

December 18, 2022

*The Fourth Sunday
In Advent*



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Divine Service:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

Young Adult Sunday
School
10:45 am
(Grace Hall)

+
Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 18, 2022

✝ PREPARATION ✝

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.

PRELUDE

"People Look East"

J. Bertolozzi

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

setting: R. Farlee

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

LSB 343

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:



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

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

C Amen.

P Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

C **let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit; let the earth cause them both to sprout.**

P The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

C **Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

P In them He has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

C **Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

P Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in His commandments!

C **His heart is firm, trusting in the LORD. Praise the LORD!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

IN ADVENT HOPE

st. 1-4



1 In Ad-vent hope we gath-er And wor-ship trust-ing - ly,
2 Our Ad-vent-hope ho-san-nas Ex-pec-tant-ly a-rise
3 With Ad-vent hope our prais-es Re-ech-o joy-ful-ly
4 As Ad-vent hope-filled peo-ple, We res-o-lute-ly pray,



As-sured that Christ is com-ing To set His peo-ple free.
To Je-sus Christ, the Sav-ior Who comes from Par-a-dise.
To greet our Lord's ar-riv-al In His hu-mil-i-ty.
“A-men, O longed-for Sav-ior! Come, Lord, with us to stay!”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **Eternal God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and that sin is ever-present in our lives. O God, in Your mercy, forgive our sin. Redirect and renew us, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and, by the leading of the Holy Spirit, guide us in ways of compassion and love.**
- P** 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

KYRIE

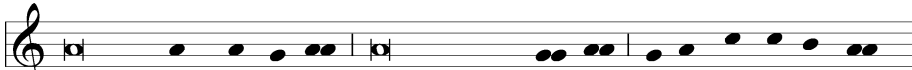
LSB 168



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.



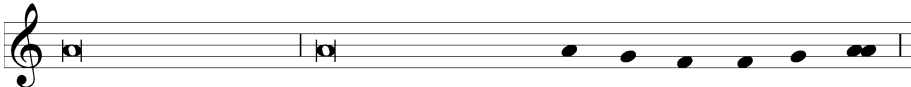
Ā For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



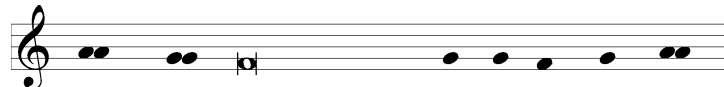
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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 PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LSB 357 sts. 1, 6-7

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
by Thy draw - ing night; Dis - perse the gloom - y
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 7:10-17

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM, **I** font side, **II** Pulpit side

Psalm 24

C The earth is the LORD'S and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

I Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in His holy place?

II He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

C Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

I Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

II Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

I Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

II Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

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.

EPISTLE

Romans 1:1-7

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GRADUAL AND VERSE, **I** font side, **II** Pulpit side

C Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

- I** Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.
- II** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless You.

C Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18–25

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN

"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

LSB 352

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.

SERMON

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**☩ 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

The Response is from

"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come"

LSB 350:1, 4

☐ As the time of Advent comes to an end, let us go to our heavenly Father on behalf of the Church around the world and all people in their various needs.

"Call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." For people who

have not heard a word of forgiveness from their society or circle of friends, that God would use the Church to bring them news of God's mercy and grace, available from His Son, born in a stable, killed on a cross, and risen from the grave, let us pray to the Lord.

C Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;

- A** Paul's apostleship was to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of Christ's name among all the nations. For our communities and country and for all the nations of the world, that God would put into positions of authority and influence capable and faithful people who would work for order at home and peace with neighboring states, let us pray to the Lord.

C From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.

- P** "The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof." For those who tend God's good earth, those who distribute and sell the fruits of the harvest, and those who manage wildlife preserves and wilderness expanses, that they be successful in their oversight of creation and give praise to the Creator, let us pray to the Lord.

C Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,

- A** For the forgotten in prison and unseen among us, all whose treatment by society has given them cause to stop waiting for answers to prayer, that God would surround them with caring, devout family and friends, so that they in patient joy look forward as "the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth," let us pray to the Lord.

C Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!

- P** For people who are weighed down by illness, strife, or oppression, our friends and neighbors "who seek the face of the God of Jacob," that God would bring healing, peace of body and mind, and freedom from discrimination, [*including . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.

C Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

A Joseph was a just man and unwilling to put Mary to shame. For those who have succumbed to the criticisms of their circle of acquaintances, the fallen morality of their society, and the consequences of their own mistakes, that God would open their eyes to the forgiveness He offers through Christ so that they lift up their heads to the gates through which our Savior walks, let us pray to the Lord.

C Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

P For the Church around the world, wherever it experiences active persecution or increasing indifference, that God would strengthen, guide, and protect laity and clergy alike and that it receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;

A These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

C By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

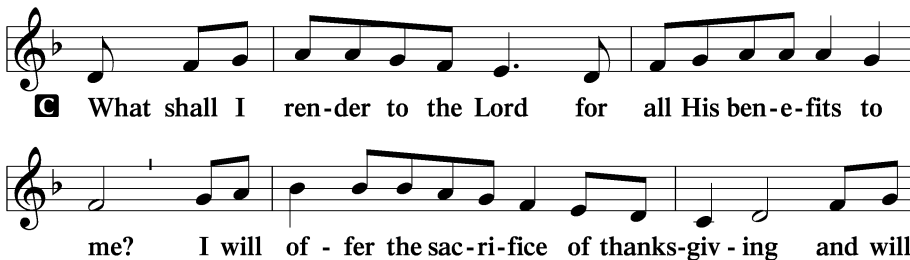
"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

arr. E. Broughton

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 159



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



✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

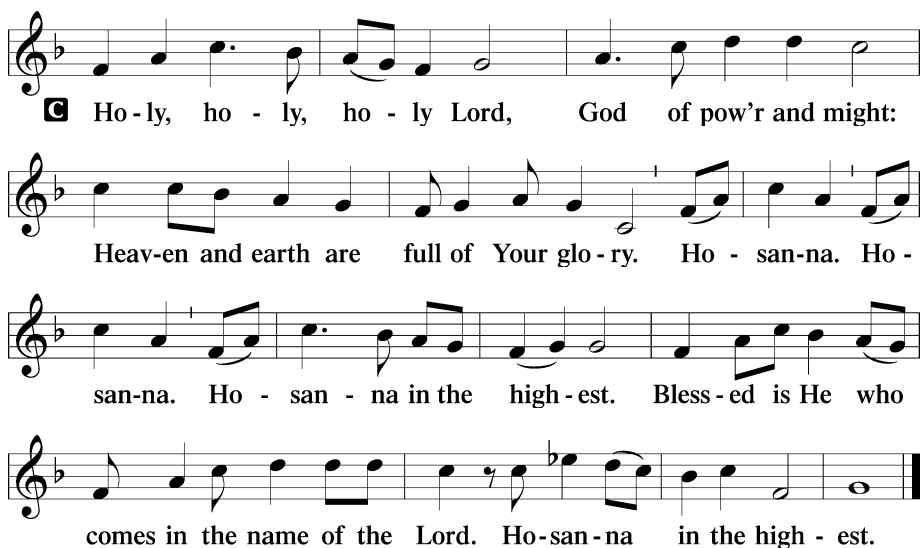
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son, the long hoped-for Messiah, to bring us salvation. Pour out upon us the gifts of Your Spirit, that we may receive Your blessings joyfully and resolutely serve You in all we do. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

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, who in giving Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to accomplish our salvation has fulfilled the hope of the prophets and of Your people for countless generations. We thank You for calling us to be Your people in this time and place and for inviting us to Your holy Table. Joined together in the name of our Lord and in the communion of saints, we pray You to send Your Holy Spirit upon us to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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

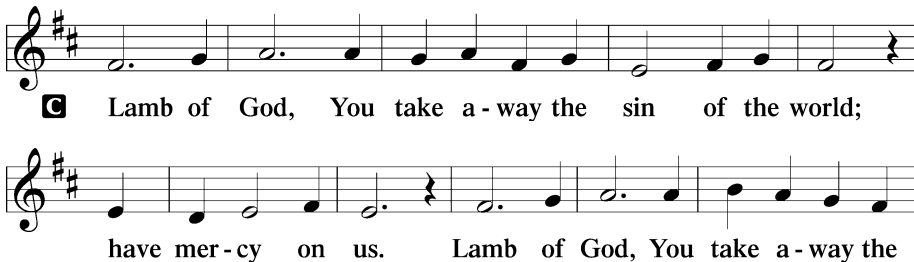
- | | |
|--|--|
| C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses | as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.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

