

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord

Friday 25 December Anno Domini 2020

Epiphany Lutheran Church

A congregation of the English District, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

4219 Park Lane • Dorr, Michigan

www.epiphanydorr.org

The Rev. Ryan Beffrey, Pastor • Diane Scott, Organist

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE



THE PREPARATION

Please **STAND**.

HYMN

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising,” 375



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
 2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending And in
 3 Ja - cob's star in all its splendor Beams with
 4 From the bondage that oppressed us, From sin's



Lord with gladness praising; Loudly sing His love a -
 love our race befriending; In our need His help ex -
 comfort sweet and tender, Forcing Satan to sur -
 fetters that possessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



mazing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
 tending, Saved us from the wily foe.
 rendering, Breaking all the powers of hell.
 tressed us, We, the captives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
 When by faith we grasp this blessing,
 And to You we come confessing
 That Your love has set us free.

6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
 From Your lowly manger cheer us,
 Gently lead us and be near us
 Till we join Your choir above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt (1607-76); tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, alt.

Tune: German, 14th cent.

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Tune: Public Domain

QUEM PASTORES

88 87

INVOCATION; CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

C Amen.



THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6



P For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His | shoulder, *
and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done | marvelous things! *
His right hand and His holy arm have worked salva- | tion for Him.

C The LORD has made known His sal- | vation; *
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

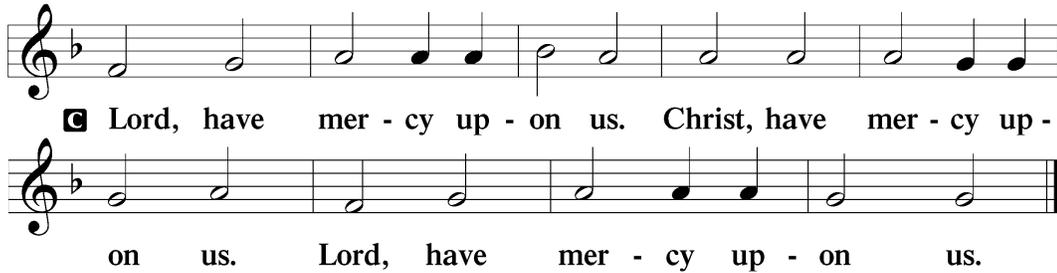
P He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel. *
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

C Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth; *
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

C Glory be to the Father and | to the Son *
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His | shoulder, *
and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Grant, we beseech You, Almighty God, that the new birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free, who are held in the old bondage under the yoke of sin; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Please **BE SEATED**.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38

In those days, in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was raised up. So Moses raised up the tabernacle, fastened its sockets, set up its boards, put in its bars, and raised up its pillars. And he spread out the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent on top of it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. He took the Testimony and put it into the ark, inserted the poles through the rings of the ark, and put the mercy seat on top of the ark. And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, hung up the veil of the covering, and partitioned off the ark of the Testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would go onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



- P** Blessèd is He who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine up- | on us.
- C** This is the LORD's | doing;*
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

EPISTLE READING

Titus 3:4-7

Beloved: When the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

Please **STAND**.

SEQUENCE HYMN

"We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth," 382



- 1 We praise You, Je - sus, at Your birth; Clothed in flesh You
2 Now in the man - ger we may see God's Son from e -
3 The vir - gin Mar - y's lul - la - by Calms the in - fant
4 The Light E - ter - nal, break - ing through, Made the world to



- came to earth. The vir - gin bears a sin - less boy
ter - ni - ty, The gift from God's e - ter - nal throne
Lord Most High. Up - on her lap con - tent is He
gleam a - new; His beams have pierced the core of night,



- And all the an - gels sing for joy. Al - le - lu - ia!
Here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Al - le - lu - ia!
Who keeps the earth and sky and sea. Al - le - lu - ia!
He makes us chil - dren of the light. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 The very Son of God sublime
Entered into earthly time
To lead us from this world of cares
To heaven's courts as blessed heirs.
Alleluia!
- 6 In poverty He came to earth
Showing mercy by His birth;
He makes us rich in heav'nly ways
As we, like angels, sing His praise.
Alleluia!

