

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Divine Service – Setting Two

St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church – Mendon, New York

November 30, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Anticipation: Preparing for the King - the HOPE candle

P Typically, Christians will light 4 candles during advent in their churches and in their homes as we approach Christmas. Many Christians associate these candles with Love, Peace, Joy, and Hope as we add a candle each week as a sign of our growing anticipation. This year we're going to focus first on HOPE as it relates to our anticipation and preparation.

P We light the candle of HOPE today, as we prepare for and anticipate the King.

C “And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.” (Psalm 39:7)

P “Hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.” (Romans 5:5)

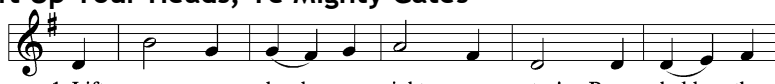
C “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.” (Hebrews 10:23)

P “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” (Romans 12:12). “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.” (Romans 15:13)

C Amen.

The first advent candle is lit as a song/hymn is sung.

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
 5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to



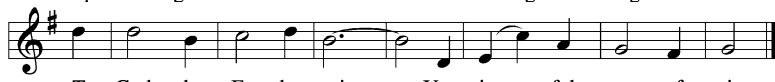
King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 rul - er is con-fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
 tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
 Thee; here, Lord, a - bid! O en - ter with Thy grace di -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
 ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There-fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There-fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 Sov - reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.
 Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Confession and Absolution

- 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.

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.

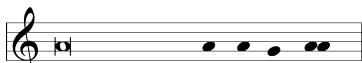
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

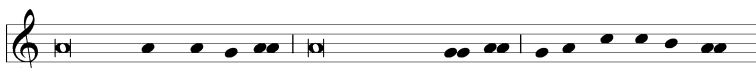
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



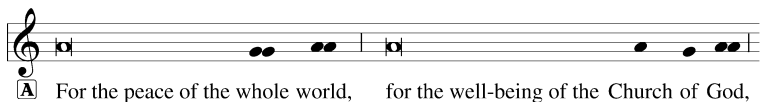
C Lord, have mer - cy.



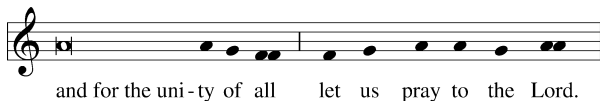
A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



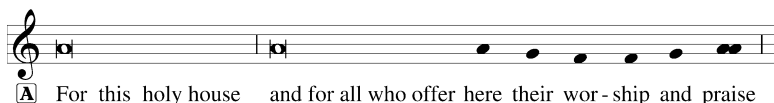
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



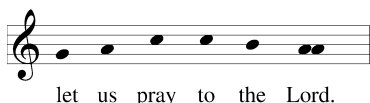
and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



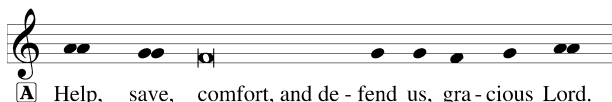
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 13:8–14

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 24:36–44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

332 Savior of the Nations, Come

sts. 1-4, 8

1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and
 △ 8 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther sing, Glo - ry to the

here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,
 Son, our king, Glo - ry to the Spir - it be

That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 God was there up - on His throne.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.
 Now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001
 Tune: Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004128
 Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

Sit

Sermon

Matthew 21:1-11

Stand

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.

Prayer of the Church

- A** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Sit

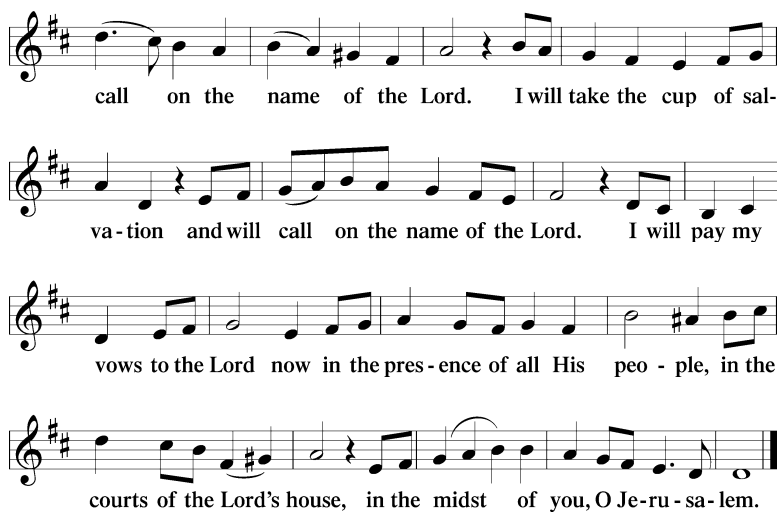
Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 176

