

## **Immanuel Lutheran Church**

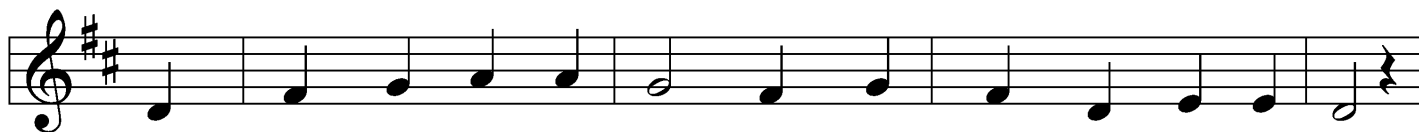
Member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
3300 24<sup>th</sup> Street      Rock Island IL

Rev. Leonard A. Astrowski Jr., Pastor  
Christine Roth and Katherine Cobert, Organists

*Third Sunday in Advent*  
*December 14, 2025*  
*Divine Service Three – LSB 184*

# Hymn of Invocation: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

LSB 334



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?  
 2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;  
 3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.  
 4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!  
 And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.  
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.  
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast  
 My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new  
 A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high  
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.  
 And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.  
 That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.  
 In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,  
 Cannot His love erase;  
 Your guilt the Lord will pardon  
 And cover by His grace.  
 He comes, for you procuring  
 The peace of sin forgiv'n,  
 His children thus securing  
 Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,  
 A terror to His foes,  
 A light of consolations  
 And blessèd hope to those  
 Who love the Lord's appearing.  
 O glorious Sun, now come,  
 Send forth Your beams so  
 cheering,  
 And guide us safely home.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

### Exhortation

*LSB 184*

**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.**

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

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 184*

**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.**

## Absolution

LSB 185

**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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### Introit (Sung by the Cantor.)

*Introit*



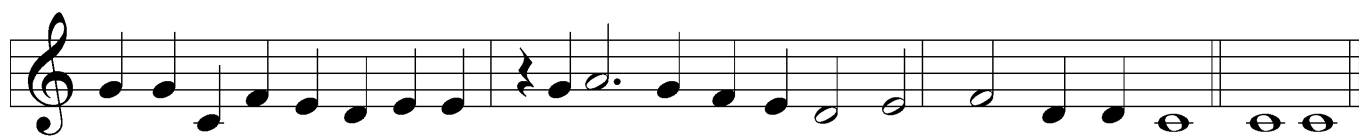
Rejoice in the Lord | always;\*  
again I will say, | Rejoice.  
I will hope con- | tinually\*  
and will praise you yet | more and more.  
My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation | all the  
day,\*  
for their number is past my | knowledge.  
With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD | I will come;\*  
I will remind them of your righteousness, | yours alone.  
O God, from my youth you have | taught me,\*  
and I still proclaim your | wondrous deeds.  
So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not for- | sake me,\*  
until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all | those to  
come.

## Gloria Patri

LSB 186



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



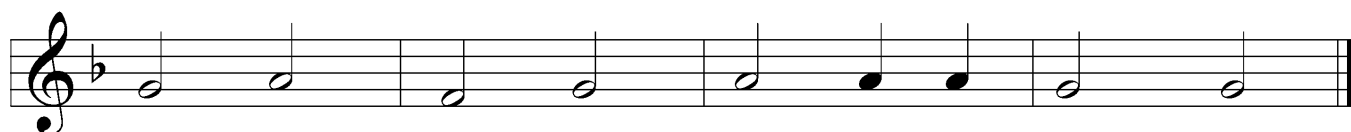
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

## Kyrie

LSB 186



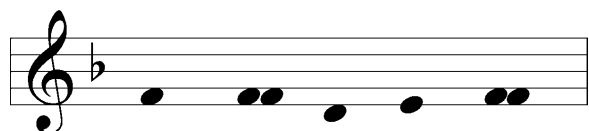
**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



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

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

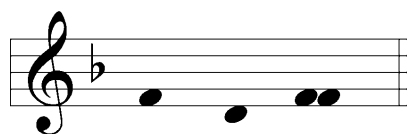
Advent 3



**P** The Lord be with you.

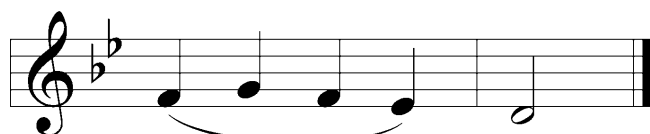


**C** And with thy spir - it.



**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 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

<sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance,  
with the recompense of God.  
He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;  
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;  
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;

they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Psalm (Sung responsively.)

