FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Second Sunday in Advent

December 8, 2024 Rev. Patrick Poock



The Preaching of Repentance Prepares Us for the Coming of the Lord

The preaching and Baptism "of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 3:3) prepare us for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The historic work of John the Baptist was completed with the first advent of our Lord Jesus in the flesh, but the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of Law and Gospel and in Holy Baptism. Through His messengers, the Lord calls people of all nations to "see the salvation of God" (Luke 3:6). Our haughtiness is removed and our mountains of pride are brought low, but the Lord humbles us in order to exalt us in His mercy. As the Lord has begun this good work of repentance in us, so also does He perfect it by His Word and Holy Spirit, and He "will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6). He purifies us to be His priestly people, precious in His sight and abounding in faith and love, so that we offer our very lives in righteousness to the Lord (Mal. 3:3–4).

THE DIVINE SERVICE is celebrated each Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am and Wednesday at 5:00 pm. Bible Class is held on Sunday at 9:15 am and Wednesday at 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH is a Christological, Scriptural, Confessional and Liturgical member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. We believe that God has called us to believe, teach and confess that Christ was crucified for our sins and we receive salvation by faith, which is a gift of God through His grace given to us in our baptism, as is revealed in the Holy Bible which is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. In response to His gift of salvation we eagerly desire to do good works out of thanksgiving and praise to the Triune God.

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Because we take the Word of God seriously and we love our visitors, we ask that if you are not a member of Faith Lutheran or another LCMS church, please refrain from taking communion until you have talked with Pastor Poock. In the meantime, we would love to have you participate by coming forward and receiving a blessing.

Communion offers the immense blessing of forgiveness of our sins. However, it can be taken to one's judgment if not properly understood. 1 Cor 11:27,29 says, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the LORD in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the LORD...For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."

We teach that a person receives the real Body and the real Blood of Jesus Christ "in, with and under the bread and wine." It is not symbolic or merely a spiritual presence.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

We rejoice to have you with us today. The liturgy is found in the Lutheran Service Book in the rack in front of you. You may place this bulletin in the back of your hymnal to help you follow along with the order of service. The Propers for the day are printed within the bulletin. Please read the message in this bulletin concerning reception of Holy Communion at our church.

FOURTH QUARTER MISSION PROJECT

The fourth quarter Elder mission project is **Bridging Freedom**, a Tampa, Florida rehab for teens involved in Human trafficking. Their mission is to combat minor sex-trafficking by bringing restoration to those rescued and victim prevention to those we reach with our message. They provide a therapeutic safe home campus community providing long term, comprehensive care to these victims in a secure environment. They educate the community and work with partnering organizations to increase awareness about this horrendous issue. Bridging Freedom is, and will continue to be, a community of God loving people dedicated to sectoring the broken spirits of sex trafficking victims.

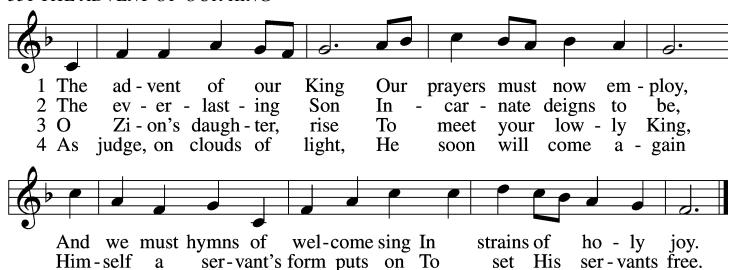
Weekly Memory Verse

Philippians. 4:6–7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

331 THE ADVENT OF OUR KING



u - nite With

faith-less heart de-spise The

all

set

His

Him in heav'n to

ser - vants free.

peace He comes to bring.

5 Before the dawning day

Nor let your

And His true

Him-self

Let sin's dark deeds be gone,

mem-bers

The sinful self be put away,

The new self now put on.

All glory to the Son, \wedge 6

Who comes to set us free,

With Father, Spirit, ever one

Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt.

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76 Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.

EXHORTATION LSB 151

- $[\mathbf{P}]$ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and \mathbf{C} cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

CONFESSION OF SINS LSB 151

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.

ABSOLUTION LSB 151

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 +

INTROIT Psalm 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b

Pastor: The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

Cong: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Pastor: Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!

Cong: O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

Pastor: I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Cong: Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

Pastor: But my people did not listen to my voice;

Cong: Israel would not submit to me.

Pastor: Oh, that my people would listen to me,

Cong: that Israel would walk in my ways!

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.

