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✠ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ✠

DECEMBER 8, 2024

+ THE ORDER OF MATINS +

LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK – PAGES 219-228

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Prayer Before Worship

*O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.*

PRELUDE

RINGING BELL CALLS US TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN     *LSB 343 Prepare the Royal Highway*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Page 151*

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

**C: AMEN.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: BUT IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, GOD, WHO IS FAITHFUL AND JUST, WILL FORGIVE OUR SINS AND CLEANSE US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.**

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

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: MOST MERCIFUL GOD, WE CONFESS THAT WE ARE BY NATURE SINFUL AND UNCLEAN. WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED, BY WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND BY WHAT WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE. WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU WITH OUR WHOLE HEART; WE HAVE NOT LOVED OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES. WE JUSTLY DESERVE YOUR PRESENT AND ETERNAL PUNISHMENT. FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON US. FORGIVE US, RENEW US, AND LEAD US, SO THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS TO THE GLORY OF YOUR HOLY NAME. AMEN.**



**PSALMODY Venite O Come, Let Us Sing**  
**Antiphon**



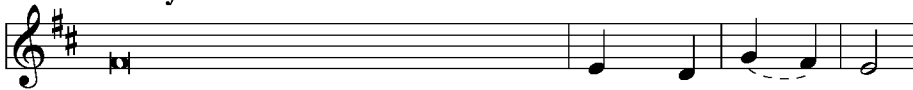
**L** Behold, the Lord comes to save us.



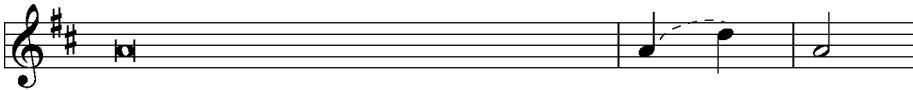
**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.



**C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,  
 2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God  
 3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,  
 5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.  
 2 and a great . . . . . king a - bove all gods.  
 3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.  
 5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,  
 2 The deep places of the earth are . . . . . in His hand;  
 3 O come, let us worship and . . . . . bow down,  
 4 For He . . . . . is our God,  
 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to . . . . . Him with songs of praise.  
 2 the strength of the hills is . . . . . His al - so.  
 3 let us kneel before the . . . . . Lord, our mak - er.  
 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.  
 5 is now, and will be for . . . . . ev - er. A - men.



**L** Behold, the Lord comes to save us.



**C** O come, let us wor - ship Him.

## Second Psalm Psalm 66:1-12

*(Sung responsively by verse)*



Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;\*

sing the glory of His name; give to Him | glorious praise!

**SAY TO GOD, "HOW AWESOME | ARE YOUR DEEDS!\***

**SO GREAT IS YOUR POWER THAT YOUR ENEMIES COME CRINGING | TO YOU.**

All the earth worships You and sings prais- | es to You;\*

they sing praises | to Your Name."

**COME AND SEE WHAT | GOD HAS DONE:\***

**HE IS AWESOME IN HIS DEEDS TOWARD THE CHIL- | DREN OF MAN.**

He turned the sea into | dry land;\*

they passed through the riv- | er on foot.

**THERE DID WE REJOICE IN HIM, WHO RULES BY HIS MIGHT FOREVER,**

**WHOSE EYES KEEP WATCH ON THE | NATIONS—\***

**LET NOT THE REBELLIOUS EX- | ALT THEMSELVES.**

Bless our God, O | peoples;\*

let the sound of His | praise be heard,

**WHO HAS KEPT OUR SOUL AMONG THE | LIVING\***

**AND HAS NOT LET OUR | FEET SLIP.**

For you, O God, have | tested us;\*

you have tried us as sil- | ver is tried.

**YOU BROUGHT US IN- | TO THE NET;\***

**YOU LAID A CRUSHING BURDEN | ON OUR BACKS;**

You let men ride o- | ver our heads;\*

we went through fire and through water;

yet You have brought us out to a place of a- | bundance.