*Psalm 146*



<sup>1</sup>Praise | the LORD!\*

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;\*

I will sing praises to my God while I have my | being.

<sup>3</sup>**Put not your trust in | princes,\***

**in a son of man, in whom there is no sal- | vation.**

<sup>4</sup>**When his breath departs he returns | to the earth;\***

**on that very day his plans | perish.**

<sup>5</sup>Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,\*

whose hope is in the | LORD his God,

<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is | in them,\*

who keeps faith for- | ever;

<sup>7</sup>**who executes justice for | the oppressed,\***

**who gives food to the | hungry.**

**The LORD sets the prisoners free;**

<sup>8</sup>**the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind.\***

**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;**

**the LORD loves the | righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the sojourners;  
he upholds the widow and the | fatherless,\*  
but the way of the wicked he brings to | ruin.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD will reign for- | ever,\*  
your God, O Zion, to all generations. | Praise the LORD!

**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.**

## Epistle

*James 5:7–11*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

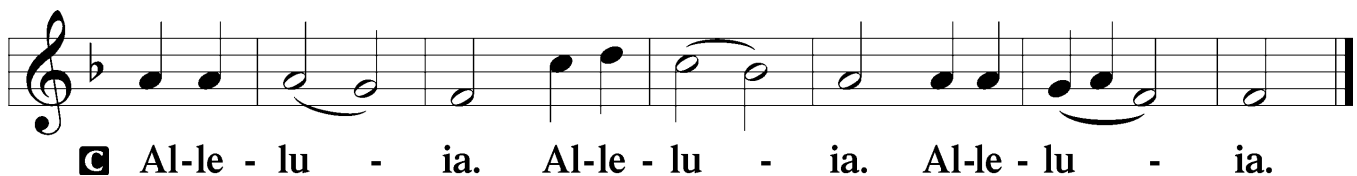
**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*

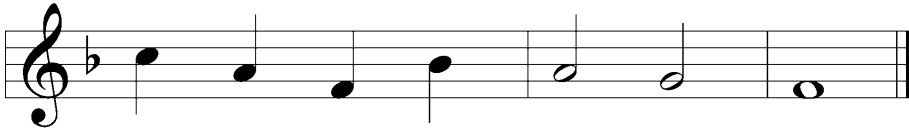




## Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–15

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**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.

## Hymn of the Day: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345



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

## Votum

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## Stand

## Offertory

LSB 192



**C** 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.

*Sit*

## Offering

*The offering plate will be passed around at the pews. Please sign an Attendance Card, listing all members of the family who are present. Mark the appropriate box if you are attending the Lord's Supper. Place them in the offering plate when it is passed around.*

*Stand*

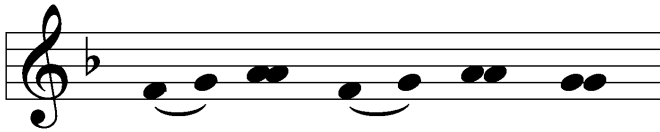
## Prayer of the Church

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*In the Lord's Supper, the Risen Christ is at once the Giver and the Gift! By His promise, His very body and blood are really present and thereby we come into immediate contact with exalted Christ! As we do so, witness is also given to oneness in doctrine by those who receive the Sacrament together. For this reason we practice closed communion and kindly ask that those who are not members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod please speak with the Pastor before coming to communion. If you do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may remain in your pew or come to the Altar to receive a blessing, crossing your arms in front of you to indicate this.*

### Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



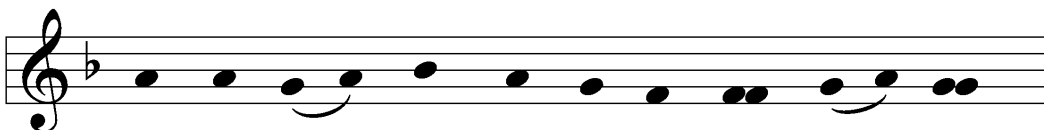
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**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

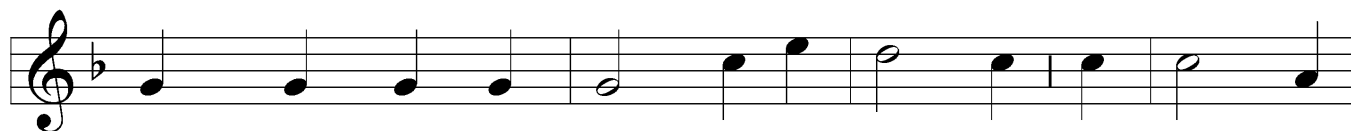
**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the 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,



