



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent

Order of Holy Communion

In Nomine Jesu



Preservice Music

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

LO, HE COMES

Greetings & Announcements

LO, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

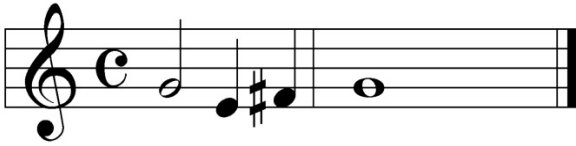
The first staff of music is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains the following notes: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on G4, a half note on F4, and a whole note on E4.

3

(Stand)

Invocation

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



C A - men

(Matthew 28:19b; [18:20])

(Kneel)

Confession of Sins

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.
(Hebrews 10:22)

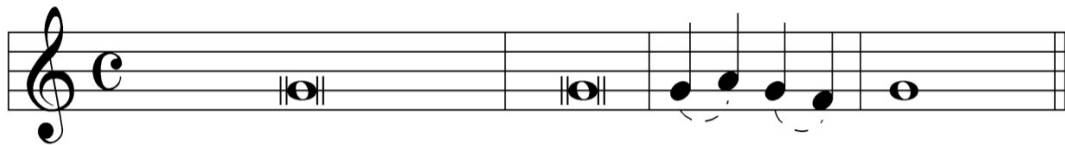
P Our help is in the Name of the Lord,



C Who made heav'n and earth.

(Psalm 124:8)

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,



C And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

(Psalm 32:5)

C *O Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserve Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.*

Absolution

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 A - men.

(John 20:19-23)

(Stand)

Introit

“GAUDETE IN DOMINO SEMPER”

(Intoned by Laetare; Psalm 146:5–8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4)

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

again I will say, | Rejoice.

Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,*

whose hope is in the | LORD his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is | in them,*

who keeps faith for- | ever;

who executes justice for | the oppressed,*

who gives food to the | hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind.*

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the | righteous.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

again I will say, | Rejoice.

Kyrie

(Mark 10:47)

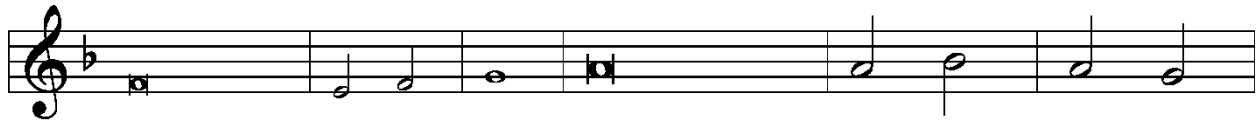


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

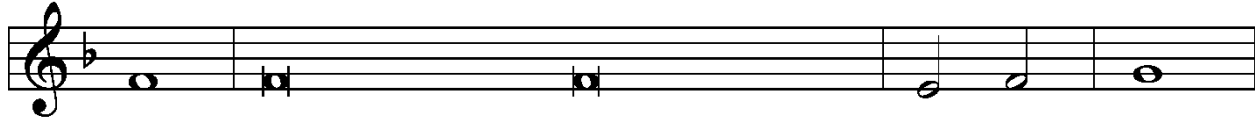


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

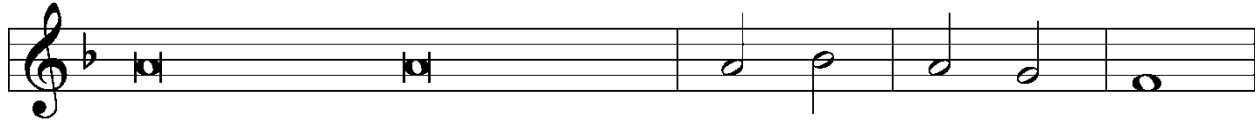
Gloria in Excelsis



C 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;



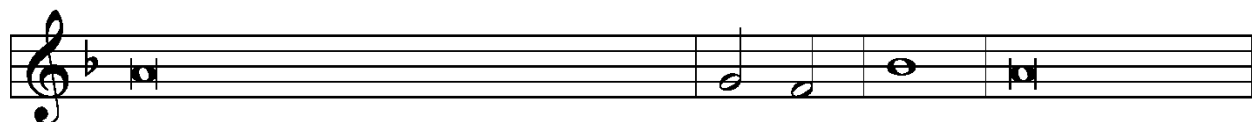
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



