

# ✠ Third Sunday in Advent ✠

December 14, 2025

✠ The Office of Matins: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 am ✠

*Lutheran Service Book (LSB), p. 219*

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## Silent Prayer Before Worship

Almighty God, You called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of Your Son. Grant us wisdom to do Your will today and so to witness to Christ's coming and to prepare His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Prelude

## Announcements

## Opening Hymn

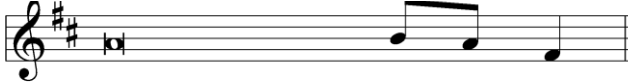
“When All the World Was Cursed” *LSB* 346

## Versicles

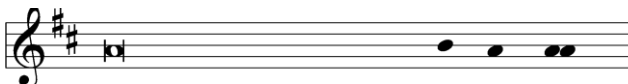
*LSB*, p. 219



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

# Psalmody

## Antiphon



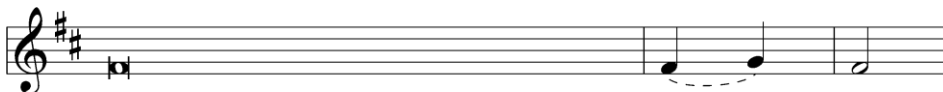
**L** Behold, the Lord comes to save us.



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

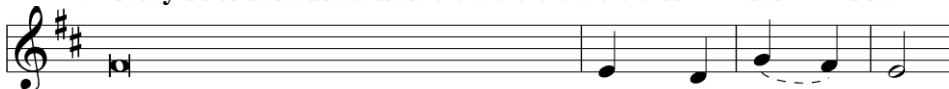
## Venite

LSB, p. 220



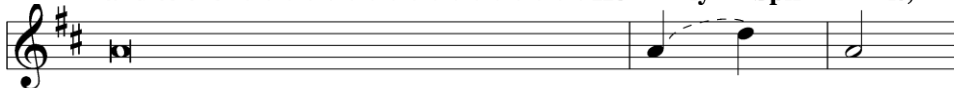
**C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,  
2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God  
3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son

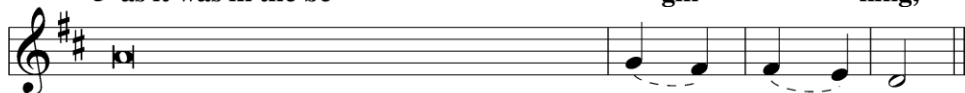


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.  
2 and a great . . . . . king a - bove all gods.  
3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.

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.

## Antiphon



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



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

## Responsive Psalm

*Psalm 146*

- P** Praise the Lord!  
**C** **Praise the Lord, O my soul!**  
**P** I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  
**C** **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**  
**P** Put not your trust in princes,  
**C** **in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.**  
**P** When his breath departs he returns to the earth;  
**C** **on that very day his plans perish.**  
**P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
**C** **whose hope is in the Lord his God,**  
**P** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,  
**C** **who keeps faith forever;**  
**P** who executes justice for the oppressed,  
**C** **who gives food to the hungry.**  
**P** The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.  
**C** **The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**  
**P** The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,  
**C** **but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**  
**P** The Lord will reign forever,  
**C** **your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!**  
**All** **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.**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

- P** Be strong, do not fear; Your God will come to save you.  
**C** **The ransomed of the LORD will return.**  
**P** They will enter Zion with singing;  
**C** **Everlasting joy will crown their heads.**  
**P** Gladness and joy will overtake them,  
**C** **And sorrow and sighing will flee away.**  
**All** **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.**

## Readings

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; 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. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. 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.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 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; 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. 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. 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. 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.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

*James 5:7–11*

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. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 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.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 11:2–15*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: 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. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

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? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

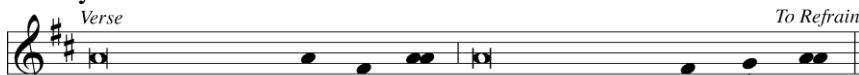
“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.” Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Responsory

LSB, p. 230



- L** 1 Behold, the days  
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise  
up for David a right-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 Right-teous-ness.