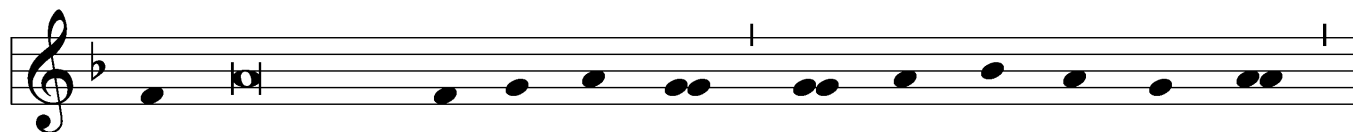
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



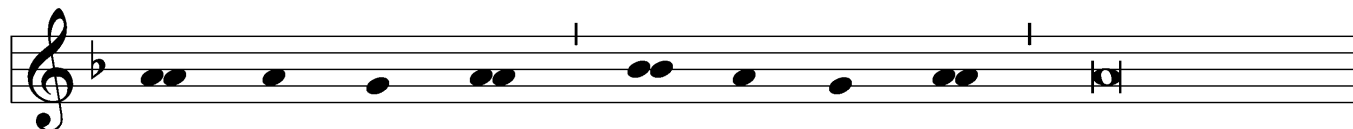
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

# Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



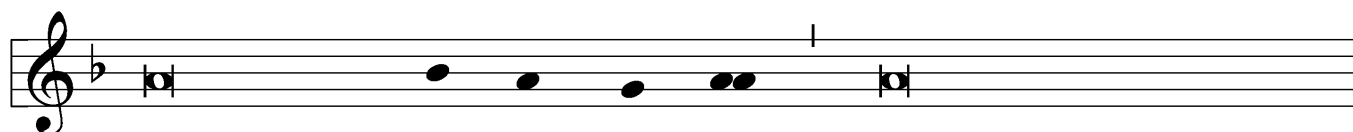
**P** Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



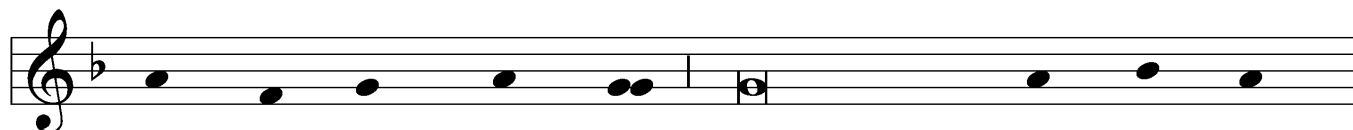
Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



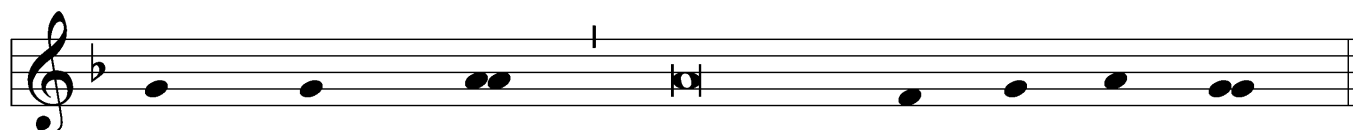
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



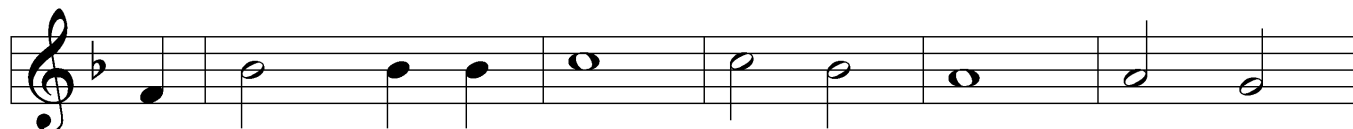
and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



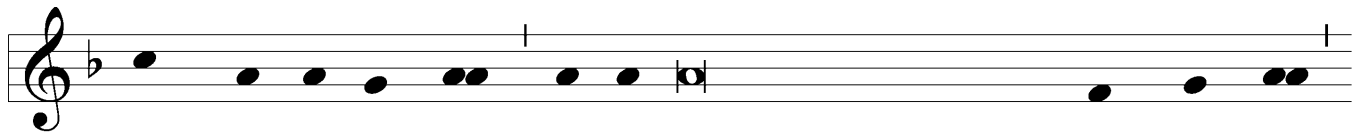
temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