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 and Collect of the Day

(2 Timothy 4:22)

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

(Be Seated)

Ministry of Music

ADVENT CANON

by Michael Sharp © 2002 Hal Leonard Corporation

Jubilate Choir

*Come, O come, Anointed Savior, come and set the captives free.
From the chains of sin release us, set our hearts at liberty.
Come, O come, Divine Redeemer, come and heal our broken hearts.
Change our grieving to rejoicing; hope and joy Your love imparts.
To all people, poor and needy, weak and weary on their own,
Jesus brings the gift eternal: life is found in Him alone.
Come, Immortal King of glory, joyous songs to You we raise.
King of kings who reigns forever, worthy of our endless praise.
Worthy of our endless praise.*

Old Testament Lesson

ZEPHANIAH 3:14–20

[14] Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! [15] The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. [16] On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. [17] The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. [18] I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. [19] Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. [20] At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the LORD.

Zephaniah is ecstatic. He sees the Lord’s future deliverance as having taken place already in the present. Zephaniah cannot contain his delight over the fact that God is (will be) in the midst of his people. Not only does the prophet rejoice over this presence; he also sees God himself exulting over his people on that great day.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C *Thanks be to God.*

Gradual

(Intoned by Laetare; Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle Reading

PHILIPPIANS 4:4–7

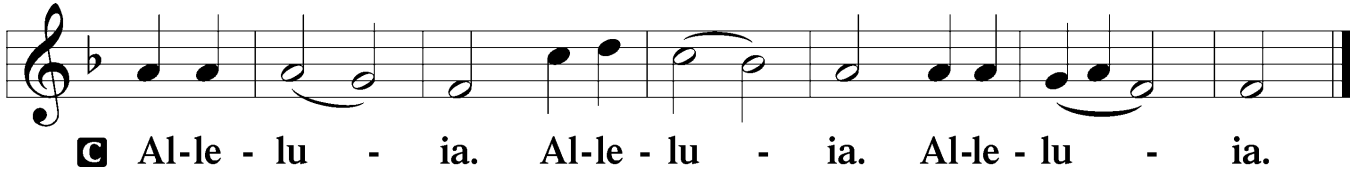
[4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. [5] Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; [6] do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Even though in prison Paul, like Zephaniah and Isaiah, experiences the presence of God and cannot but rejoice. He knows that with God’s presence comes peace and with peace comes protection and deliverance from all that is evil.

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C *Thanks be to God.*

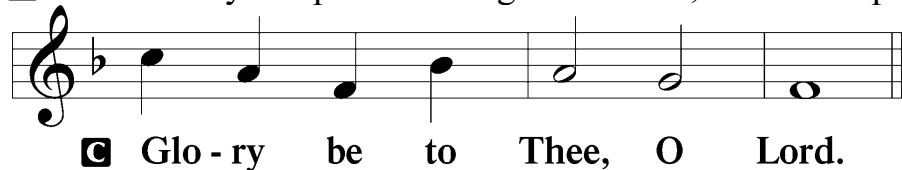
(Stand)

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 7th chapter.



Gospel Reading

ST. LUKE 7:18–28

[18] The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, [19] calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” [20] And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” [21] In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. [22] And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. [23] And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” [24] When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? [25] What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. [26] What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. [27] This is he of whom it is written, “‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ [28] I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

The words of John the Baptist seem to disrupt the prevailing mood of celebration in today’s worship. They speak of judgment and repentance. But Luke is quick to point out that John “preached good news to the people.” Luke is well aware that the Christ’s baptizing with the Holy Spirit means unbelievable blessing for God’s people.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

*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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.*

*And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
Who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe 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.*

(Be Seated)