- 7 All this for us our God has done
Granting love through His own Son.
Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice
And sing His praise with endless voice.
Alleluia!

Text: German, c. 1380, st. 1; Martin Luther (1483-1546), sts. 2-7; tr. Gregory J. Wismar (b. 1946), sts. 1, 6;
tr. F. Samuel Janzow (1913-2001), sts. 2, 4; tr. *Lutheran Service Book*, 2006, sts. 3, 5, 7

GELOBET SEIST DU
87 88 4

Tune: *Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein*, Erfurt, 1524

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HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 1:1-14

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



☑ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☑ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Now Yield We Thanks and Praise"



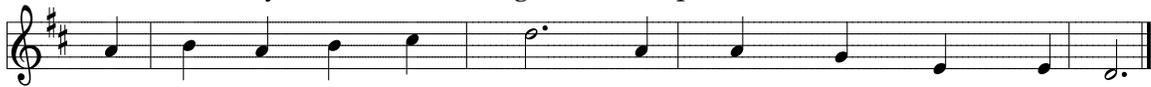
1 Now yield we thanks and praise To Christ en - throned in glo - ry
2 What trib - ute shall we pay To Him who came in weak - ness,



And on this day of days Tell out re - demp - tion's stor - y,
And in a man - ger lay To teach His peo - ple meek - ness?



Who tru - ly have be - lieved That on this bless - ed morn,
Let ev - 'ry house be bright; Let prais - es nev - er cease:



In ho - li - ness con - ceived, Was born the Son of God.
With mer - cies in - fi - nite Our Christ has brought us peace.

Text: Ahasverus Fritsch (1629-1701); tr. Howard Chandler Robbins (1876-1952)

WAS FRAG ICH NAC DER WELT

Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch (1629-1701)

67 67 66 66

Text and Tune: Public Domain

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 \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

Please **BE SEATED.**

CHIEF HYMN

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten,” 384



1 Of the Fa - ther’s love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
4 O ye heights of heav’n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
△ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing. Pow’rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world’s Re -
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, Ev - ’ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens (348-c. 413); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-66), sts. 1-4, alt. DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
tr. Henry W. Baker (1821-77), st. 5 87 87 887
Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V
Text and Tune: Public Domain

SERMON

Please **STAND.**

OFFERTORY



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it
from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-
tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

after each petition:

- | | | |
|--|----|--|
| <p>P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.</p> | or | <p>P ...let us pray to the Lord.
C Lord, have mercy.</p> |
|--|----|--|

the prayers conclude:

- P** ...one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Please **BE SEATED**.

VOLUNTARY

During the voluntary, the Celebrant prepares the Altar for the Supper. You are encouraged to prepare your heart and mind for Holy Communion. Psalms 34, 42, 84, and 116 are especially suitable.

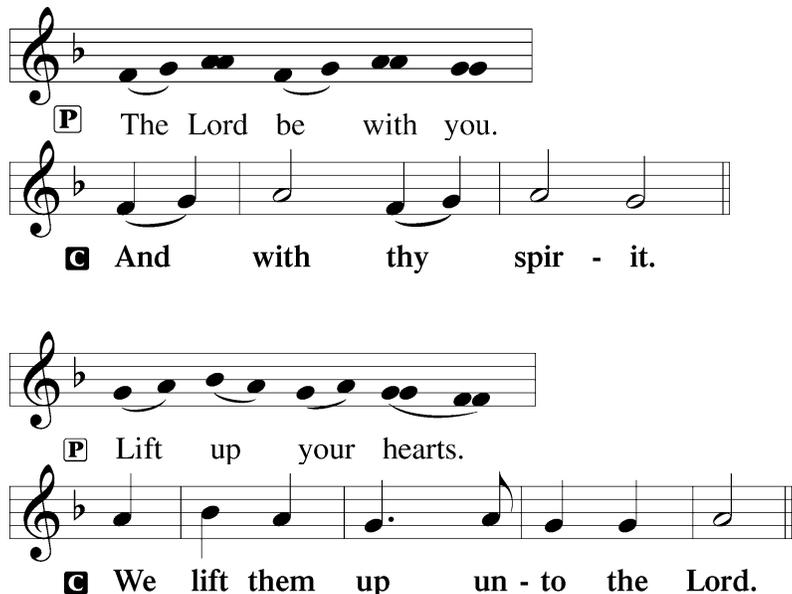
Your offering may be deposited in the plate located near the Baptismal Font when you go to the Altar for Holy Communion.



THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Please **STAND**.

PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir-it.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up un-to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

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

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

P 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.



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and 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."

PAX DOMINI



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please **BE SEATED**.

DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD



1 Chris-tians, sing out with ex - ul - ta - tion And praise your
 2 In Him e - ter - nal might and pow - er To hu - man
 3 A sta - ble serves Him for a dwell - ing And for a
 4 For thro' this ho - ly in - car - na - tion The pri - mal



Ben - e - fac - tor's name! To - day the Au - thor
 weak - ness hath in - clined; And this poor Child brings
 bed a man - ger mean; Yet o'er His head, His
 curse is done a - way; And bless - ed peace o'er



of sal - va - tion, The Fa - ther's Well - be - lov - ed, came.
 rich - est dow - er Of gifts and grac - es to man - kind.
 ad - vent tell - ing, A new and won - drous star is seen.
 all cre - a - tion Hath shed its pure and gen - tle ray.



Of un - de - fil - ed vir - gin moth - er An In - fant
 While here, His Maj - es - ty dis - guis - ing, A serv - ant's
 An - gels re - hearse to men the sto - ry, The joy - ful
 Then, in that heav'n - ly con - cert join - ing, O Chris - tian



all di - vine was born. And God Him - self be -
 form the Mas - ter wears, Be - hold the beams of
 sto - ry of His birth; To Him they raise the
 men, with one ac - cord, Your voic - es tune - ful -



- came your Broth - er Up - on this hap - py Christ - mas morn.
 glo - ry ris - ing E'en from His pov - er - ty and tears.
 an - them—"Glo - ry To God on high and peace on earth!"
 - ly com - bin - ing, Sa - lute the birth - day of your Lord.

“Rejoice, Rejoice, This Happy Morn,” 391

Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce this hap - py morn, A Sav - ior un -
to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry!
His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels from
on high pro - claim And sing re - demp - tion's sto - ry!
My soul, ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless Him ev - er
For sal - va - tion; Give Him praise and ad - o - ra - tion!