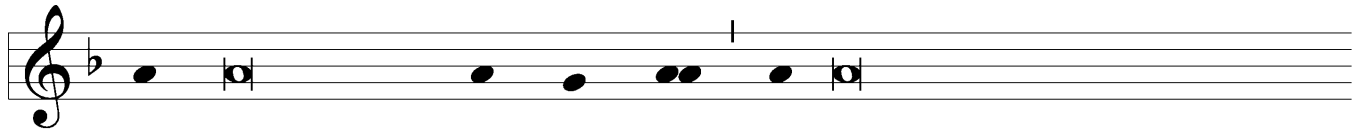
**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



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



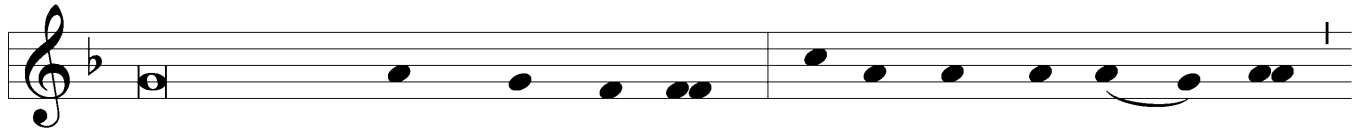
**P** Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,



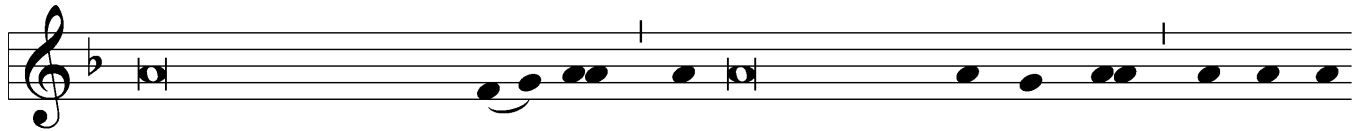
and when He had giv-en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



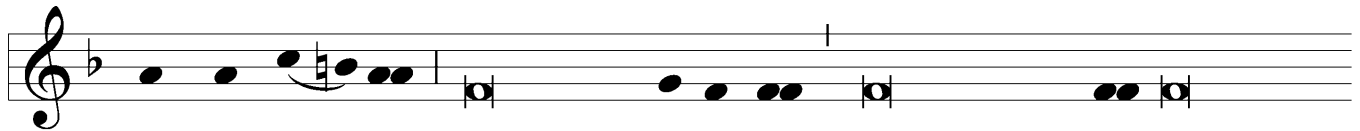
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ bod-y, which is giv-en for you.



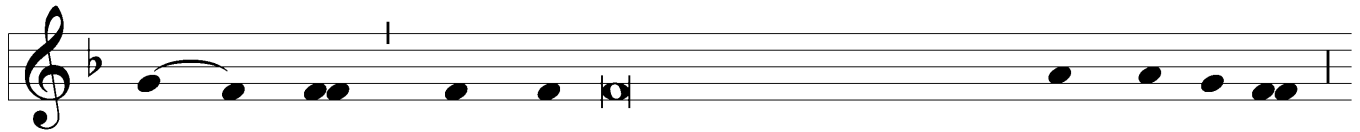
This do in re-mem-brance of Me." In the same way al - so



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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.

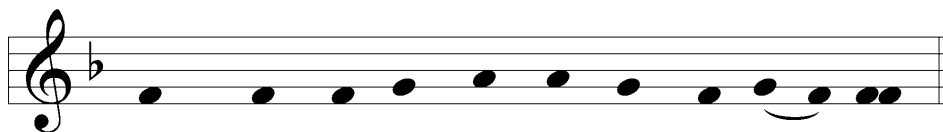


This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."



## Pax Domini

LSB 197



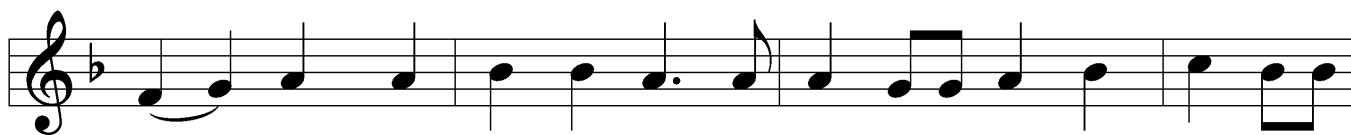
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** 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.