Sermon Hymn

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

Text: Johann Olearius; Tune: "Freu Dich Sehr"; LSB #347 © 2006 CPH



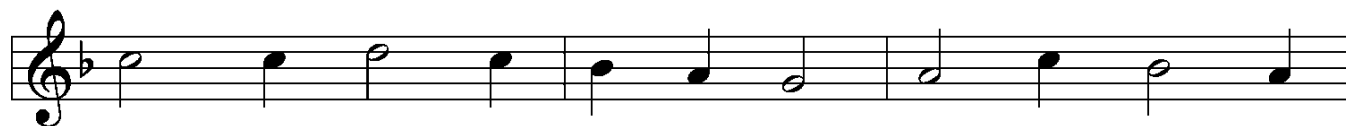
1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



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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(Stand for Text)

Sermon

TEXT: ST. LUKE 7:18–28
“NONE GREATER”

(Stand)

Votum

Offertory

(Psalm 51:10–12)



■ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Offering Prayer

(Be Seated)

Offering

Voluntary
FREU DICH SEHR
Catechism Hymn

WE ALL BELIEVE IN ONE TRUE GOD

Text: Martin Luther; Tune: Latin, 14th cent. – “Wir Glauben All”; LSB #954 st. 3 © 2006 CPH



3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who, in high - est
heav - en dwell - ing With God the Fa - ther and the Son,
Com - forts us be - yond all tell - ing; Who the Church, His
own cre - a - tion, Keeps in u - ni - ty of spir - it.
Here for - give - ness and sal - va - tion Dai - ly come through
Je - sus' mer - it. All flesh shall rise, and
we shall be In bliss with God e - ter - nal - ly.

The weekly recitation of the scripture and catechism lessons in the Divine Service helps to link us together with the children of our congregation and school who work weekly on the memorization of these texts. In the Divine Service we gather and recall the words of our youth, the words of our confirmation, the words of eternal life. The Catechism is more than a text book. The Catechism is a prayer book which is used throughout our life. The Catechism as a prayer book speaks to all our needs, giving us God's promises so that we might learn to "ask Him as dear children ask their dear Father." The Catechism even gives us the very words with which to pray.

Catechism Lesson

- P** A lesson from Ephesians 2:8-9 –
C *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*
- P** What is the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed?
C *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*
- P** What does this mean?
C *I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church he daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.*

(Stand)

Intercessory Prayer

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C *hear our prayer.*

Preface

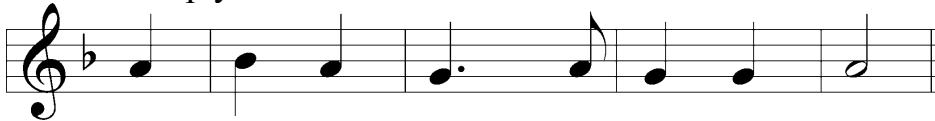
Worship Note: The sound of the Zimbelstern announces the invitation that brings the realms of heaven and voices here on earth to sing the great hymn of praise to our Lord. As the pastor reads "therefore with angels and archangels...." the bells peal in festive celebration.

- P** The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)



- C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)



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

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

(Psalm 136)

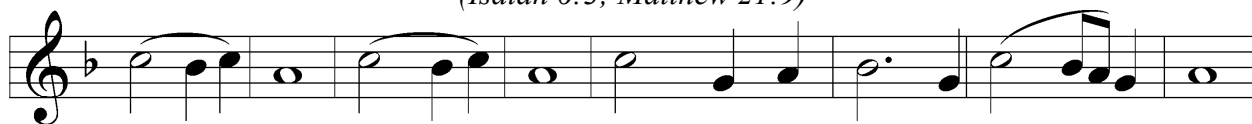


C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



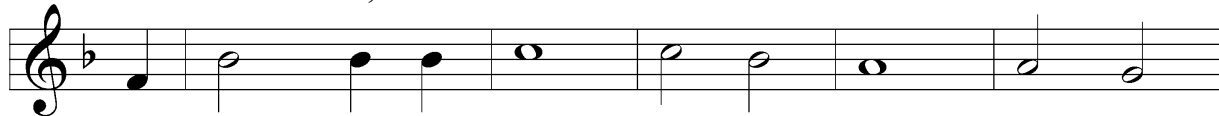
bleſſ-ed is He, bleſſ - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

- P** Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil;



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



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

Words of Institution (Matthew 26:26-28)

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

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

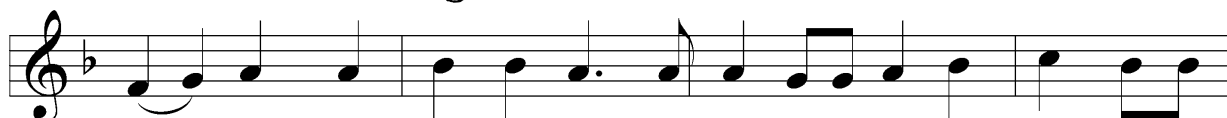
Pax Domini (John 20:19)

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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei (John 1:29)



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



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

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

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

(Be Seated)

Distribution & Hymns

(This congregation observes the Biblical practice of "Closed Communion," outlined in the Communion Policy Statement in the announcements of the bulletin. If you have not communed with us previously and have not had the opportunity to speak with our Pastor about communion attendance, we respectfully request that you refrain from participating in the Sacrament this morning. Thank you for your kindness.)

HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

Text: Latin, c. 5th – 10th cent.; Tune: William H. Monk – "Merton"; LSB #345 © 2006 CPH

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is

2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the

3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with

4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the

5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the

near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the

earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all

par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with

world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us

Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -

works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"

sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.

tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;

with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.

liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Ministry of Music

I SHALL KNOW HIM WHEN HE COMES

15th Century Text Adapted by Charlotte Lee; Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner © 1991 Hope Publishing Company

Jubilate Choir

*I shall know Him when He comes, not with sound of pipe or drum,
but by the holy harmony which now His coming makes in me.
He shall wear no royal robe, or a crown of precious gold,
But He my Lord, my King shall be always, ever be there for me.
He shall not in castle, warm, live in splendor, safe from harm.
But in a manger, crude He'll sleep, warmed by the breath of cows and sheep.
Come, Lord Jesus, tarry not. Find in me a resting spot.
My heart is open, come dwell within. Let life be born in me again.
By the holy harmony which His coming makes in me, I shall know Him, I shall know Him,
I shall know Him when He comes.*

COME, THOU PRECIOUS RANSOM, COME

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius; Tune: "Meinen Jesum Lass' Ich Nicht (Darmstadt)"; LSB #350 © 2006 CPH



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



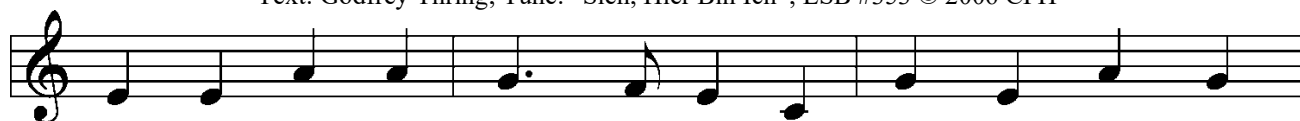
O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

JESUS CAME, THE HEAVENS ADORING

Text: Godfrey Thring; Tune: "Sieh, Hier Bin Ich"; LSB #353 © 2006 CPH



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
 4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
 hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!

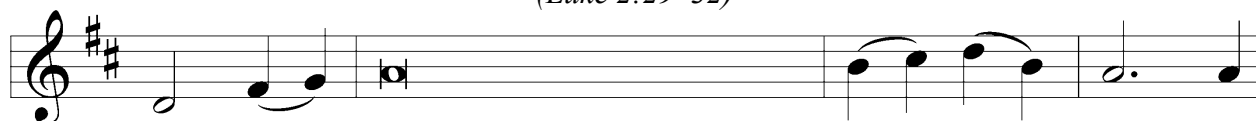


Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

(Stand)

Nunc Dimittis - Song of Simeon

(Luke 2:29-32)



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

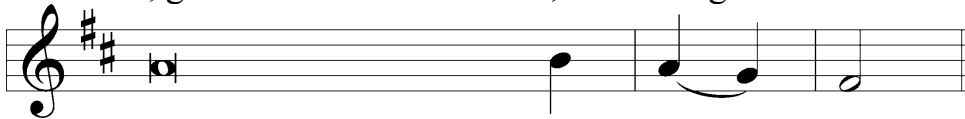


which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

P Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



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

Closing Hymn

LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD

Text: Heinrich Held; Tune: "Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland"; LSB #352 © 2006 CPH



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.

Acknowledgments: The Order of Holy Communion from The Lutheran Hymnal © 1941, and Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All Rights Reserved.

Dr. Laurence L. White, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kelly Krieg, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Armstrong, Minister of Music
Kate Thaelke, Principal
5000 W. Tidwell Rd, Houston, Texas 77091

Church: 713-290-9087 • School: 713-290-8277 • Email: church@osl.cc • Web: www.osl.cc

Welcome!

Volume LXXIV

December 12, 2021

Number 50

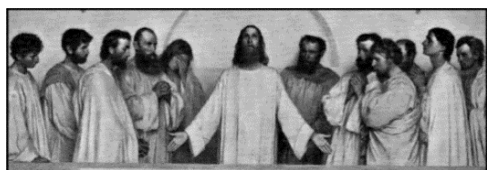
Enter reverently, meditate quietly, worship sincerely, serve Christ faithfully.

It is our heartfelt prayer that all who worships here this day may encounter the love of our Savior. According to His promise, He is here today reaching out to us in love through Word and Sacrament. If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you have found it here so that we may rejoice in serving the Lord together. If we can be of service to you or your family in any way please do not hesitate to ask.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: You put a glad song on our lips, O God of salvation, for in you we can trust and not be afraid. In Christ is announced our source of deliverance; through him the lame walk and the outcast are praised. Soon you will gather your people for a festival of salvation; we assemble now in Christ's name to rejoice and boast of your goodness. Amen.

ATTENDANCE CARDS – MEMBERS (yellow) & VISITORS (blue), remember to fill out an attendance card listing all in attendance for your family. Please note any changes, otherwise you do not have to fill in the address information each week. It is appreciated if first-time visitors would include their address and phone number. Email and work numbers are helpful for inner-office needs. By filling out a card, your attendance and communing is recorded, and your comments are addressed. It is not necessary to indicate common or individual cup. Place cards in the offering plate or give to an usher on your way out. Thanks!

- *The Cry-Room and the four row spans directly in front of it are reserved for parents with small children. Thank you.*
- *Hearing devices are available from the ushers if you need this assistance.*



HOLY COMMUNION will be celebrated next on Christmas Day, Saturday, Dec 25 @ 9:30 AM, and Sunday, December 26 at 9:30 AM. "Let a man examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." *1 Corinthians 11:28*

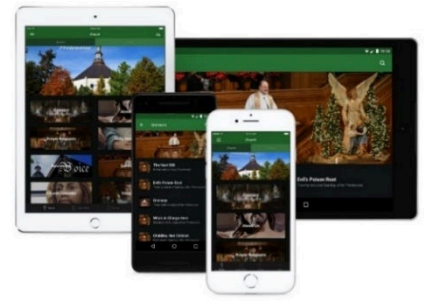
The Word of God teaches that the bread and wine of the Sacrament are the true Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This precious gift of God's grace is to be received in a sense of reverent awe after careful self-examination. The Bible defines that self-examination as a personal recognition of the real presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the Sacrament, and a repentant acknowledgment of my own sinfulness recognizing my absolute dependence upon Christ as the only source of forgiveness for my sin. Scripture further instructs that our participation in Christ's Body and Blood together is the most profound and powerful way for Christians to acknowledge their unity in the faith. That is to say, when we share in the Body and Blood of Jesus at this altar, we are thereby indicating our common commitment to all of the doctrines of God's Word as they are taught in this congregation. Because of these Biblical convictions, we respectfully request that visitors, who wish to join us in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ and thereby identify with our confession of Bible truth, speak with one of our pastors before attending the Lord's Supper.

Get the OSL App...



Our Savior Lutheran

DOWNLOAD NOW



SERMON VIDEOS are on our app or website at www.OSL.cc (click MEDIA at the top). CDs of sermons are available for \$2 each. You may also request past sermons and special services.

Adult Bible Classes & Sunday School Options for All:

8:15 AM

Genesis: The Beginning of All Things – A study of Creation in Scripture, chapters 1-11 (Pastor White - Bible Class Room)

10:45 AM

Thru the Bible in One Year – A Personal Commitment to the Faithful Study of the Word of God: We will continue our study on the Scripture readings the congregation is working on together this year. (Pastor White - Bible Class Room)

Lutheran Confessions: Our Lutheran Confessions were developed out of a genuine concern with false teachings obscuring the glory and merit of our Savior. These unconditional affirmations are as understandable and poignant today as when they were written. Learn their history and development, as well as their relevance in the daily life of a Christian. Through discussion, you will see how others are asking the same questions and how Scripture offers solid, reliable answers. (James Kriegel, C101)

Bethel Bible Series: The Bethel Bible Series will begin its study of the Old Testament. Someone once said, “The devil is not afraid of the Bible that has dust on it.” Another person said, “If all the neglected Bibles were dusted simultaneously, we would have a record dust storm and the sun would go into an eclipse for a whole week.” If your Bible is a little dusty, why not dust it off in the Bethel Class? No assignments and no homework. (Herb Peterson, C102)

Women’s Bible Study: This season of Advent, we will be looking at ways God is renewing, connecting, surprising, and abiding with us. Our study is written by Sarah Baughman as a companion to her and Heidi Goehmann’s Advent Devotional Make Ready. (Family Room, Church)

Applying Scripture to Current Events: This class for young adults will focus on today’s headlines and current events and discuss these topics in light of scripture and how the verses covered each week apply to everyday life. (Adam White, C106)

The Early Church: The history of the first four centuries of the early Church, exploring how God guided and sustained the first Christians, and what it means for us today. (Karl Baughman, Cafeteria)

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS AS LISTED –

High School - Youth Room
8th Grade Confirmation – C105
6th - 7th Grade – C103

4th - 5th Grade – C113
3rd Grade – C116
1st - 2nd Grade – C115

Kindergarten – B107
3 & 4 yrs – B108
18 mos. – 3 yrs – B111



The flowers are given to the glory of God by Bruce & Cindy Blake in celebration of Amanda & Cynthia Crabtree's birthdays.

The **FLOWER CHART** is available to sponsor the church flowers for your special occasions! Each flower arrangement is \$45. You will find the flower clipboard on the hutch in the narthex. Remember to write a "W" if you want the flowers, or "S" to send them to the sick. Thank you!

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION: Remember to log in to your Breeze account, and make sure all your contact information is correct – phone numbers, address, email accounts, etc. You can even add your own **PHOTO**. Call the church office if you need help: 713-290-9087.

Monday Evening Adult Information Class – BACK TO THE BASICS! Adult Information Class is on Mondays @ 7:00 PM. The class covers the most important teachings of the Bible as they are believed, taught and confessed in this Lutheran Congregation. The class is designed for anyone considering membership in Our Savior Lutheran Church and for members of the congregation who would like a great review of basic Bible doctrine. The class meets from 7:00 - 8:30 PM, on Monday evenings, and continues for twelve weeks. Babysitting and refreshments are provided.



WEEKLY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – We are studying the book of Acts. All men are invited on Wednesday mornings in the Bible Class Room, at 6:30-7:30 a.m. Contact Channing Wood at channing@toddyblends.com.



PASTOR WHITE'S WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS is from 10:00-12:00, and we are studying *Romans, Chief Part of the New Testament and the Very Purest Gospel*. Make Bible study a regular part of your schedule every week. Food and fellowship provided of course!

**CHURCH
OFFICE
STAFF**

CHURCH OFFICE POSITION OPEN: I am sad to announce that Debbie Lazarine will be retiring as Church Office Manager at the end of 2021. Debbie has served her Lord in this position admirably and well. If you are interested in being considered for this position, please submit a resume at your earliest convenience to Pastor White: lwhite@osl.cc.