PAX DOMINI

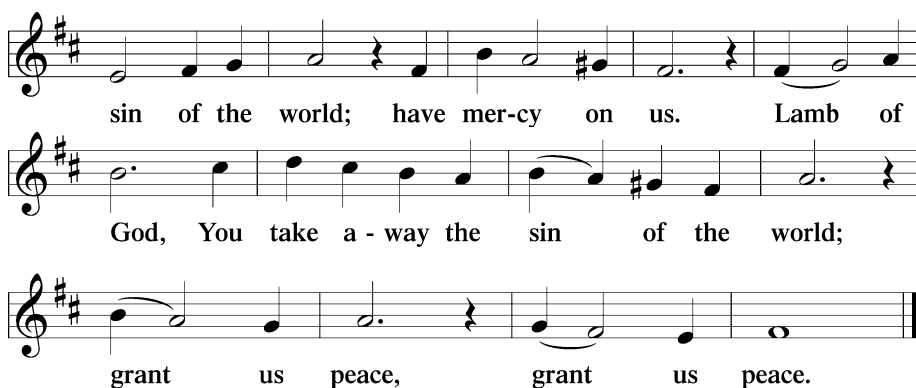
- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 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



Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

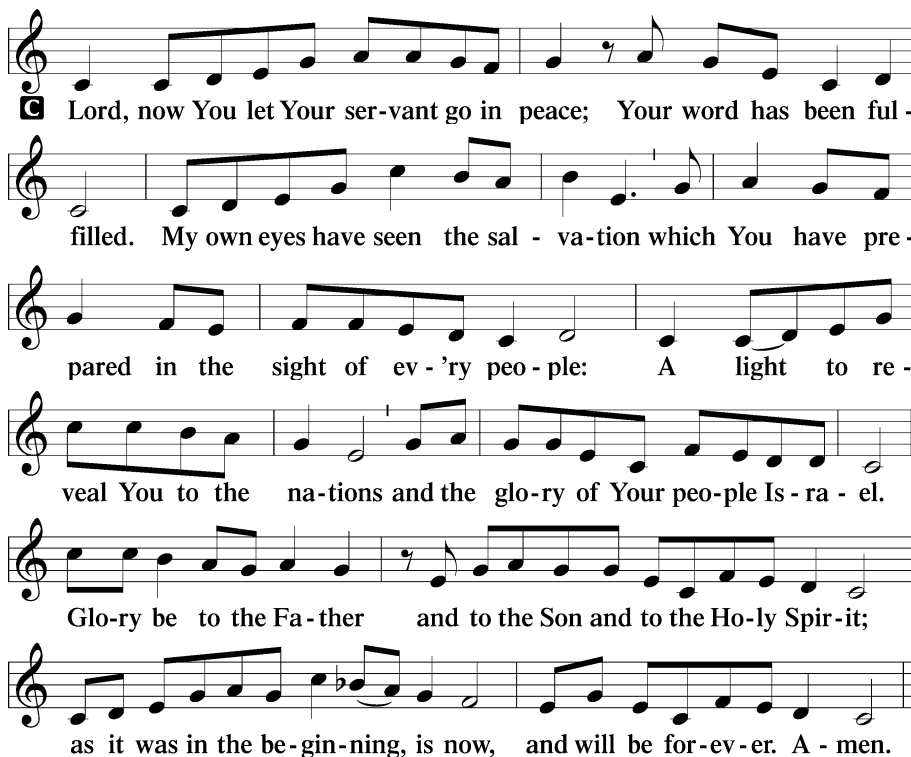
"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come"

LSB 350

1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our
sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,
O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er
let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

VOLUNTARY**"Come, Thou Precious Ransom Come"**

setting: R. Powell

*Stand***NUNC DIMITTIS****LSB 182**

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal 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 THANKSGIVING

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. Govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with You and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- 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 **Amen.**

HYMN

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

LSB 348



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phunt 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!

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Hosanna to the Living Lord"

setting: F. Zachow

Acknowledgments

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