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn: 348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns *LSB 348*



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phane breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

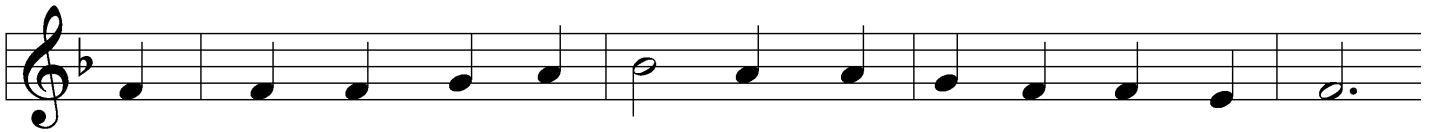
Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth

Text and tune: Public domain

# Distribution Hymn: 398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LSB 398



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;  
 5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!  
 To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;  
 Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.  
 All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.  
 From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,  
 To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,  
 Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
 To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;  
 The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



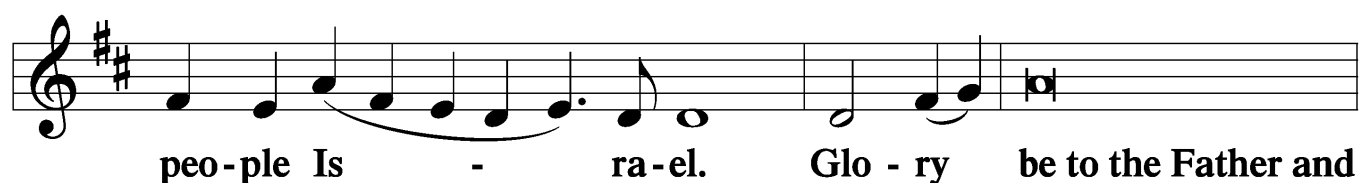
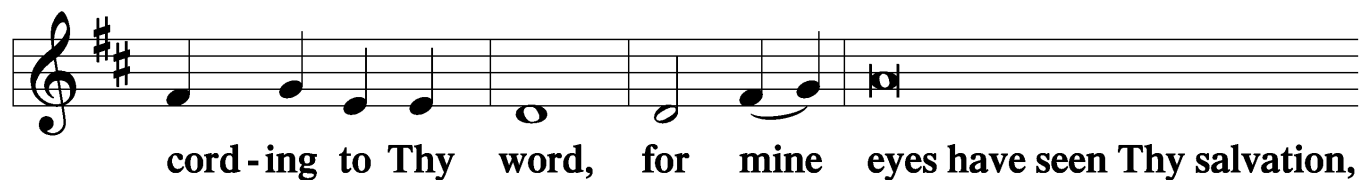
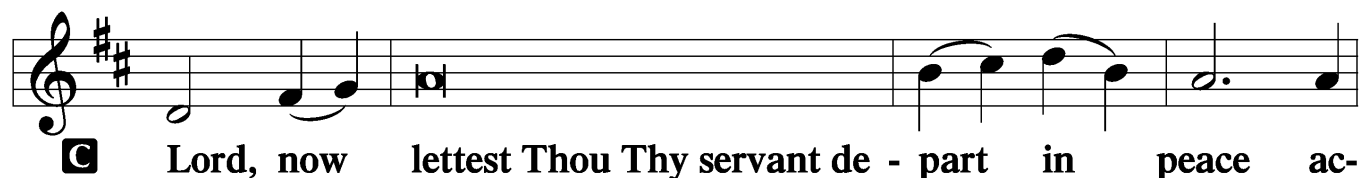
To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.  
 And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.  
 His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.  
 His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
 Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

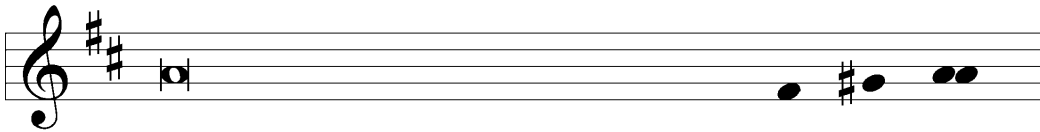
# Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

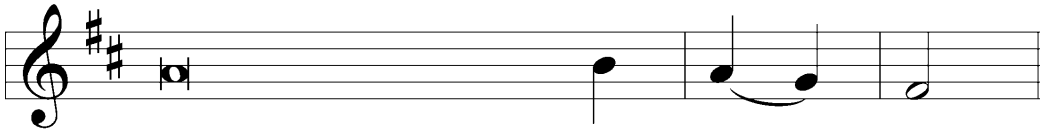


## Thanksgiving

LSB 200



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

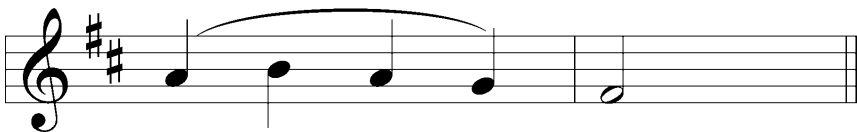


**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

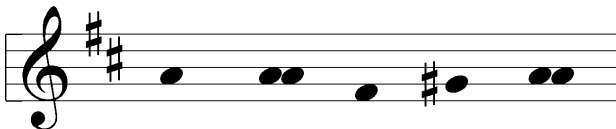
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your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



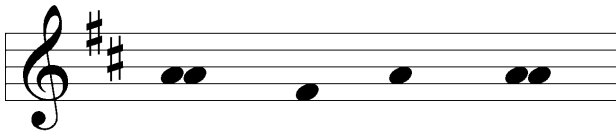
**P** The Lord be with you.



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

## Benedicamus

LSB 202



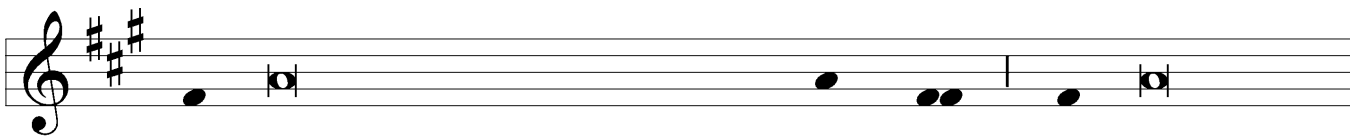
**A** Bless we the Lord.



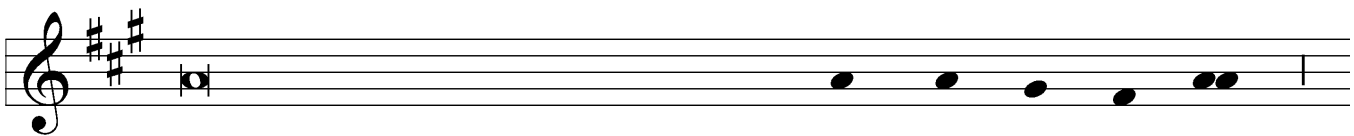
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

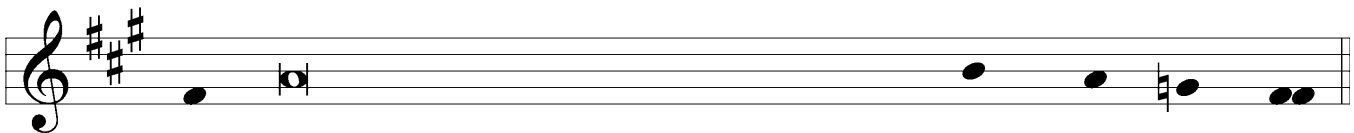
LSB 202



**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.



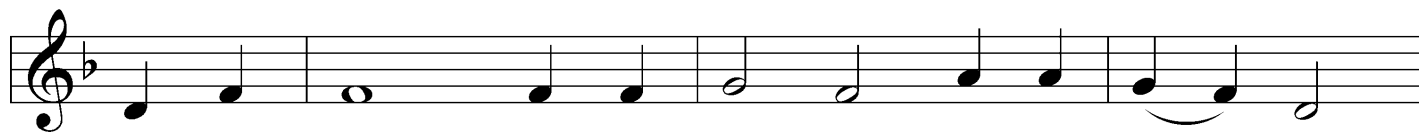
**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

# Hymn to Depart: 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

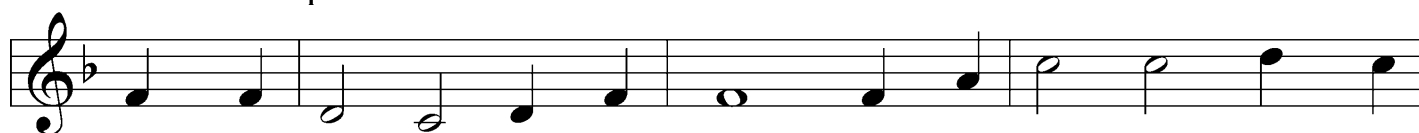
LSB 849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001454

Tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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