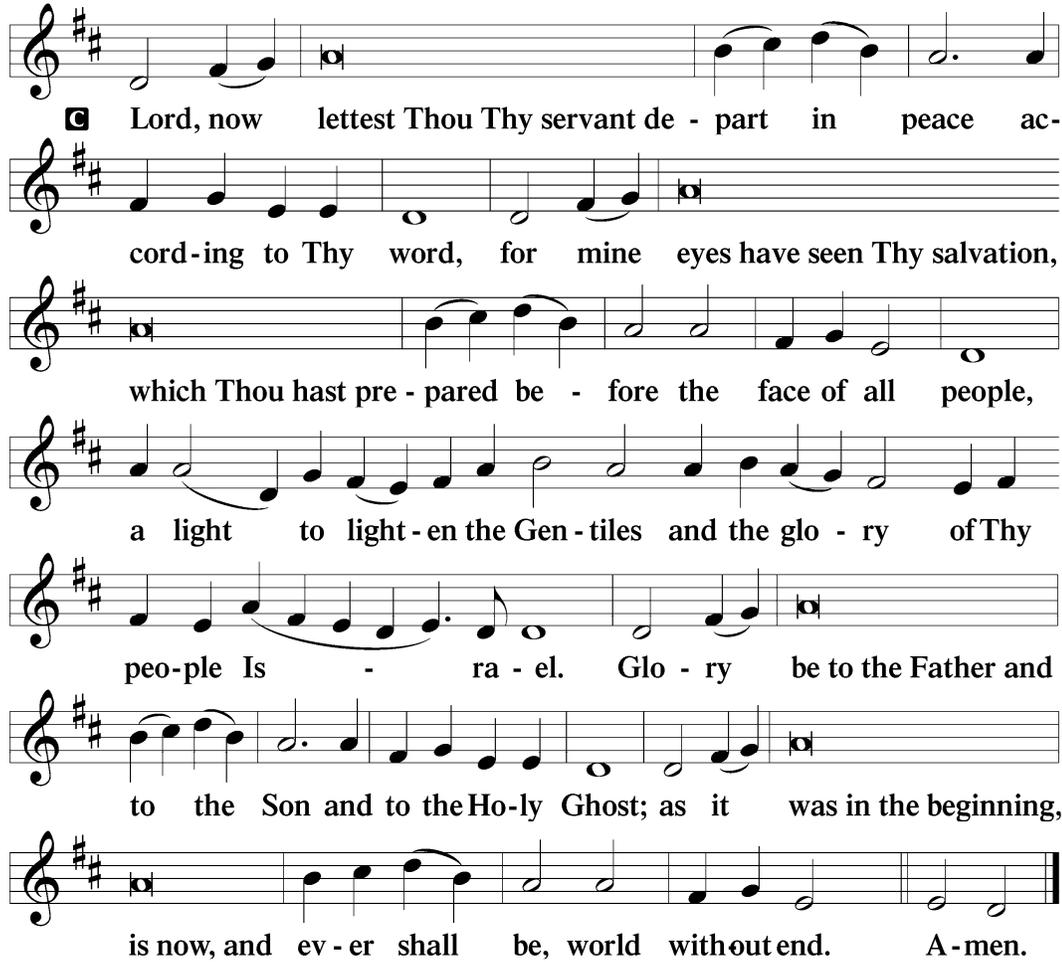
Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye (1742-1824); tr. Carl Döving (1867-1937)
Tune: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)
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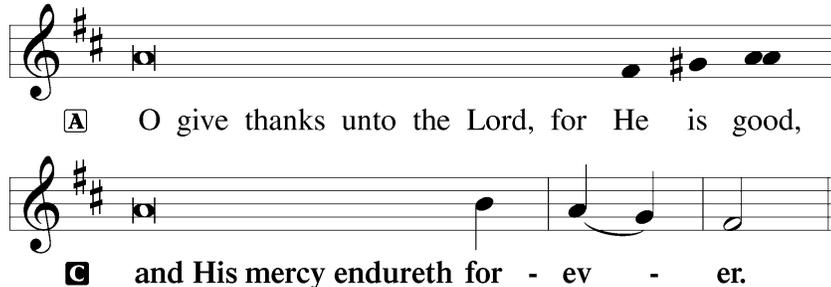
Please **STAND**.

NUNC DIMITTIS



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

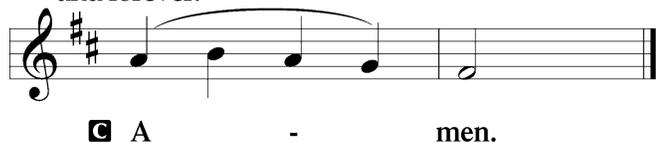
THANKSGIVING



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



C A - men.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

P The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High,” 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French; tr. *The Crown of Jesus, Part 2*, London, 1862, alt.

Tune: French

Text and Tune: Public Domain

GLORIA

77 77 and refrain