

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Nativity of Our Lord
Full Service Bulletin
Pastor Erik Sorenson



December 25, 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

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Processional Hymn



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



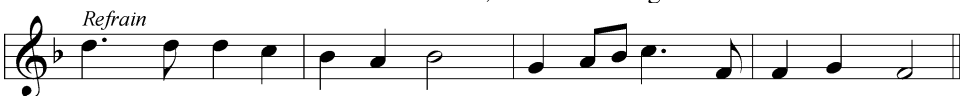
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47 Text and tune: Public domain

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 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**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.

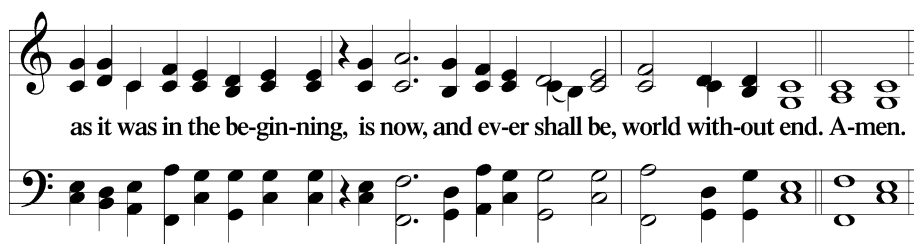
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



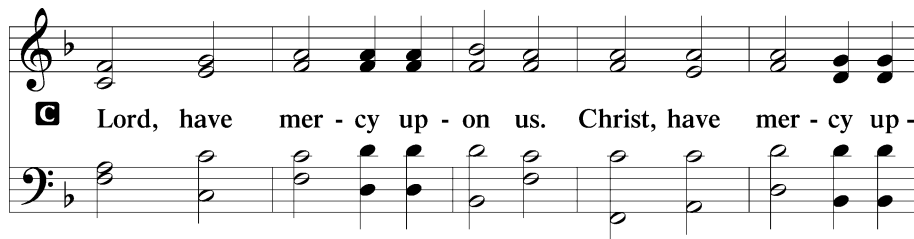
☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



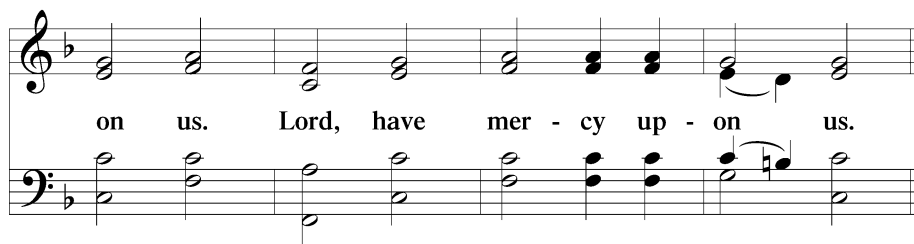
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



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



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

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

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

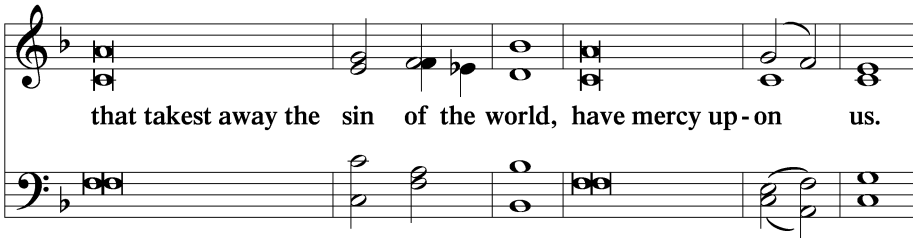
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

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

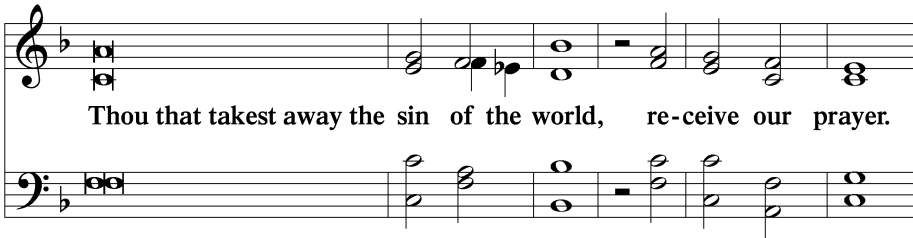
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.

