FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The First Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2024 Rev. Patrick Poock



The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption from Sin and Death

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus "brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord" (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for "the redemption of Jerusalem" and "the consolation of Israel" (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in "giving thanks to God the Father through him," "singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs," including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28–32, 38; Col. 3:15–17).

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

Matthew 1:21

You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

367 ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY



Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79 Text and tune: Public domain

+ 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10

Pastor: The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

Cong: and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

Cong: His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

Pastor: The LORD has made known his salvation;

Cong: he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Pastor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Cong: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

Cong: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

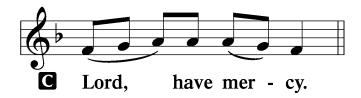
and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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.



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.



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.



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One,

You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

³Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹"When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's. ¹³Every firstborn of a

donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

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

EPISTLE Colossians 3:12–17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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



GOSPEL Luke 2:22–40

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



²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

- ²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;
- ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation
 - ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
- ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

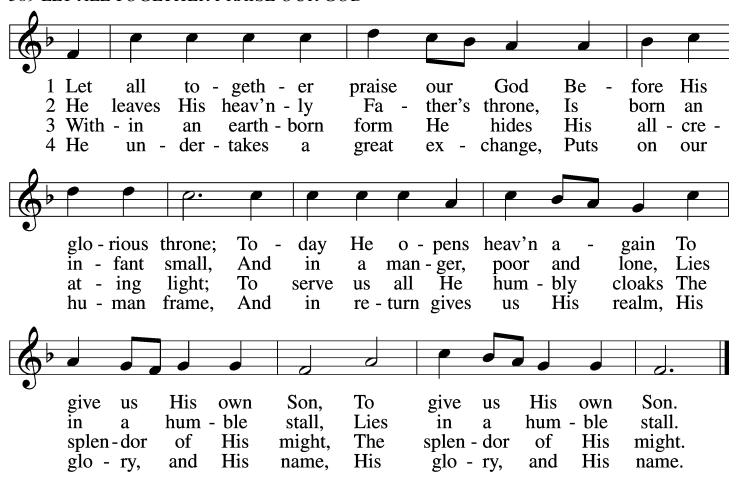
³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



389 LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD



5 He is a servant, I a lord:

How great a mystery!

How strong the tender Christ Child's love!

No truer friend than He,

No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door

To blessèd paradise;

The angel bars the way no more.

To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.

\triangle 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,

Lord Jesus, we adore

And praise to God the Father yield

And Spirit evermore;

We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000820

Text (st. 2) 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.

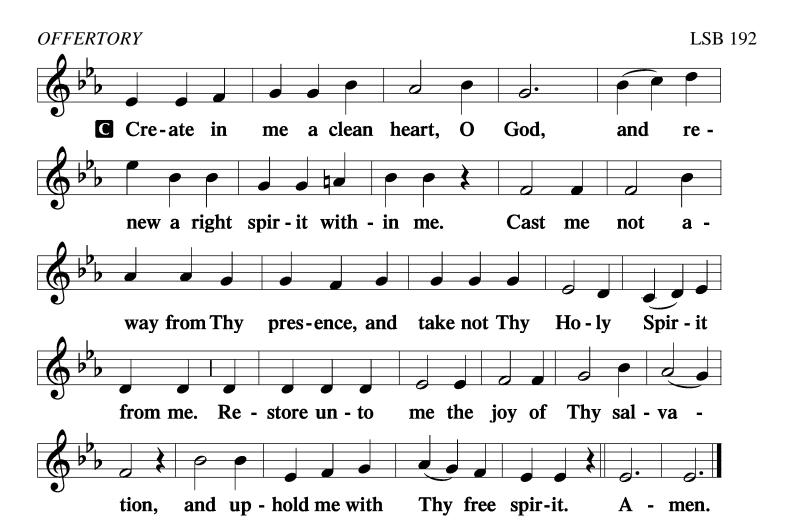
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

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.

