simeon, that all baptized Christians would embrace the Christ Child by Word and faith, and so be ready to depart whenever they are called. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, from whom all fatherhood on earth is named, bless all families with Your promises. Give parents diligence and delight in their work, and grant Your favor on all children, that they may grow in strength and wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, mighty Lord, You have given power to the nations and to those who govern for the good of their people. Bless our president, Congress, governor and all our leaders, that justice may prevail and Your people would be free to live at peace with all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, receive our prayers for those who mourn and suffer from loneliness. Comfort them with the sure and certain knowledge that You will never forsake them. Give them family and friends within the household of faith with whom they can find loving companionship. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, help the sick and suffering, especially those who desire our prayers *[including.]* Surround them with Your love in Christ and, according to Your gracious will, heal them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father of lasting peace, show Your mercy to those who receive the Lord's Supper this day, that they would behold their salvation in the very body and blood of Christ given for them and, with St. Simeon, be well-prepared to depart in peace according to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

*Offering Plates are Passed by Ushers
Please enter your attendance in the red Record of Fellowship*

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB p 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

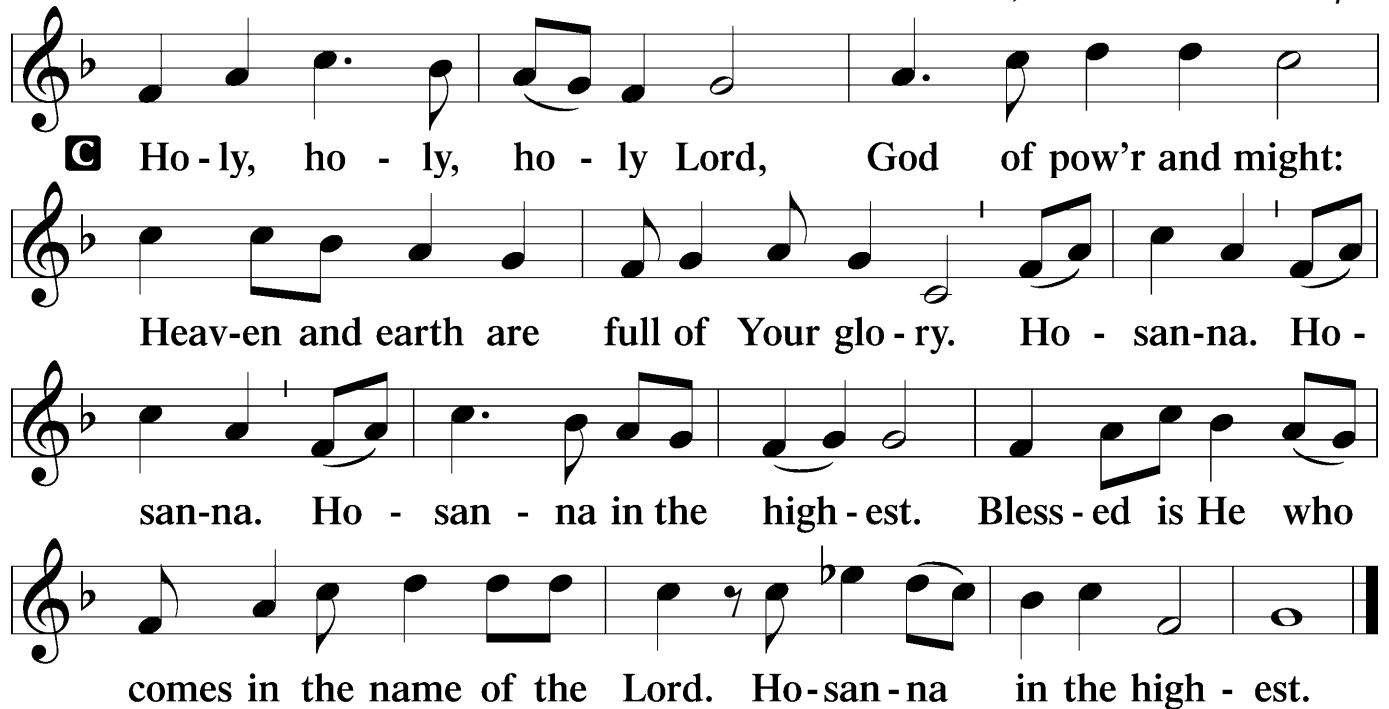
- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, merciful and everlasting God, whom we are privileged to call upon as our Father. Mercifully grant that we may live in thankfulness for the assurance that in Christ, the long-awaited Messiah, has come and has brought the joy of salvation among us. Grant that we celebrate this day at Your Table of grace, awaiting the feast that is to come in Your glorious presence. 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB p 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P We give thanks to You, O God, for You have delivered us from the power of sin, death, and the devil and have called us to be with You in Your kingdom, which is forever. We bless You for having invited us to this feast as Your beloved children of promise in Christ. Grant that we with true thanksgiving receive the bread and wine, that is, the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as a guarantee of the salvation that He purchased for us through His innocent suffering and death. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may live as Your faithful servants as we await Your final advent in glory. Receive our prayers and thanksgivings and grant us Your abiding peace. To You alone, O Father, be praise and honor, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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."

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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13 LSB p 162

- 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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

WE SHARE THE PEACE

♩ AGNUS DEI

John 1:29 LSB p 163

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



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!

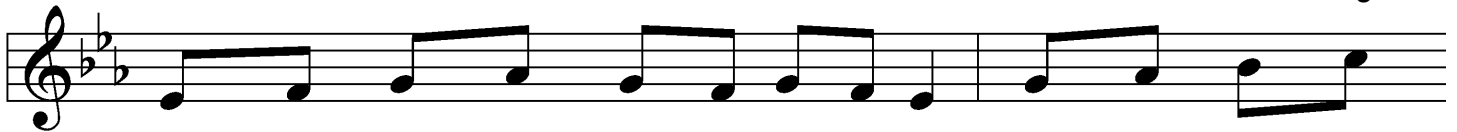
Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.

Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786

Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION NEW HYMN

384 *Of the Father's Love Begotten*



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 △ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348–c. 413; (sts. 1–4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V Text & tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

352 *Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord*



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



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



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

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread,
 I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign,
 I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

Text and tune: Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29–32 LSB p.211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray: O Almighty God, ruler of all things, we bless You for having joined us to Christ through this blessed Meal. Grant that the Holy Spirit graciously intercede for us and direct our ways that we do the good works intended for us to do and, faithfully waiting for Your return in glory, joyfully continue our earthly pilgrimage until we are gathered into Your heavenly kingdom to share in Your blessings for all eternity. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

🔊 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB p 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

NEW HYMN

387 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen!