

**St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**  
*Full Service Bulletin*  
Pastor Erik Sorenson



**December 17, 2023**

**MEMBERS AND GUESTS:**

We will celebrate Holy Communion during our worship service this evening.

If you are partaking of the Lord's Supper, please read and fill out one of the registration cards on the back of the pew. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to the usher.

To listen via radio, please tune to AM 750.

Communion Statement - The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation 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 with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust 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 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are kindly asked first to speak with the pastor. In addition to this being our practice, we do not want our visitors to violate their own conscience or the public confession of faith that is made through their home Church membership. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward with arms crossed to receive a blessing from the pastor. We thank you for respecting our practice. For further study, see Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; 1 Cor. 11:17–34.

# Confession and Absolution

## 354 Arise, O Christian People

*Hymn of Invocation*



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



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



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



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



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

## Invocation

*LSB 184*

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

**C** Amen.

**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.**

**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 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7*

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
and grant us your salvation.

**Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,**

**for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

**Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.**

Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.  
**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.**  
Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
and grant us your salvation.

## Gloria Patri

LSB 186

☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

The musical score for Gloria Patri consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system begins with a treble staff containing a series of chords and a bass staff with a similar harmonic structure. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The second system continues the melody and harmony, ending with a double bar line.

## Kyrie

LSB 186

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

The musical score for Kyrie consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The first system begins with a treble staff containing a series of chords and a bass staff with a similar harmonic structure. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The second system continues the melody and harmony, ending with a double bar line.

**Gloria in Excelsis** - Omitted during Advent

# Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189



**P** The Lord be with you.

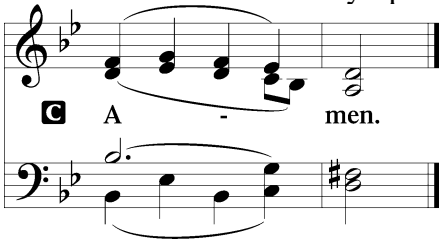


**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

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



**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (p. 620, p. 789 LP)*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation.

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

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

## Epistle

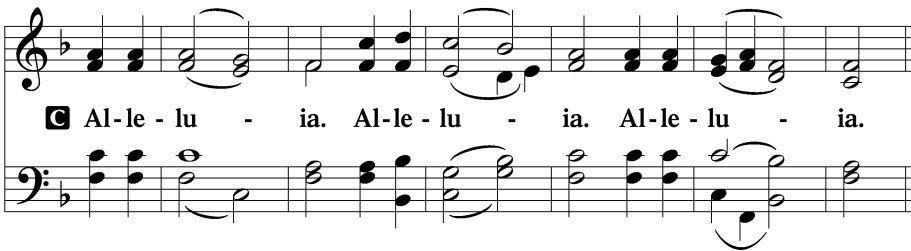
*1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (p. 988, p. 1258 LP)*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia

LSB 190

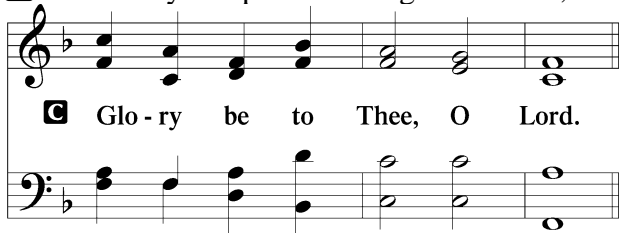


Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 1:6–8, 19–28 (p. 886, p. 1127 LP)*

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



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

LSB 191

**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.

### 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

*Hymn of the Day*



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!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89 Text and tune: Public domain

### Sermon

*I Am Not*

### Offertory

*LSB 192*



☐ 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 of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir-it.





**P** Lift up your hearts.

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



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

## Proper Preface

**P** It is truly meet, 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 saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 195*

**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

*LSB 196*

**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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

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

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,  
 and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the  
 dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  bod - y, which is giv - en for you.  
 This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so  
 He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it  
 to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in  
 My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the for - give - ness of sins.  
 This do, as often as you drink it, in re - mem - brance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 197

The musical score for "Pax Domini" is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves: a vocal line, a piano accompaniment, and a bass line. The vocal line begins with a square box containing the letter 'P'. The lyrics are: "The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways. A - men." The piano accompaniment features a simple harmonic accompaniment with a bass line that provides a steady accompaniment.

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

**A** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198

The musical score for "Agnus Dei" is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are: "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, have mer - cy up - on us." The piano accompaniment features a simple harmonic accompaniment with a bass line that provides a steady accompaniment.