HANGING OF THE GREENS TODAY, Dec 12th, 12:00 noon, following Sunday School! We meet in the narthex and help with this OSL tradition of Hanging of the Greens. This is a great afternoon for the family to share. There is something for teenagers on up, Men & Women! The Altar Guild appreciates your help! Sandwiches & drinks will be provided for the workers in the narthex. For any questions contact Debbie Adams 713-826-1279.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING! Join us **December 19th, at 5:00 pm!** Bring the whole family and let's fill every seat on the bus as we spread some Christmas cheer, singing to our shut-in members! Then we'll come back to church for snacks and fellowship. Bring a snack to share and come with your voices strong and ready to sing.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES – Toddy, Inc. Winery, Distillery, Brewery and Event Venue is currently hiring for the following positions: Daiquiri Store Attendants, Bartenders, Bar-Backs, Servers, Drivers, Salesmen and Cooks. Send resume to recruiter@toddyoaks.com, located at 20120 Franz Rd, Katy, TX 77449.



GREETERS NEEDED to serve the Lord with gladness! Get to know your fellow church family. Call Terry Tomchesson for information: 281-777-4879. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for audio-visual ministries:** If you would like to learn from a “hands on” perspective, call 713-290-9087, leave your name, number, and we will contact you. No experience needed.

Name Tags upon request. Simply express the way you want to have your name appear and give your place of birth to Debbie in the church office, 713-290-9087 ext. 202, or dlazarine@osl.cc.

STAMPS – Cheerful Helpers are collecting stamps trimmed to ¼". Please put them in the mailbox in Pastor White’s Bible Class Room. – Sandi Hall, Human Care Chairman.

RECYCLE Paper in the bin which is now in the back parking lot to the north.

BOX TOPS for Education – Please place the trimmed box tops in an envelope marked for the school on the narthex table.

Greeting Cards are available in the Bible Class Room. Each box is \$6 or \$7. Make checks payable to OSL, with Circle of Grace in the memo.

AMAZON SMILE & OSL – Now enjoy everything Amazon offers while supporting OSL School. Amazon will donate .5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Our Savior Lutheran School. How? Visit [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile), search “Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, Houston” and select us as your preferred charity. Who knew supporting your school could be so easy?

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM — Please make sure your account has our new NPO account number, **XB926**. Log in to your account at [Kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com), place the cursor on the Savings & Rewards link at the top left-hand side, and click on Kroger Community Rewards. Choose the “View Details” button under “I’m a Customer”. Verify that the Organization Number is **XB926**. You should also see “You are contributing to Our Savior Lutheran School” at the bottom of your grocery receipt.



Don't forget to tithe!

Use the OSL app from Subsplash!

It is free in the App Store.

No monthly fee -No set up fee -No hidden fees

- Lowest processing rates that continue to drop as your giving increases.

All credit and debit cards (including AMEX) are processed at 2.3% + .30 cents per transaction.

All ACH donations are 1% with no cents.

There is also a “GIVE” link at the top of our website: www.OSL.cc

MEASURE OF DEVOTION: Last Sunday, we had 387 people in attendance (last year 333), 1100 viewed our service online. For our 1st Advent Wed, we had 383 (last year 191), 1100 online.

Our Ministry Challenge

Tithes & Offerings for last week	\$ 30,924.49
Tithes & Offerings to date – week 49	\$ 1,542,655.76
Tithes & Offerings needed each week	\$ 35,365.00
Tithes & Offerings needed to date – week 49	\$ 1,732,885.00
General Fund Income to date	\$ 3,391,165.02
Special Contributions to date	\$ 211,625.82

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10

Please use your assigned envelopes which are mailed to you, and have your number on them. That way we can be sure you are properly credited for ALL your contributions. Thank You!

Those To Serve:

	Today, December 12, at 9:30 AM	Next Sunday, December 19, at 9:30 AM
ELDERS:	Chuck Hall / Scott Nitsch / Jason Stephens / Shaun Downie	Chuck Hall / Scott Nitsch / Jason Stephens / Shaun Downie
USHERS:	Hall Team	Downie Team
SOUND:	J. Wilbanks	Greenwood
CARTS:	Gerard Team	Adams Team
ACOLYTES:	Maja Stephens / August Baughman	Colleen Crabtree / Kendall Horn
ALTAR GLD:	Lorie Moehlman Team	—
COMM.ASST:	Chuck Hall / Scott Nitsch / Jason Stephens / Shaun Downie / Ken Wright	—
EVANGELISM:	Team 4 Karl	Team 5 Al
GREETERS:	Alan & Sandy Fritsche	Margie Green / Donna Nalley
MUSIC:	Jubilate Choir	Laudate Choir / Exultae / Cantate / Carillon Ringers
VIDEO:	Amélie Boerger / Chad Greenwood / Mitchell Stephens / Aiden Sullivan / Adam White	