OFFERING



+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

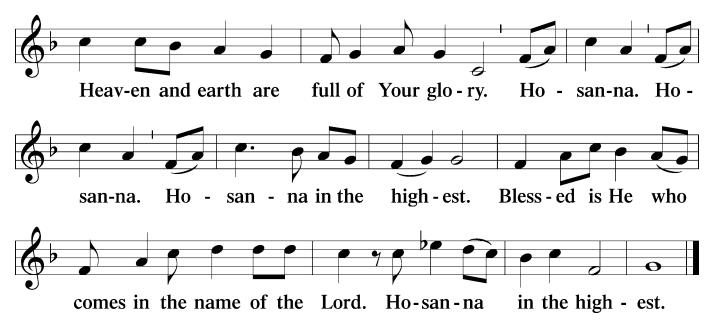


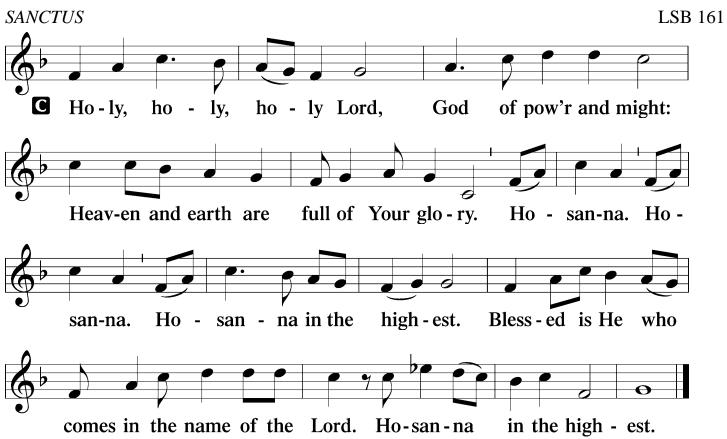
P Lift up your hearts.



- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, 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."

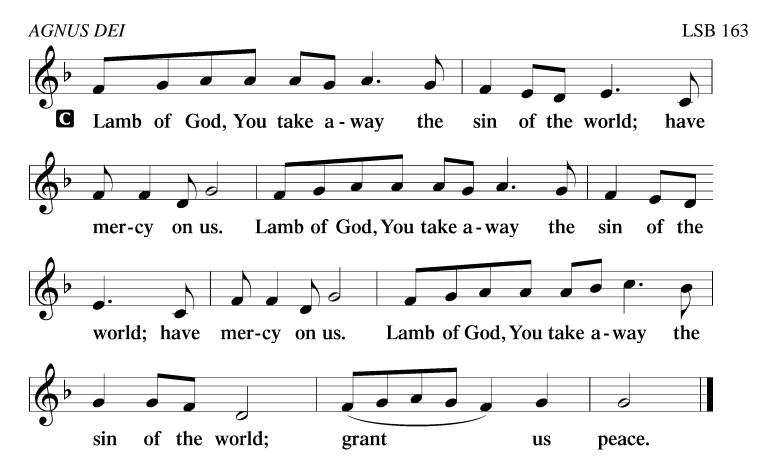
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- 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.





DISTRIBUTION

386 NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE



- 1 Now sing we, now re joice,
- 2 Come from on high to me;
- 3 Now through His Son doth shine
- 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?
- Now raise to heav'n our voice;
- I can not rise to Thee.
- The Fa-ther's grace di vine. Where but on heav'n-ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O Death was reign - ing o'er us Throws Where the an - gels sing - ing With

Poor in a man-ger lies; O pure and ho - ly Child; Through sin and van - i - ty With all His saints u - nite,



beam - eth Not so bright - ly The sun in yon - der Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild, Through Thy grace and mer - it, He o - pened for A bright e - ter - ni - ty. us Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n-ly joy and



Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there!
Oh, that we were there!

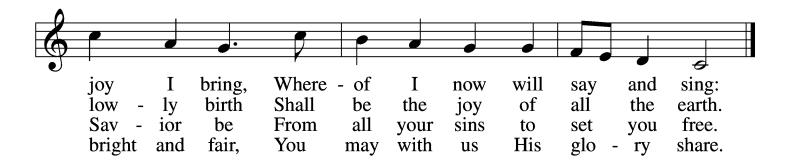
Draw me un - to Thee! May we praise Him there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.

Tune: German, 14th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

358 FROM HEAVEN ABOVE TO EARTH I COME





- These are the signs that you shall mark:
 The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
 There you will find the infant laid
 By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."
- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so!

 Then with the shepherds let us go

 To see what God for us has done
 In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,And see what in the manger lies.Who is this child, so young and fair?It is the Christ Child lying there.
- Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,Through whom the sinful world is blest!You came to share my miseryThat You might share Your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though You created all,
 How weak You are, so poor and small,
 That You should choose to lay Your head
 Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair And set with gold and jewels rare, It would be far too poor and small A cradle for the Lord of all.

- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
 You have but hay and straw so rough
 On which as King, so rich and great,
 To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases You to see
 This simple truth revealed to me:
 That worldly honor, wealth, and might
 Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
 Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
 A quiet chamber set apart
 For You to dwell within my heart.
- My heart for very joy must leap;My lips no more can silence keep.I, too, must sing with joyful tongueThat sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,Who unto us His Son has giv'n!While angels sing with pious mirthA glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann Text and tune: Public domain

370 WHAT CHILD IS THIS

bring

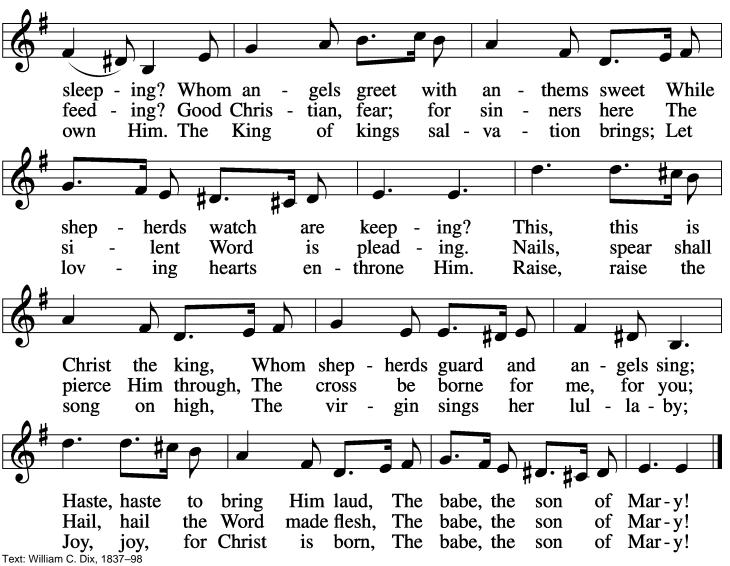
3 So



and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king,

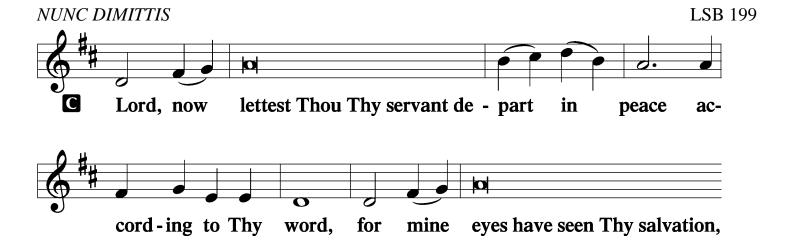
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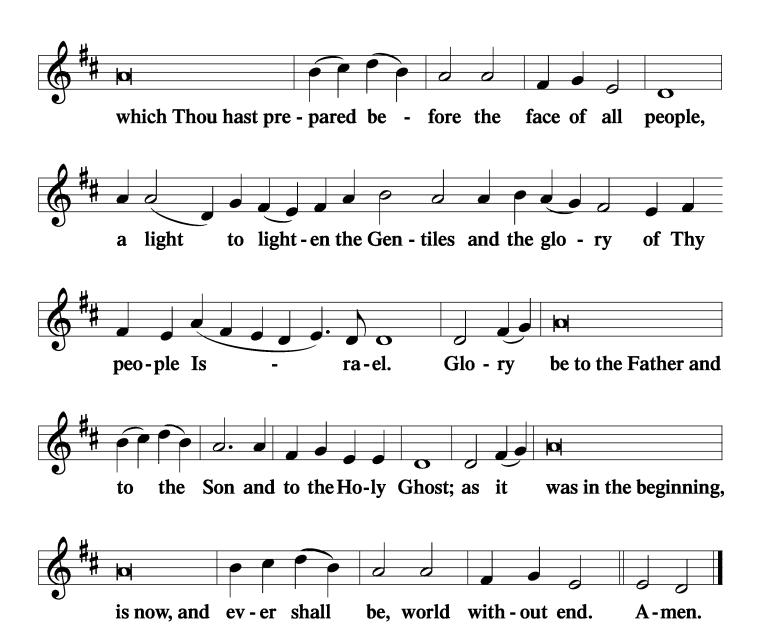
Him in - cense, gold,



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98
Tune: English, 16th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

HYMN





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.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



387 JOY TO THE WORLD



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.

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

Rev. Patrick Poock 29th Alex Boettcher 29th Carol Eichert 29th Frances Kurlinski 30th David DuChane 31st Jonathan Koehler 3rd Marjorie Weiss 3rd

Happy Anniversary

Jason & Alexandra Laser 29th (21 yrs)

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AT FAITH:

Sunday, December 29th

10:30 am ONE Divine Service 11:30 am Coffee Bites

Wednesday, January 1st

NO Divine Service 5:00 pm NO Bible Study 3:30 or 6:30 pm

Looking Ahead

Sunday, January 5th 8:00 am Divine Service 9:15 am Bible Class/Sunday School 10:30 am Divine Service 11:30 am Coffee Bites Tuesday, January 7th Elders Mtg 9:15 am at Popi's Wednesday, January 8th Women of Faith 9:00 am Wednesday, January 8th Divine Service 5:00 pm Wednesday, January 8th 3:30 & 6:30 Bible Study Friday, January 10th 9:30 am LWML Saturday, January 11th Christmas **Decoration Removal** 9:00 am