KYRIE LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



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



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



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1–7b

¹"Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

⁶"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and

Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

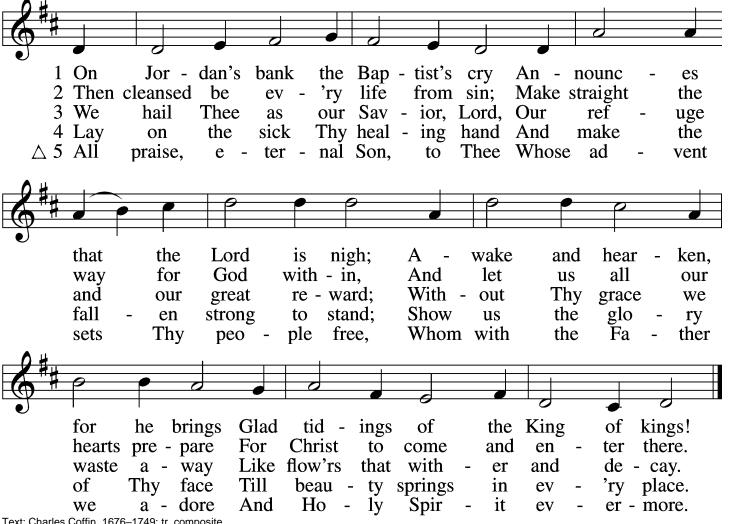
¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



344 ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

NICENE CREED

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,

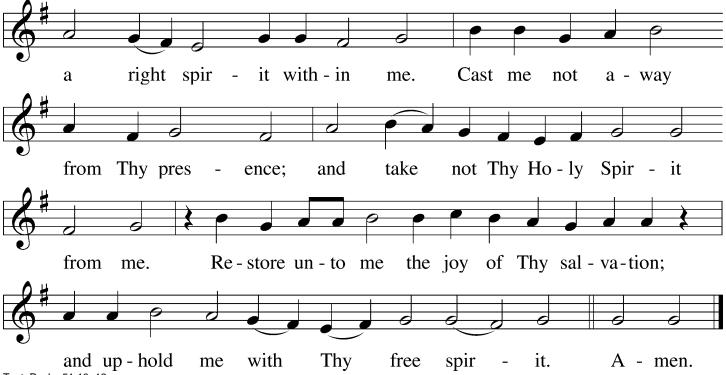
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY





Text: Psalm 51:10-12

Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



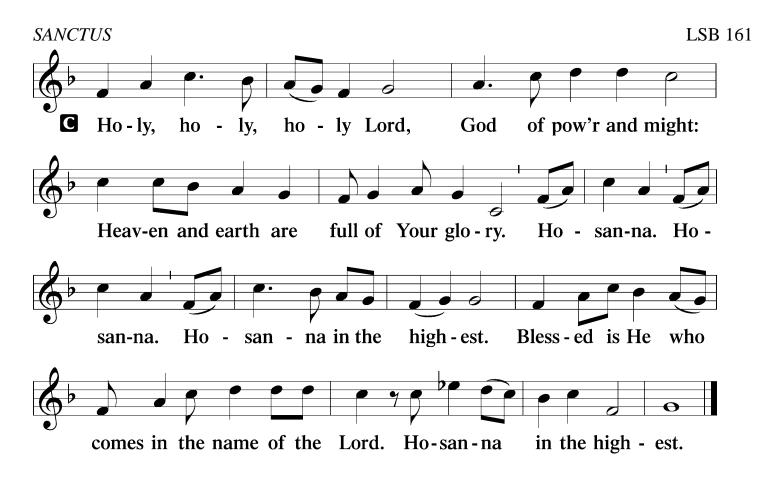
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



PROPER PREFACE (ABBREVIATED)

LSB 161

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:



LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

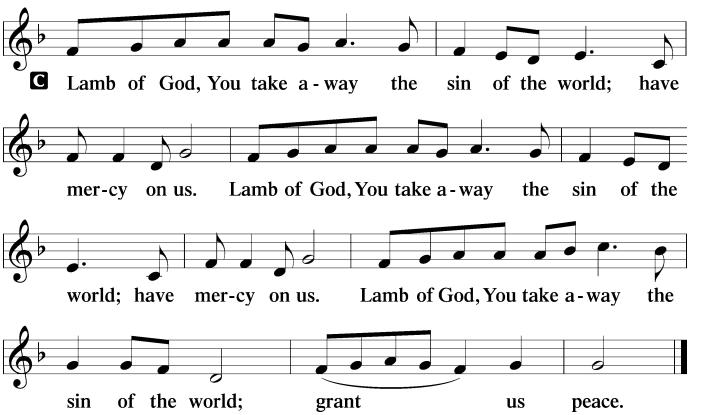
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed 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:

PAX DOMINI LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

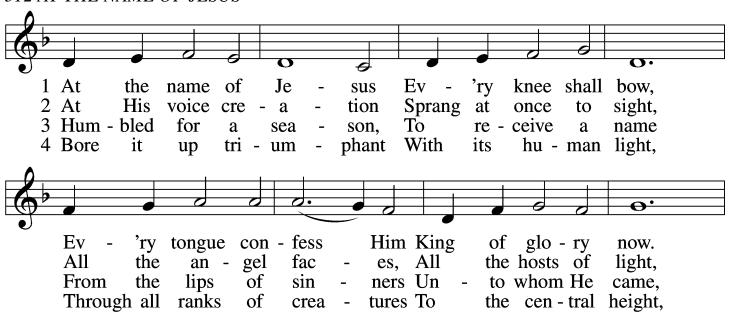


AGNUS DEI LSB 163



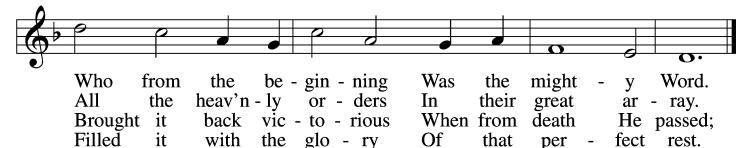
DISTRIBUTION

512 AT THE NAME OF JESUS





'Tis the Fa - ther's plea We should call Him Lord, sure Stars up - on Thrones and bright do min ions, their way, Faith ful - ly He bore it Spot - less the last, to God To the throne of head, To the Fa-ther's breast,



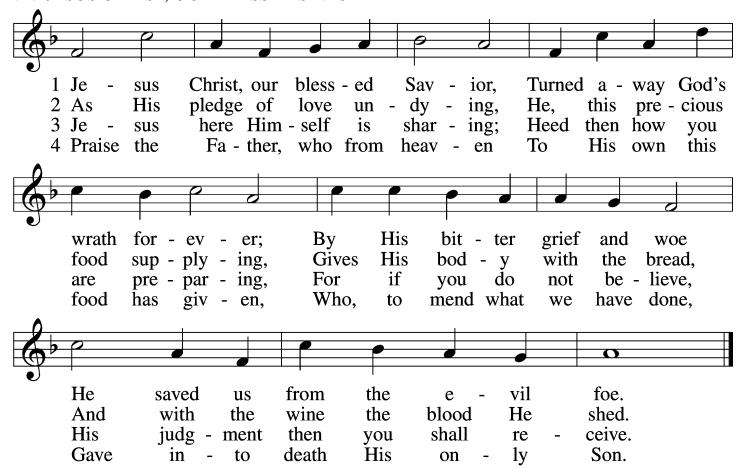
- 5 In your hearts enthrone Him;
 - There let Him subdue
 - All that is not holy,
 - All that is not true:
 - Crown Him as your captain
 - In temptation's hour;
 - Let His will enfold you
 - In its light and pow'r.
- 6 Christians, this Lord Jesus
 - Shall return again
 - In His Father's glory,
 - With His angel train;
 - For all wreaths of empire
 - Meet upon His brow,
 - And our hearts confess Him
 - King of glory now.
- \triangle 7 Glory then to Jesus,
 - Who, the Prince of light,
 - To a world in darkness
 - Brought the gift of sight;
 - Praise to God the Father;

In the Spirit's love Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817–77, alt.
Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text and tune: Public domain

627 JESUS CHRIST, OUR BLESSED SAVIOR



- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshakenThat this food is to be takenBy the sick who are distressed,By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- Agony and bitter labor
 Were the cost of God's high favor;
 Do not come if you suppose
 You need not Him who died and rose.

- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor, And receive My grace and favor: Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying
 If not for your justifying?
 And what use this precious food
 If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes
 And your mouth your sin confesses,
 You will be your Savior's guest,
 Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourishThat its fruit of love may flourishAnd your neighbor learn from youHow much God's wondrous love can do.

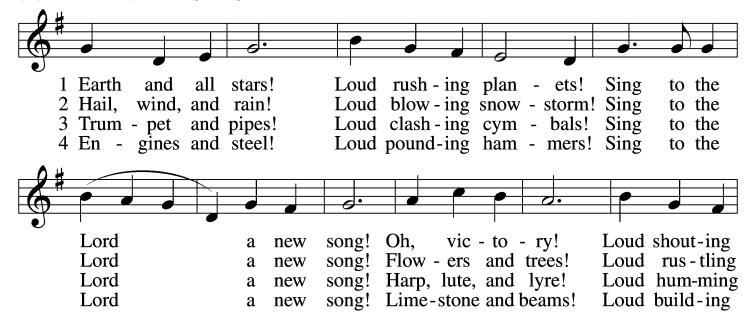
Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.