**A** 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, have mer - cy up - on us.

world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

## Distribution & Hymns

### 333 Once He Came in Blessing

1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -  
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He  
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y  
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -

dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,  
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,  
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor  
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,

Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to  
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will  
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful  
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -

save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.  
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.  
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.  
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490-1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; (sts. 2-3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480-1534 Text (sts. 2-3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001749 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

# 337 The Night Will Soon Be Ending



1 The night will soon be end - ing; The dawn can -  
 2 The One whom an - gels tend - ed Comes near, a  
 3 The earth in sure ro - ta - tion Will soon bring  
 4 Yet nights will bring their sad - ness And rob our  
 5 God dwells with us in dark - ness And makes the



not be far. Let songs of praise as - cend - ing Now  
 child, to serve; Thus God, the judge of - fend - ed, Bears  
 morn - ing bright, So run where God's sal - va - tion Glows  
 hearts of peace, And sin in all its mad - ness A -  
 night as day; Yet we re - sist the bright - ness And



greet the Morn - ing Star! All you whom dark - ness  
 all our sins de - serve. The guilt - y need not  
 in a sta - ble's light. As old as sin's per -  
 round us may in - crease. But now one Star is  
 turn from God a - way. But grace does not for -



fright - ens With guilt or grief or pain, God's ra - diant  
 cow - er, For God has rec - on - ciled Through His re -  
 ver - sion Is mer - cy's vast de - sign: God brings a  
 beam - ing Whose rays have pierced the night: God comes for  
 sake us, How - ev - er far we run, God claims us



Star now bright - ens And bids you sing a - gain.  
 demp - tive pow - er All those who trust this child.  
 new cre - a - tion—This child its seal and sign.  
 our re - deem - ing From sin's op - pres - sive might.  
 still as chil - dren Through Mar - y's in - fant Son.

Text: Jochen Klepper, 1903–42; tr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: Welsh

Text: © 1998 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001749

Tune: Public domain

# 515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



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



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



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



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

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907, alt.

Tune: Swedish

Text and tune: Public domain

## 636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the  
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with  
3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther  
4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's  
lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -  
cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of  
this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.  
mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.  
heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.  
bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing  
O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you  
Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the  
With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and  
there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -  
gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you  
us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.  
ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.  
riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.  
la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!



5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,  
 Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
 Peace beyond all understanding,  
 Joy into all life expanding:  
 Humbly now, I bow before You;  
 Love incarnate, I adore You;  
 Worthily let me receive You  
 And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,  
 Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,  
 Jesus, joy of my desiring,  
 Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
 At Your feet I cry, my maker,  
 Let me be a fit partaker  
 Of this blessed food from heaven,  
 For our good, Your glory, given.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,  
 You once left Your throne in heaven  
 On the cross for me to languish  
 And to die in bitter anguish,  
 To forego all joy and gladness  
 And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
 By this blood redeemed and living,  
 Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,  
 Let me gladly here obey You.  
 By Your love I am invited,  
 Be Your love with love requited;  
 By this Supper let me measure,  
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
 Through the gift of grace You give me  
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; (sts. 1, 4-5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2-3, 6-8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662 Text (sts. 1, 4-5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001749 Text (sts. 2-3, 6-8) and tune: Public domain

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

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

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and ends with a quarter rest. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature and time signature. It provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

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

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, and a quarter note F#5. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

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

The third system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

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 with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

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

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

## Post-Communion Collect

LSB 201

**A** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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

LSB 201

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit - it.

## Benedicamus

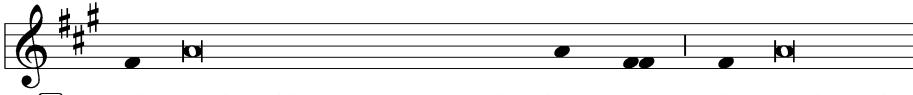
LSB 202

**A** Bless we the Lord.

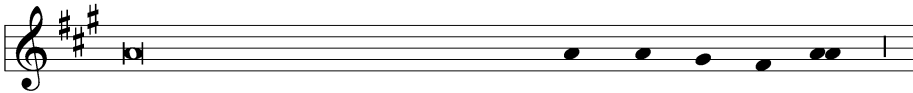
**C** Thanks be to God.

# Benediction

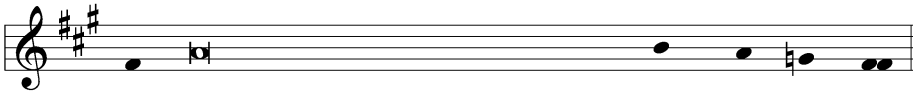
LSB 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



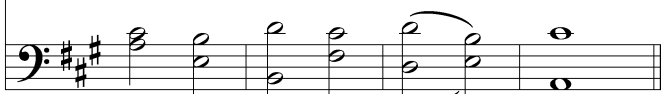
His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



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



# 346 When All the World Was Cursed

*Closing Hymn*



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo - ses' con - dem - na - tion,  
2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,  
3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans - gres - sion,  
4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re - ceive, re - joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.  
Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.  
Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.  
The word pro - claimed by John, Our true re - pen - tance voic - ing,



With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er One he named,  
By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,  
Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,  
That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way



And Him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.  
He tes - ti - fied of Him Of whom the proph - ets told:  
Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.  
Un - til we live with Him In His e - ter - nal day.