(8:00, 9:30) Hymn of the Day

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” LSB 345

(8:00, 9:30) Sermon

“All Creation Waits” Isaiah 35:1-10

## Apostles’ Creed

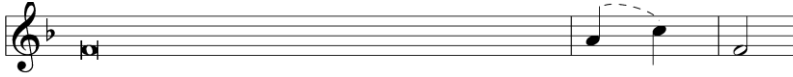
**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

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  $\text{✠}$  everlasting. Amen.

## Canticle

“Benedictus” *LSB*, p. 226



- C** 1 Blessed be the Lord God of . . . . . Is - ra - el;  
 2 as He spoke by the mouth of His holy . . . . . proph - ets,  
 3 to perform the mercy promised to our . . . . . fa - thers  
 4 being delivered from the hand of our . . . . . en - e - mies,  
 5 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
 6 through the tender mercy . . . . . of our God;  
 7 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son



- 1 for He has visited and re - deemed His peo - ple  
 2 who have . . . . . been since the world be - gan;  
 3 and to remember . . . . . His ho - ly cov - e - nant,  
 4 might . . . . . serve Him with - out fear,  
 5 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare His ways;  
 6 when the day shall dawn up - on us from on high  
 7 and to . . . . . the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 and has raised up a horn of salvation . . . . . for us  
 2 that we should be saved from our . . . . . en - e - mies  
 3 the oath that He swore to our father . . . . . A - bra - ham,  
 4 in holiness and righteousness be - fore Him  
 5 to give knowledge of salvation to His . . . . . peo - ple  
 6 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
 7 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 in the house of His . . . . . ser - vant Da - vid,  
 2 and from the hand of . . . . . all who hate us;  
 3 to . . . . . grant us that we,  
 4 all the . . . . . days of our life.  
 5 in the for - give - ness of their sins,  
 6 to guide our feet in - to the way of peace.  
 7 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## Offering

## Prayer

### Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB, p. 227*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.

### Collect of the Day

**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** Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

† All who mourn the death of Dan Huber, brother of Andrea Marx.

† All who mourn the death of Dee Thake.

### Concluding Collect

**P** Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son, Jesus Christ, came to visit us in great humility; that on the Last Day, when He shall come again in glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

(11:00) Hymn of the Day

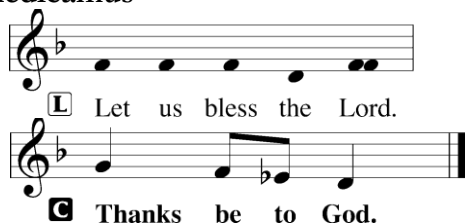
“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” *LSB* 345

(11:00) Sermon

“All Creation Waits” *Isaiah 35:1-10*

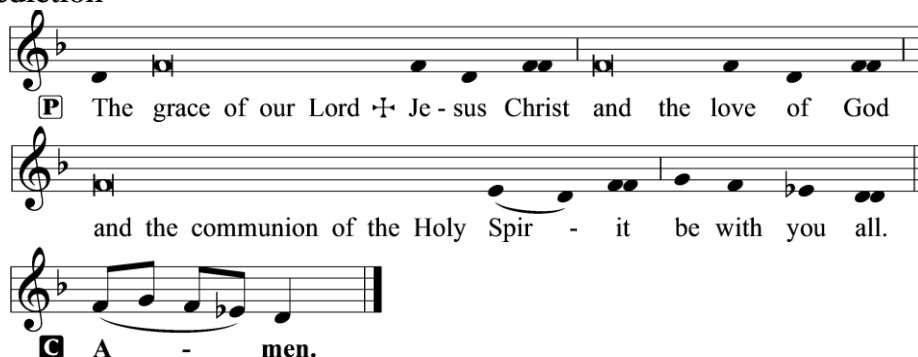
## Benedicamus

LSB, p. 228



## Benediction

LSB, p. 228



## Closing Hymn

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” *LSB* 515

## Silent Prayer

## Postlude

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**Preacher**  
**Liturgist**  
**Organist**

**Pastor Schudde**  
(8:00, 11:00) **Pastor Wade**  
**Kantor Gerhardt**