C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
 me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

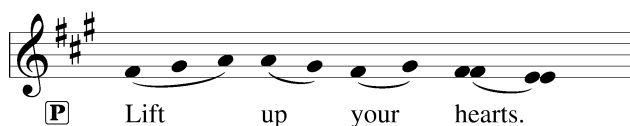
LSB 177



P The Lord be with you.



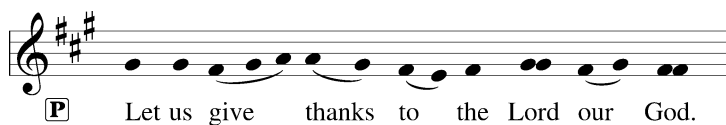
C And al-so with you.



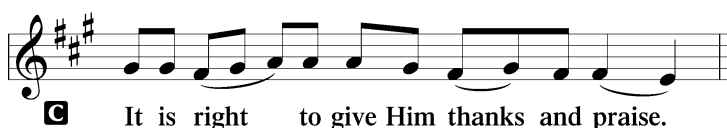
P Lift up your hearts.



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 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 178



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

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.

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180

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, grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our
realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,
Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt.
Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt
Text and tune: Public domain

624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who

ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the

forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
 As at the rail on bended knee
 Our hungry mouths from Him receive
 The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970

Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731-1807

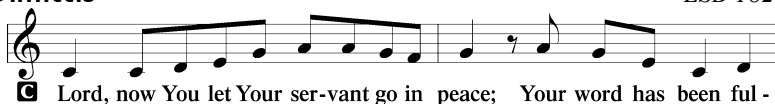
Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004128

Tune: Public domain

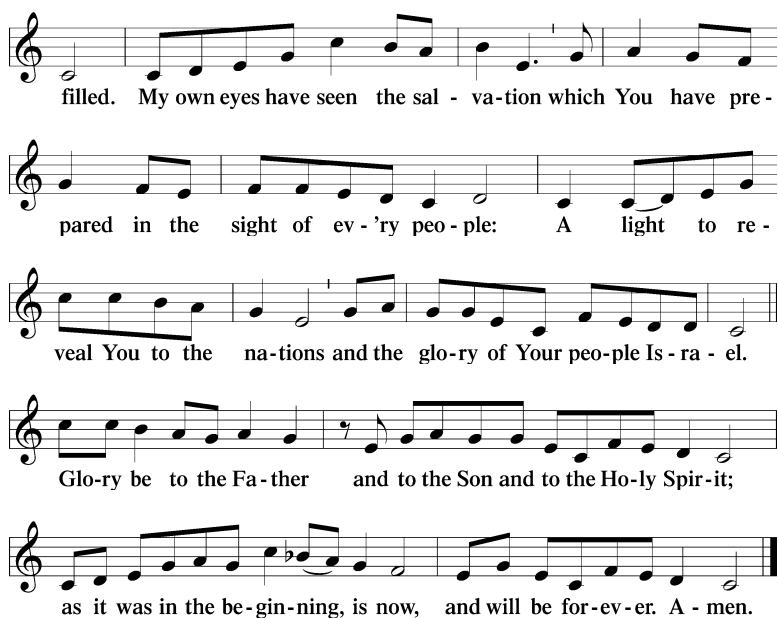
Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 182



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -

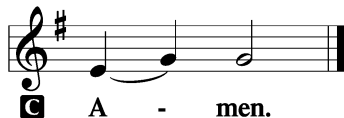


filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
 veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

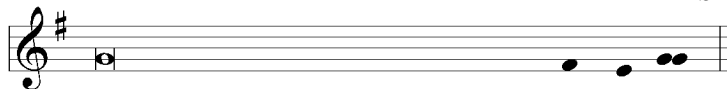
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 183



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.



343 Prepare the Royal Highway



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.

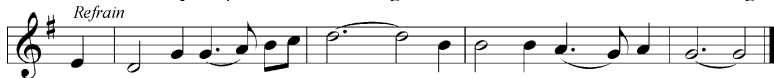


Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

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