	Advent Wednesday, December 15, at 7:00 PM
ELDERS:	Chuck Hall / Scott Nitsch / Jason Stephens / Shaun Downie
USHERS:	Hall Team
SOUND:	J. Wilbanks
CARTS:	Gerard Team
ACOLYTES:	Lance Holman / August Baughman / Nathan Russ
EVANGELISM:	Team 4 Karl
MUSIC:	OSL 5th-8th Grade classes
VIDEO:	Amélie Boerger / Chad Greenwood / Mitchell Stephens / Aiden Sullivan / Adam White

*All Advent meals will be from **Chick-fil-A**, with sandwiches or wraps for adults, and nuggets for the kids, served in the **cafeteria**.*



Join us this Advent and Christmas season in walking through the *Come and See Devotional*. Each day includes a short reading and a brief devotion to encourage our hearts and minds to rest in the One who came for us and will come for us again. Copies are available in the Narthex, or scan this code for a downloadable PDF version.



OSL at a Glance

Sunday, December 12, 2021

<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Bible Class	8:15 AM	Bible Class Room
Communion	9:30 AM	Church & online
Sunday School	10:45 AM	
Altar Guild Hanging of the Greens	12:00 PM	Church
Laudate	12:00 PM	School Music Room
Middle School Youth Meeting	4:30 PM	Youth Room

Monday, December 13, 2021

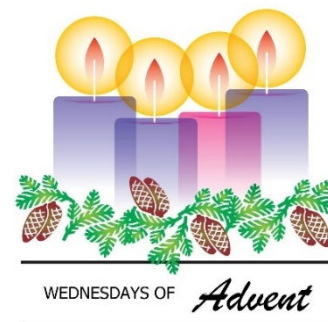
Joseph's Guild of Colors-LWML	9:00 AM	LWML
Adult Information Class-BC	7:00 PM	Bible Class Room

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

<i>Braille</i>	<i>8:30 AM</i>	<i>Concordia LCMS</i>
Voters Meeting	7:00 PM	Bible Class Room

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Newsletter Deadline		
Men's Bible Study-BC	6:30 AM	Bible Class Room
Bulletin Deadline	12:00 PM	Church Office
Advent Meal	5:30 PM	Cafeteria
Advent Service	7:00 PM	Church



Thursday, December 16, 2021

Prayer Request printing deadline	3:00 PM	Church office
Evangelism Meeting - BC	6:00 PM	Bible Class Room
Carillon Ringers	6:15 PM	Choir Loft
Jubilate Choir	7:00 PM	Choir Loft
Lutheran Confessions Bible Study Group	7:00 PM	Bible Class Room

Friday, December 17, 2021

Young at Heart-BC	12:00 PM	Bible Class Room
School Chapel-Last day of school	2:40 PM	

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Bible Class	8:15 AM	Bible Class Room
Matins	9:30 AM	Church & online
Sunday School	10:45 AM	
Exultae	12:00 PM	Church Music Room
Christmas Caroling to Shut Ins	5:00 PM	Church Parking Lot



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 6:00 PM
WITH ORCHESTRA, CHOIR, AND CANDLES

Order Your Poinsettias

The Altar Guild will be decorating our church with poinsettias to celebrate the joy of our newborn Savior in memory of loved ones or a special occasion. Your dedication will be printed in a special book that will be handed out at the Christmas services. Use this form and place in the offering plate, mail to us, or email to Debbie at dlazarine@osl.cc. Each poinsettia plant is \$10.00. Checks made out to OSL. Poinsettias will be available for pick up after the New Year's Eve Service. Poinsettia dedication deadline for the book is December 15th.



Yes, I want ___ poinsettias @ \$10.00 each = _____ enclosed.

Name: _____

Dedication: _____
