

First Sunday after Christmas
December 31, 2023
In Every Generation

As We Gather - How long is a generation? Keepers of statistics suggest that a generation is between twenty and thirty years and note that at the present time there are six distinct generations living in the United States. The current generations range from our oldest citizens, known as the *Greatest Generation* through our youngest, given the group name of *Generation Z*. In the account of the presentation of our Lord in the temple at Jerusalem, we see Jesus as a baby from the youngest generation and we meet Anna the prophetess, well advanced into the most elderly generation, and Simeon, who is often portrayed as an older man. The temple is the place for all generations to experience the presence and blessing of God! The psalmist exults in praise to God: "One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts" (Psalm 145:4). As we worship, we continue that praise in this generation.

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

Saturday Worship: Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

Prelude:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace *(stand)*

PREPARATION

Hymn of Invocation:

Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389

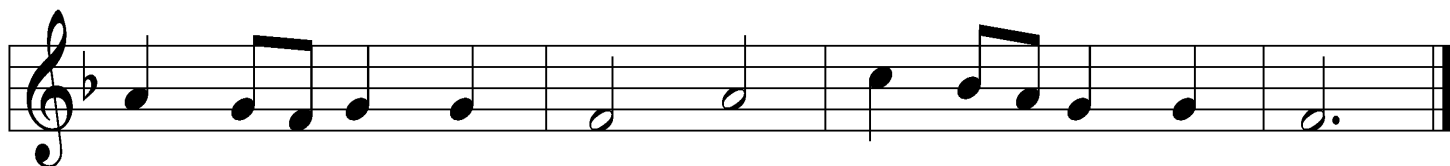
Δ Please stand after a brief interlude



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
To blessed paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.

△ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561
Text (sts. 1, 3–7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852
Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 89:1, 52; 71:19, 23

P I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

C with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

P Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.

C You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?

P My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;

C my soul also, which You have redeemed.

P Blessed be the LORD forever!

C Amen and Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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

WORD

Introit

Psalm 98:1–4; Isaiah 52:10

- C** **The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**
- I** *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.*
- II** *The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.*
- I** *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.*
- II** *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!*

C 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.

The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the
ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



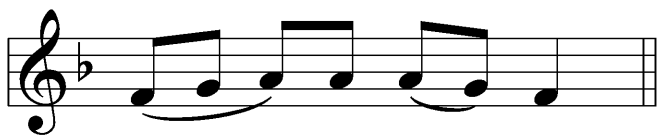
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for
the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



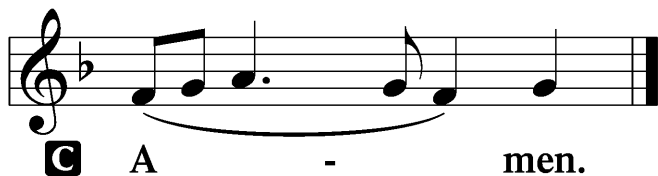
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to
the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Gracious God of endings and beginnings, we commit to Your grace and forgiveness the year now being completed and commend to Your kindness and love the year about to begin. Throughout the coming weeks and months make the presence of Your Holy Spirit known in our lives, drawing us ever closer to Jesus and uniting all generations of Your faithful people in bonds of love and care, as we continue to grow in our baptismal grace and await the joy of eternal life in Your glorious presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

Hymn Introduction

P Every day in the life of the Church brings opportunities for praise and celebration. We have so many reasons to celebrate, including the presentation of the Savior at the temple as well as the closing of another year of our Lord while we reflect on the continuing blessings experienced by each generation.

The last day of the calendar year brings us an opportunity to reflect on the changes in life that have come our way since last January. We have been gladdened at the birth of children and observed passages such as marriages, first jobs, and new homes. God has been a constant presence, blessing the generations with His everlasting love. Using words of faith penned by English hymn writer Isaac Watts as a paraphrase of Psalm 90, we proclaim God's faithfulness in ages past and for years to come.