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

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



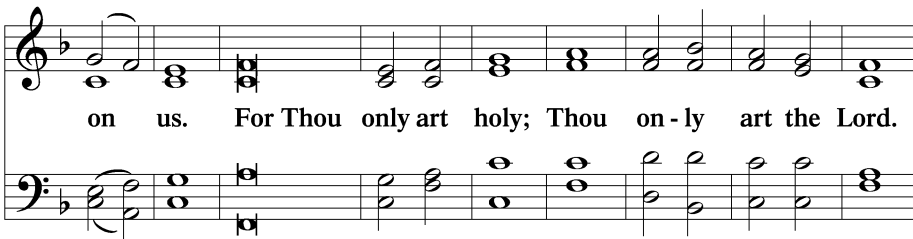
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



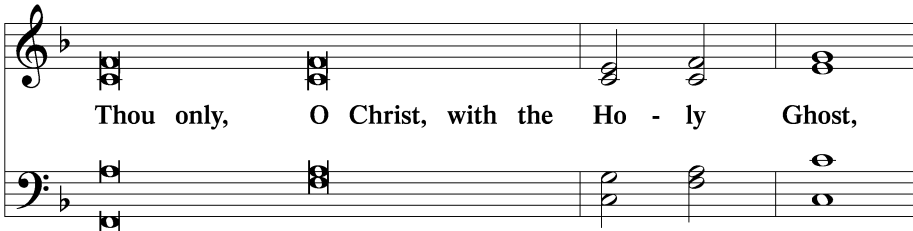
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



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

LSB 189



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; 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.



Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10 (p. 613, p. 779 LP)

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder.
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

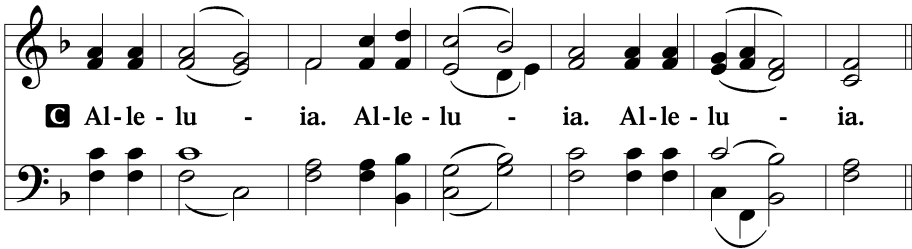
Epistle

Hebrews 1:1–12 (p. 1001, p. 1275 LP)

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

Alleluia

LSB 190



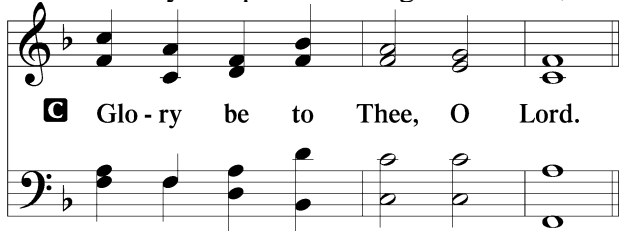
C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–14 (p. 886, p. 1127 LP)

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

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



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

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.

382 We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth

Hymn of the Day



1 We praise You, Je - sus, at Your birth; Clothed in flesh You
 2 Now in the man - ger we may see God's Son from e -
 3 The vir - gin Mar - y's lul - la - by Calms the in - fant
 4 The Light E - ter - nal, break - ing through, Made the world to



came to earth. The vir - gin bears a sin - less boy
 ter - ni - ty, The gift from God's e - ter - nal throne
 Lord Most High. Up - on her lap con - tent is He
 gleam a - new; His beams have pierced the core of night,



And all the an - gels sing for joy. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Who keeps the earth and sky and sea. Al - le - lu - ia!
 He makes us chil - dren of the light. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 The very Son of God sublime
 Entered into earthly time
 To lead us from this world of cares
 To heaven's courts as blessed heirs.
 Alleluia!

6 In poverty He came to earth
 Showing mercy by His birth;
 He makes us rich in heav'nly ways
 As we, like angels, sing His praise.
 Alleluia!

7 All this for us our God has done
 Granting love through His own Son.
 Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice
 And sing His praise with endless voice.
 Alleluia!

Text (st. 1): German, c. 1380; (sts. 1, 6): tr. Gregory J. Wismar, 1946; (sts. 2-7): Martin Luther, 1483-1546;
 (sts. 2, 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (sts. 3, 5, 7): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: Eyn Enchiridion
 oder Handbüchlein, 1524, Erfurt Text (sts. 1, 3, 5-7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 2, 4): © 1978
 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001749 Tune: Public domain

Sermon

A New Beginning

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

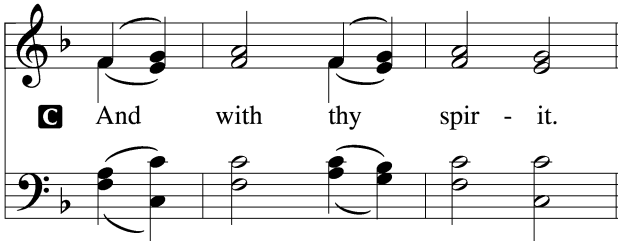
Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