## Announcements for the Week of December 17, 2023

Sunday	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
<b>12/17</b> 9:00 AM – Divine Service 10:15 AM – Cookie Exchange, Pastor’s Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 AM – Youth Catechesis	<b>12/18</b>	<b>12/19</b>	<b>12/20</b>  6 PM – Advent Meal 7 PM – Advent Midweek Service	<b>12/21</b>	<b>12/22</b>	<b>12/23</b>

**Birthdays & Anniversaries:**

12/17: Michelle Sorenson  
 12/19: Amy Nagel  
 12/21: Lucy Sorenson, Melessa Wiesehan  
 12/22: Cheryl Yearsley

**Stewardship:**

**Budget per week:** \$3135  
**12/10 offerings:** \$10,850  
**12/10 Synodical Fund:** \$0  
**12/10 Building Fund:** \$200

*The altar  
flowers are  
given to the  
praise and  
glory of God*

**Advent Suppers:** There is a sign-up sheet on the conference room door for our Advent suppers this year. If you would like to provide a part of our meal, please see the sheet or talk to Janice Acree. Advent midweeks begin on December 6<sup>th</sup>, with supper at 6 PM and service at 7 PM.

**Cookie Exchange:** We will be having a cookie exchange on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have cookies that you’d like to share, please plan on bringing two dozen. We will enjoy some cookies during fellowship and Bible study and you will also be able to take a dozen (or more!) home to enjoy in the days leading up to Christmas.

**Thank You:** It is during difficult times we realize how loving, caring, and special is our church family. Thank you for all your love and support for both Mom and I. God has indeed blessed me with a wonderful and special church family. Thank you and God bless. – Barb

[2023 Advent & Christmas Schedule](#)

- Wed. 12/20 – Midweek Services @ 7 PM (Meal at 6 PM)*
- Sun. 12/24 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent @ 9 AM*
- Sun. 12/24 – Children’s Christmas Program @ 7 PM*
- Sun. 12/24 – Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service @ 11 PM*
- Mon. 12/25 – Christmas Day Divine Service @ 9 AM*

**Address Update:** Luella Holle has a new address: 1503 S. Walnut St., Apt. 506, Seymour, IN 47274. Her phone number remains the same. If you would like to send her a card or note or call her, she would appreciate it.

**Prayer List:**

**Teresa Lucas**  
**Ron Cox**  
**Luella Holle**  
**Larry Phelps**

**Sandra Phelps**  
**Thomas Turner**  
**Laura Moorman**  
**John Dobrinski**

**Upcoming Acolytes:**

**12/20:** Trevor Acree                      **12/24 (9 AM):** Abe Acton                      **12/24 (11 PM):** Rayleigh Acton  
**12/25:** Trevor Acree, Joe Acree (Crucifer)

Below you will find a model you can use for your personal or family devotions that focuses you on the readings from the previous Sunday, while also preparing you for what you will hear the following Sunday. In modeling your devotions this way, you and your family can stay united to the church year and reinforce what you hear, sing, and pray every Sunday.

- Mon. 12/18: Read the Old Testament lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 – The Lord proclaims the good news to us that His everlasting covenant is ours and, because of this, we are clothed with the garments of salvation and the robe of righteousness.  
Sing the Hymn of the Day: LSB 345 – Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding  
Pray the Collect of the Day: Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- Tues. 12/19: Read the Epistle lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 – Rejoice always! For because of Christ we are sanctified and blameless now and until Christ returns again.  
Sing the Hymn of the Day: LSB 345 – Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding  
Pray the Collect of the Day: (see 12/18)
- Wed. 12/20: Read the Gospel lesson: John 1:6-8, 19-28 – John the Baptist bore witness that he was simply preparing the way for the true Light, the Lord Himself, Jesus Christ.  
Sing the Hymn of the Day: LSB 345 – Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding  
Pray the Collect of the Day: (see 12/18)
- Thur. 12/21: Read the Old Testament lesson: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 – While David desired to make a house for the Lord, the Lord instead promised to make an eternal house for David and He did just that through Jesus, who was born in the line of David.  
Sing the Hymn of the Day: LSB 357 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Pray the Collect of the Day: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- Fri. 12/22: Read the Epistle lesson: Romans 16:25-27 – All glory belongs to God who, through His Word, revealed Jesus Christ and His salvation to all the world.  
Sing the Hymn of the Day: LSB 357 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Pray the Collect of the Day: (see 12/21)
- Sat. 12/23: Read the Gospel lesson: Luke 1:26-38 – As the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary and thus conceived Jesus, the angel Gabriel revealed that Jesus is the eternal King who will rule and reign forever.  
Sing the Hymn of the Day: LSB 357 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Pray the Collect of the Day: (see 12/21)