**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.**

**OFFICE HYMN**    *LSB 338 Come, O Long Expected Jesus*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: BETHLEHEM**

L:        The Lord shall cause His glorious voice to be heard; and you shall have gladness of heart;

**C:        *GIVE EAR, O SHEPHERD OF ISRAEL, YOU THAT LEAD JOSEPH LIKE A FLOCK.***

L:        Behold, the name of the Lord comes from far;

**C:        *LET THE WHOLE EARTH BE FILLED WITH HIS GLORY.***

L:        Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined;

**C:        *OUR GOD SHALL COME.***

L:        As we wait to celebrate Christmas,

**C:        *WE REMEMBER HOW THE PEOPLE OF BETHLEHEM FAILED TO SEE WHAT GOD WORKED IN THEIR MIDST.***

L:        Joseph and Mary came to them, but they did not greet them or take them in.

**C:        *LET US NOT IGNORE THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND US, SO THAT CHRIST IN US WOULD SERVE THEM.***

L:        Mary's time came, and the Child was born; but the people took no notice.

**C:        *LET US KEEP OUR EYES OPEN TO THE MIRACULOUS WORK CHRIST STILL DOES IN THE PROCLAMATION OF HIS WORD AND THE MYSTERY OF HIS SACRAMENTS.***

L:        The town in silent stillness lay, even though the heavens rang with the jubilant songs of the angels.

**C:        *LET US BE EVER READY TO SING PRAISES TO GOD FOR THE GIFT OF JESUS AND THE REDEMPTION HE BRINGS.***

L:        So we light this candle as a sign;

**C:        *A SIGN TO WARN US TO REPENT OF OUR COLDNESS AND INDIFFERENCE, LEST WE BE LIKE THE PEOPLE OF BETHLEHEM AND MISS THE GLORY OF OUR LORD.***

L:        Let us pray:

Gracious Savior, in this time of waiting, open our hearts and eyes to Your presence among us. Let us cherish Your Word and Your sacraments, that we may be warmed by Your life and share in Your joy. And make our hearts ready with faith to celebrate Your birth and greet Your return. We ask this in Your blessed name.

**C:        *AMEN.***

*(the candle is lighted)*

## THE GOSPEL FOR YOUNG FOLK

### FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-7b

<sup>1</sup>“Behold, I send My messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord Whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup>“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

### EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 1:2–11

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that He Who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**GOSPEL VERSE***Luke 3:4b, 6*

P: Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight;

**C: ALL FLESH SHALL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD. ALLELUIA.**

**HOLY GOSPEL***Luke 3:1–20*

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

**C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make His paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

<sup>7</sup>He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup>And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.”

<sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but He Who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in His hand, to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

### RESPONSORY



- L** 1 Behold, the days  
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise  
up for David a righ-teous Branch.
- 2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will  
dwell se - cure - ly.
- 3 Glory be to the  
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** This is the name  
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righ-teous-ness.

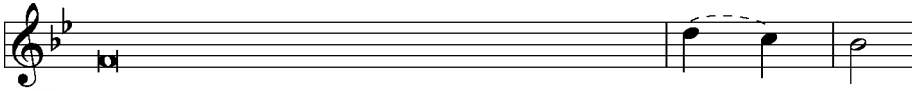
**HYMN OF THE DAY** LSB 344 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

**SERMON**



CANTICLE **Te Deum** (We Praise You, O God)

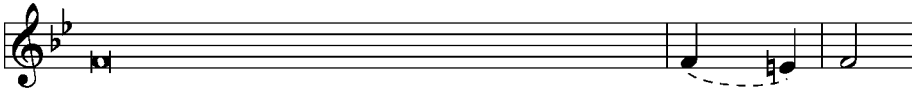
LSB p. 223



- C** 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.  
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of . . . . . Sab - a - oth;  
 3 The noble army of martyrs . . . . . praise— You.



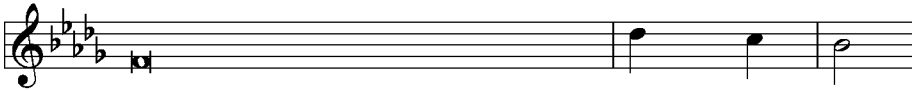
- 1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.  
 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.  
 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:



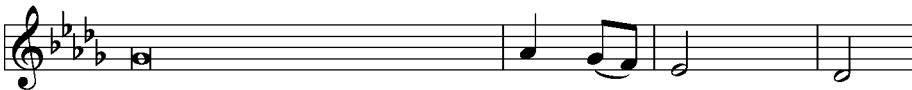
- 1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there-in.  
 2 The glorious company of the apostles . . . . . praise— You.  
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;  
 4 You are the king of glory, . . . . . O— Christ;