Hymn:**O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

SLB 733 sts. 1–6



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 Soon bears us all away;
 We fly forgotten as a dream
 Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Be Thou our guard while troubles last
 And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727
 Text and tune: Public domain

Old Testament Reading*Isaiah 61:10—62:3*

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
 my soul shall exult in my God,
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,

and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

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

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

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

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 111

P Praise the LORD!

C **I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

I *Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.*

C **Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.**

II *He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.*

C **He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.**

I *He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.*

C **The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

- Ⓘ *He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name!*
- Ⓒ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Ⓘ This is the Word of the Lord.

Ⓒ **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!**

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22–40

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

Ⓒ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

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

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

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

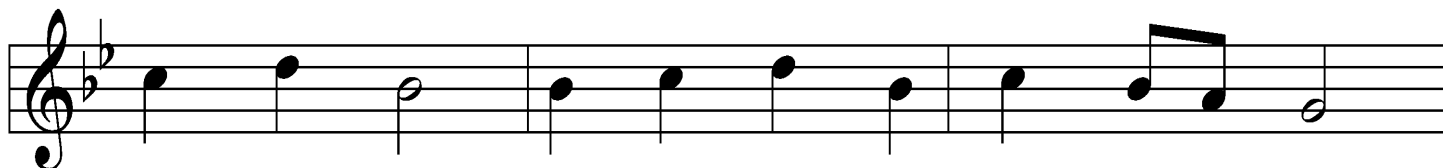
³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

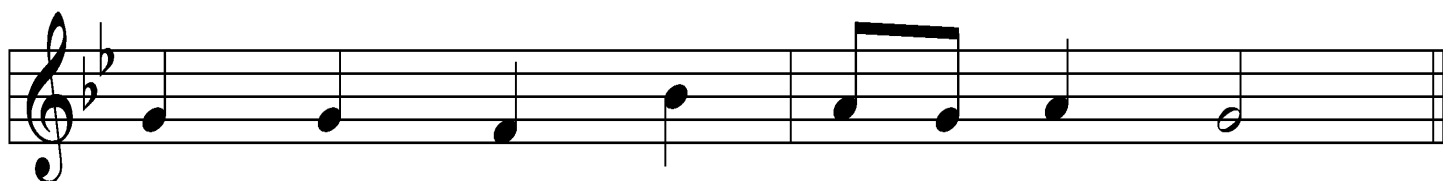
C Praise to You, O Christ.



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



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



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

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

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

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon:

“When the Time Comes”

Luke 2:22–40

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. 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.

Prayer of the Church

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil’s kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Choir Anthem: (Sunday Only) "Go Tell It On The Mountain"

Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)

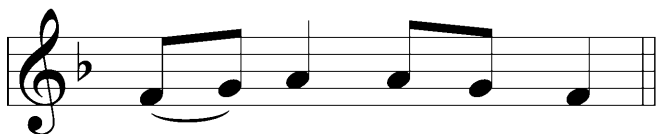
Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only) – *Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.*

SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 160

- P** The Lord be with you.



- C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



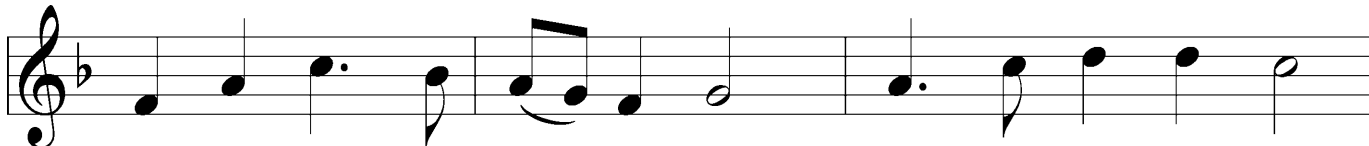
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