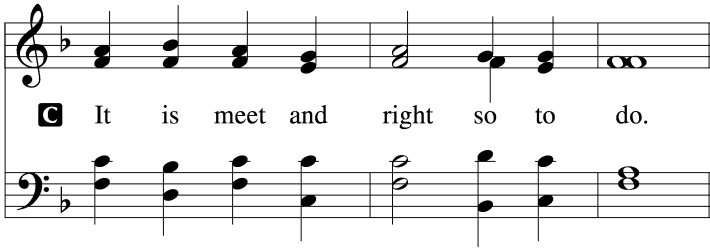
P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



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



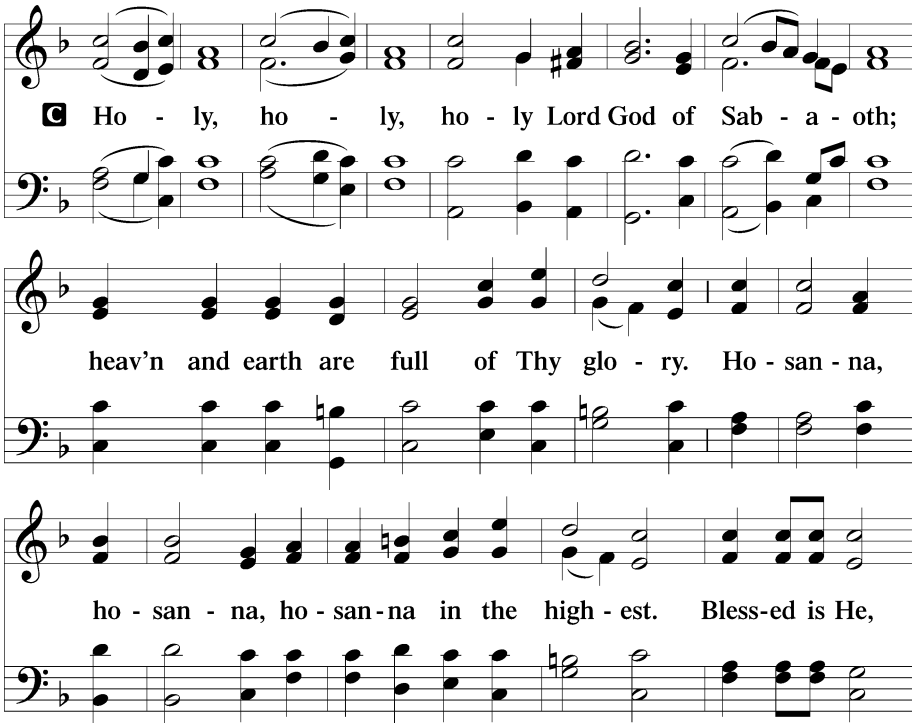
It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. 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



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 \dagger 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 \dagger 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

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



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



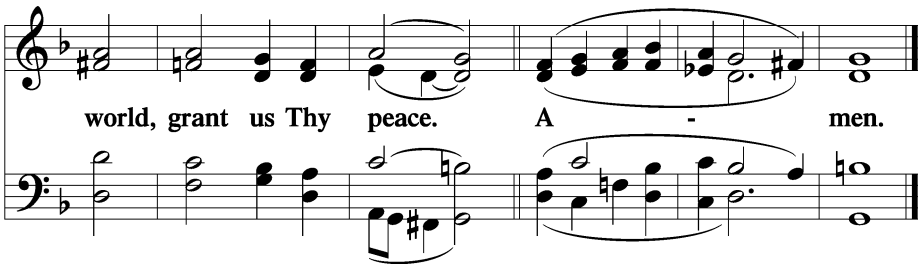
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



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.

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

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.
 3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
 Death was reign - ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty
 Where the an - gels sing - ing With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
 Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
 Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
 Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
 Draw me un - to Thee! Draw me un - to Thee!
 May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt. Tune: German, 14th cent.
 Text and tune: Public domain

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
 Δ 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 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 Nunc Dimittis. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a half note C5. The bass staff provides accompaniment with chords and moving lines. A common time signature 'C' is placed at the beginning of the lyrics.