- 1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:  
 2 The goodly fellowship of the . . . . . proph-ets praise— You.  
 3 also the Holy . . . . . Ghost, the Com-fort - er.  
 4 You are the everlasting Son . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,  
 6 You sit at the right . . . . . hand of God



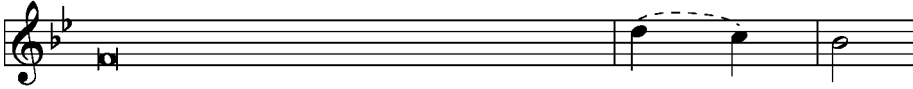
- 5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - gin.  
 6 in the glory . . . . . of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When You had overcome the . . . . . sharpness of death,  
 6 We believe that . . . . . You will come



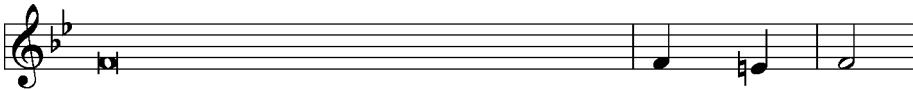
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
6 to . . . . . be - our judge.



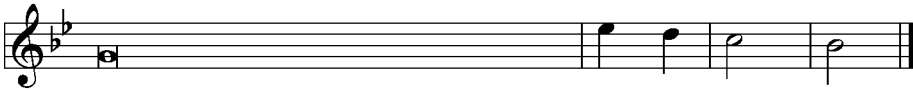
7 We therefore pray You to help Your . . . . . ser - vants,  
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.  
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.  
8 Govern them and lift . . . . . them up for - ev - er.  
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered . . . . . with Your saints  
8 Day by day we . . . . . magni - fy You.  
9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory . . . . . ev - er - last - ing.  
8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.  
9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### Kyrie



☐ Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

**C: OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME, THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN; GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD; AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US; AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.**

Collects

**P** The Lord be with you.



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

Collect of the Day

P: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,



**C** A - men.

Collect for Matins

P: Almighty God, heavenly Father, Your mercies are new to us every morning, and You abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us we humbly pray, Your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and cheerfully serve You.



**C** A - men.

**For Guidance in Our Calling***LSB p. 311*

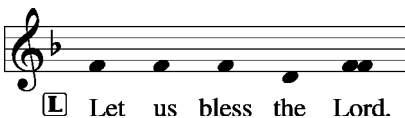
P: Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

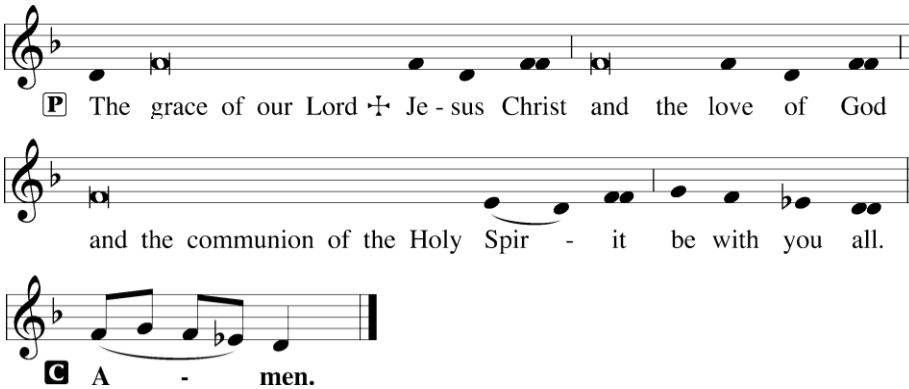
**For Responsible Citizenship***LSB p.313*

P: Lord, keep this nation under Your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Grant that we may choose trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve You faithfully in our generation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Collect for Grace***LSB p.228*

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**BENEDICAMUS***LSB p. 227*

**BENEDICTION**


**P** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.  
**C** A - men.

**CLOSING HYMN**    *LSB 872 Come, Thou Bright and Morning Star***SILENT PRAYER**

*Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*



**Pastor:** The Rev. Barry Long

**Elder:** Gary Beenders

**Keyboard:** Carol Wessler

**Acknowledgments**

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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