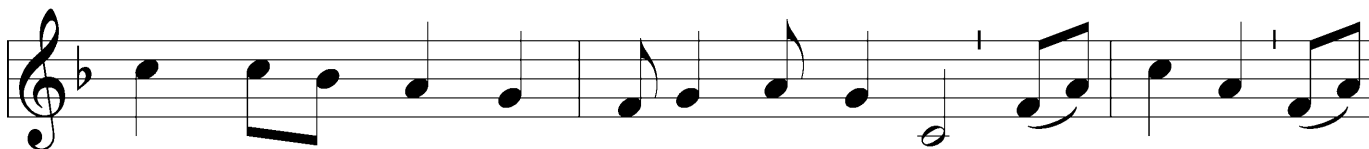
P It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, because You have called us through the waters of Holy Baptism and welcomed us to Your Table of grace. As we rejoice in the salvation won for us by our Savior, strengthen us to heed always the call to share the Gospel message in our times and days with the generations yet to come that Your praise may echo until the end of time and the start of eternity. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, forevermore praising you and singing:

Sanctus

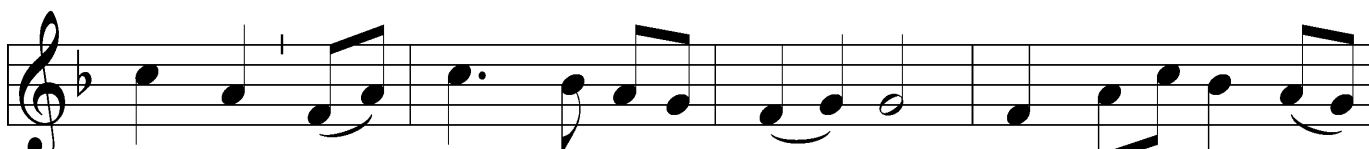
LSB 161



C Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

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

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

Proclamation of Christ

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

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

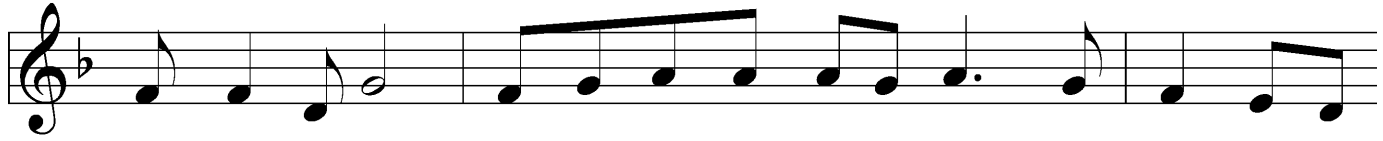
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

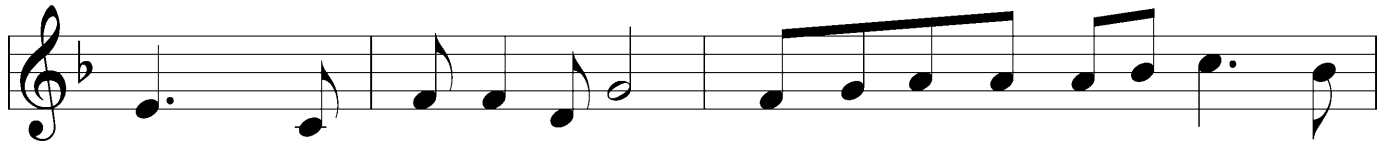
LSB 163



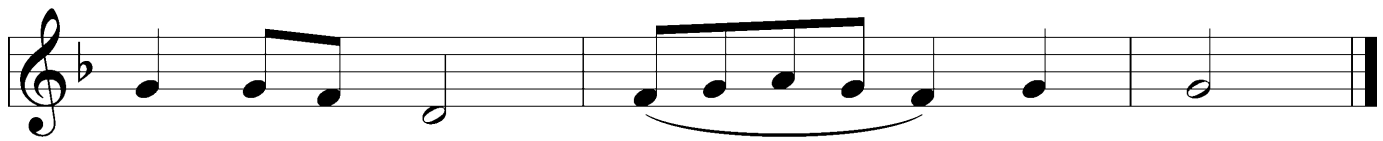
C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