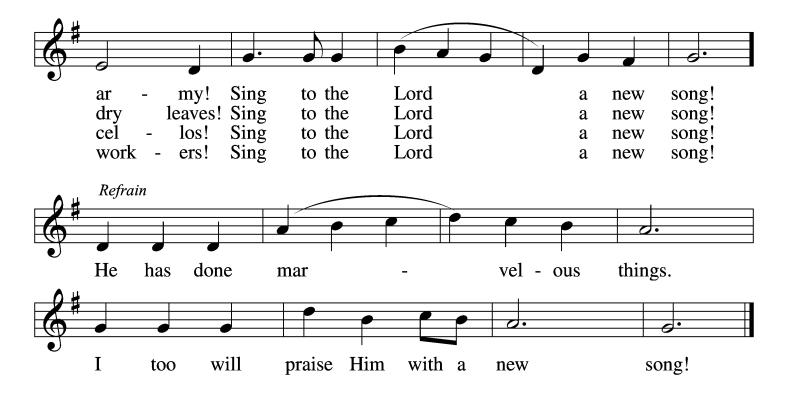
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.

Text (sts. 3, 6, 8, 10): @ 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000820

Text (sts. 1-2, 4-5, 7, 9) and tune: Public domain

817 EARTH AND ALL STARS





5 Classrooms and labs!

Loud boiling test tubes!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Athlete and band!

Loud cheering people!

Sing to the Lord a new song! Refrain

6 Knowledge and truth!

Loud sounding wisdom!

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Daughter and son!

Loud praying members!

Sing to the Lord a new song! Refrain

7 Children of God,

Dying and rising,

Sing to the Lord a new song!

Heaven and earth,

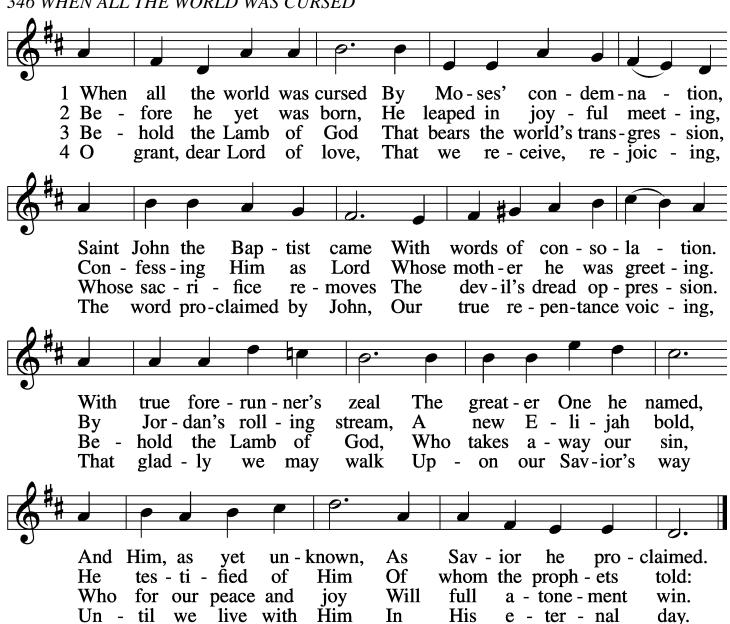
Hosts everlasting,

Sing to the Lord a new song! Refrain

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926-2009 Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922-87

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346 WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS CURSED



Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635-1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883-1965, alt.

Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629-1701

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000820

Tune: Public domain



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.



BENEDICTION LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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



347 COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE



Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Rev. Patrick Poock Organist: Lillian Boettcher

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AT FAITH:

Happy Birthday

Jacob Snell 8th

Tom Weiss 8th

Ron Koenig 8th

John Hicks 9th

Carol Vogt 9th

Rick Ross 10th

Kris Porth 11th

Vicki Costello 14th

Audrey Krieg 14th

Happy Anniversary

Bob & Millie Gardner 14th (44 yrs)

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AT FAITH:

Sunday, December 8th

9:15 am Bible Study

9:15 am Sunday School

10:30 am Divine Service

11:30 am Annual Congregational Meeting If you have not previously signed the

membership book, please do so today.

2:00 pm Griefshare "Loss of a Spouse"

Monday, December 9th

6:30 pm Griefshare (last session)

Tuesday, December 10th

6:00 pm Church Council

Wednesday, December 11th

9:00 am Women of Faith3:30 pm Bible Study5:00 pm Divine Service6:15 pm Light Meal

6:30 pm Bible Study

Thursday, December 12th

6:00 pm Handbell Practice

Friday, December 13th

9:30 am LWML

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, December 18th Divine Service 5:00 pm Advent Meal 6:15 pm Thursday, December 19th Handbell Practice 6:00 pm Friday, December 20th Lifelight Bible Study 7:00 pm