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 half note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

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

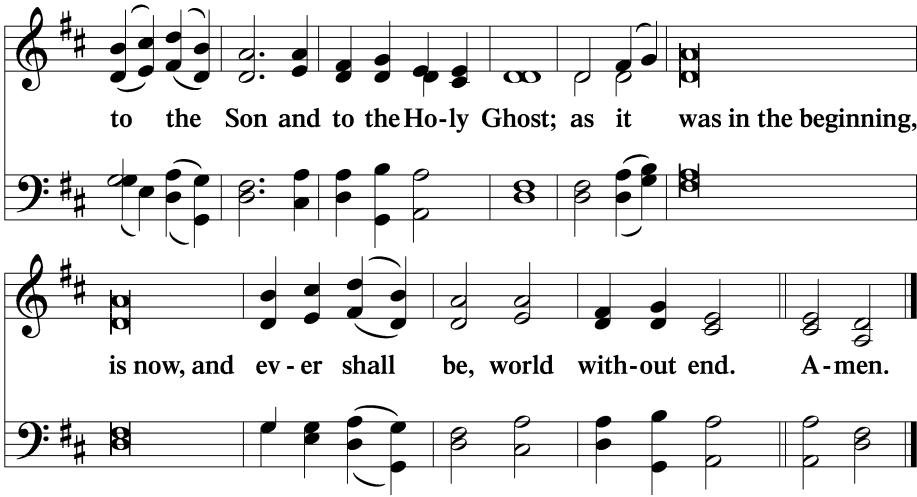
The third system of musical notation. The treble staff begins with a half note C5, followed by quarter notes B4 and A4. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

The fourth system of musical notation. The treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a half note C5. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

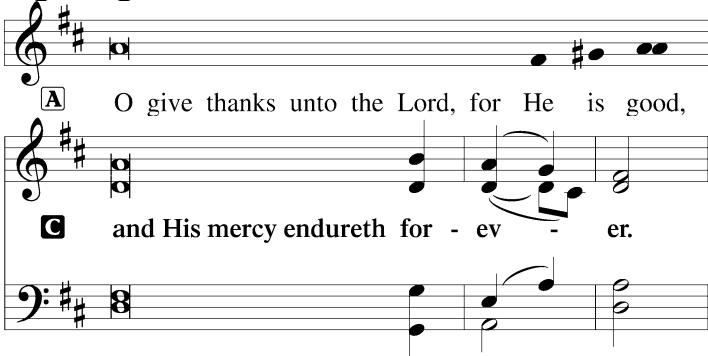
The fifth and final system of musical notation. The treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a half note C5. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.



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



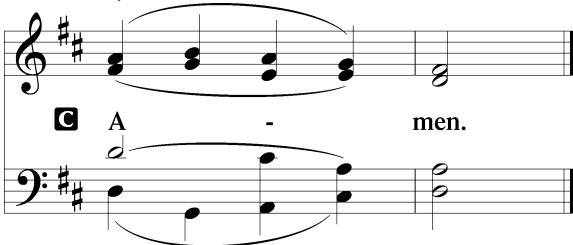
A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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 spir - it.

The musical notation for the Salutation consists of three staves. The first staff is a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The second staff is a vocal line in treble clef with the same key signature, containing the lyrics "And with thy spir - it." The third staff is a bass line in bass clef with the same key signature, providing harmonic support.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The musical notation for the Benedicamus consists of three staves. The first staff is a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. The second staff is a vocal line in treble clef with the lyrics "Thanks be to God." The third staff is a bass line in bass clef with the same key signature, providing harmonic support.

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.

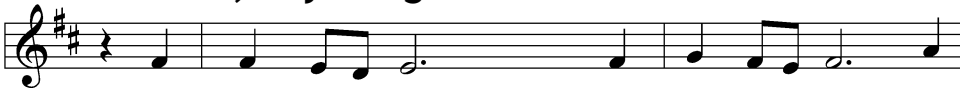
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

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

The musical notation for the Benediction consists of five staves. The first three staves are vocal lines in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps, containing the lyrics "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." The fourth staff is a vocal line in treble clef with the lyrics "A - men, a - men, a - men." The fifth staff is a bass line in bass clef with the same key signature, providing harmonic support.

372 O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is

Recessional Hymn



1 O Je - sus Christ, Thy man - ger is My
 2 He whom the sea And wind o - bey Doth
 3 Thy light and grace Our guilt ef - face, Thy
 4 Thou Chris - tian heart, Who - e'er thou art, Be



par - a - dise at which my soul re - clin - eth.
 come to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
 heav'n - ly rich - es all our loss re - triev - ing.
 of good cheer and let no sor - row move thee!



For there, O Lord, Doth lie the Word Made
 Thou, God's own Son, With us art one, Dost
 Im - man - u - el, Thy birth doth quell The
 For God's own Child, In mer - cy mild, Joins



flesh for us; here - in Thy grace forth shin - eth.
 join us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
 pow'r of hell and Sa - tan's bold de - ceiv - ing.
 thee to Him; how great - ly God must love thee!

- 5 Remember thou
 What glory now
 The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.
 The angel host
 Can never boast
 Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.

- 6 The world may hold
 Her wealth and gold;
 But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.
 To Him hold fast
 Until at last
 A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

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Merry Christmas!