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



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution:

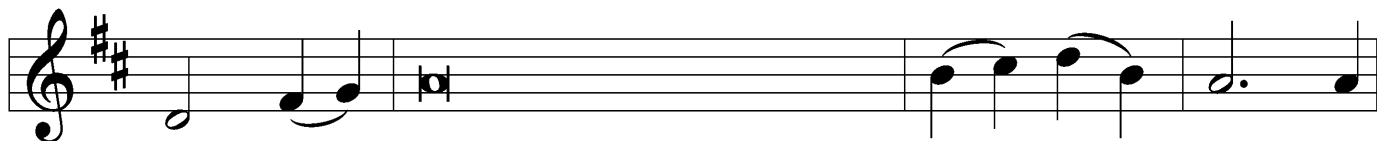
Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

LSB 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Nunc Dimittis

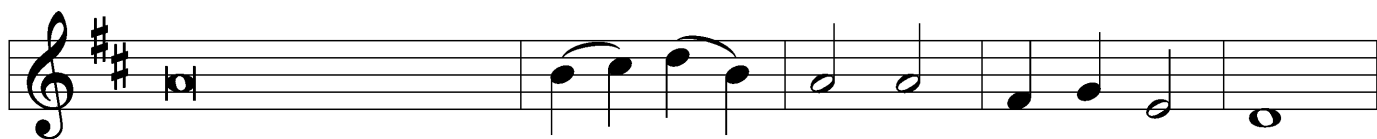
LSB 199



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



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



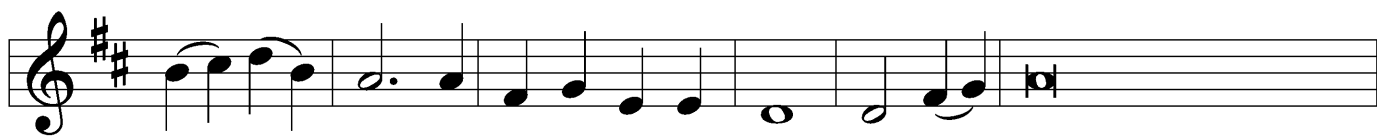
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



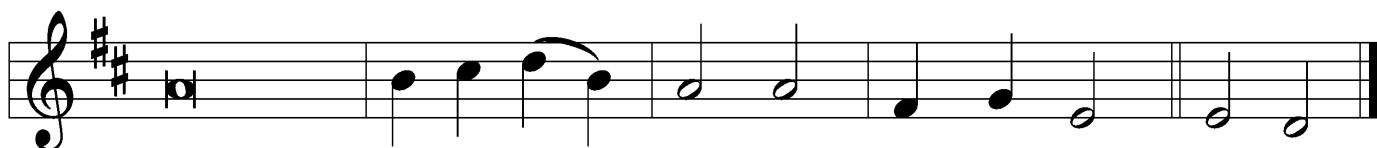
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



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 with - out end. A - men.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

(Saturday)

P Let us pray together.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Sunday)

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the Church. And we ask that You would help us by Your Holy Spirit that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works that You desire us to do, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom with You and the same Spirit, be praise in all generations, forever and ever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn:**Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**

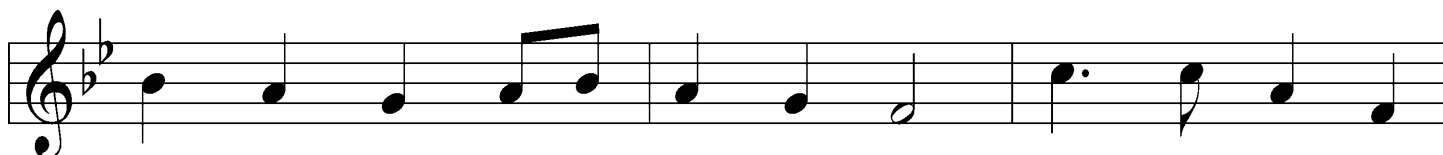
LSB 924



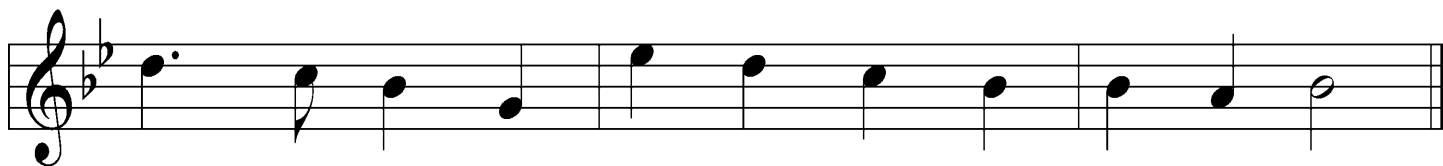
1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
 3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling



joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
 pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,



Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
 In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
 Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text (sts. 1–2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
 Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79
 Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude:

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.
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Acknowledgments

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Elena Miraztchiyska

Saturday

Elder Lee Crapo
Lector Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten
Audio Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

Sunday

Elder Steve Rosane
Lector George Czanko
Greeter Robert and Cheryl Langanke
Audio Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Barbara and Alfred Miller

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Elena Miraztchiyska
Elder Steve Rosane
Lector Carlos Orellana
Greeter
Audio Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Debbie and Rick Smith

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Mid-Week Advent December 20 33
Saturday Worship Attendance 29
Sunday Worship Attendance AM 94
Sunday Christmas Eve Service PM 150
Christmas Day Service 57

Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	\$0
Simply Giving/Vanco.....	\$0
Paypal Offerings	\$0
Website (ShareFaith).....	\$0
Total of Offerings Received	\$0
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts.....	\$0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH- Christmas I/New Year’s Eve – Christmas – and a new year – offers opportunity for the joys of looking forward. Simeon and Anna exemplify and inspire faith that finds strength and celebration in anticipating. The Heavenly Father who escorted us thus far will also usher us ever onward. Neighbors facing surprise pregnancies or suffering terminal diagnoses need to know. For their sake, please do not keep silent (Psalm 62:1)!

FLOWER SPONSOR – No Flower Sponsor this week.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – No Bulletin Sponsor this week.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY) – No Fellowship Hour this Sunday. Team 1 will be serving next week.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS - Mary Martha has their 2nd annual ornament collection box in the entry to the Fellowship Hall for the tree in the Fellowship Hall. Please write your family name on the ornament and place in the box.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY – The Church Office will be closed this Monday, January 1st, New Year’s Day.

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS – The Mary Martha Quilters will resume this Tuesday, January 2nd at 10 AM.

NEW MEMBER CLASS - Starting Tuesday, January 9th, at 6PM during the month of January from 6 -8 pm by ZOOM or in person. For anyone interested in joining our congregation, have never had confirmation instruction in a Lutheran church or for those looking for a refresher about the key things of faith. Please contact the church office to register.

SATURDAY LECTORS NEEDED – If you would be willing to volunteer to serve as a lector during the Saturday Service, please contact the church office at 682-7802.

2024 FLOWER CHART - The new Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. You can sign up for flowers for the new year. Please write your name and what occasion is being celebrated. If you would like real flowers, please let us know, otherwise they will be silk flowers. When you donate money for the flowers, please mark it for the Flower Fund. The monies in the Flower Fund pay for the Christmas and Easter flowers that are put in the church. If you have any questions, you can call me. Barbara Miller 863-858-5790

UNUSED HEARING AIDS: Unused hearing aids can be donated. Place them in the Munz mailbox in the church mailroom. Pastor Jerry Munz collects them and takes them to the Lakeland Hearing Center. If you want a tax receipt be sure to ask Pastor Jerry to get one for you.

DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

RECIPES WANTED - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

CHURCH DIRECTORY – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY – Every Tuesday from 9 am – 1 pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

GREETERS NEEDED – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

NAMETAGS – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX – Please check your mailbox in the narthex.

