

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
2003 N.E. Englewood Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64118
816.452.9113

**“For behold, when the sound of your
greeting came to my ears, the baby
in my womb leaped for joy.”**



Divine Service Three
The Visitation

Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner, Pastor
Website: <http://holycrosskc.org>
Email: church@holycrosskc.org

Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. A small brochure is available in the pew which describes the importance of the Biblical and historic practice known as "Closed Communion." If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

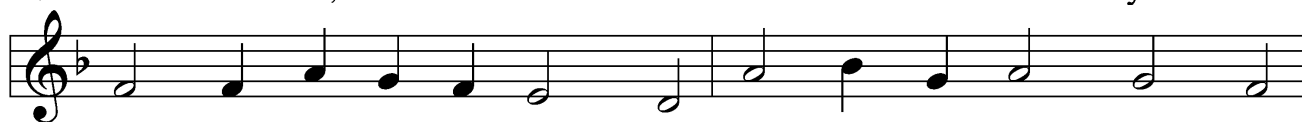
Prelude

Please stand and face the procession

402 The Only Son from Heaven



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!
3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en To know and love You more,
△ 4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore You With God the Ho - ly Ghost



By God the Fa - ther giv - en, In hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the king a - noint - ed, The Christ, the vir - gin - born,
In faith to stand un - shak - en, In spir - it to a - dore,
And Je - sus, we a - dore You, O pride of an - gel host:



No sphere His light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly
Grim death to van - quish for us, To o - pen heav'n be -
That we, through this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en
Be - fore You mor - tals low - ly Cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,



shin - ing As He, our Morn - ing Star.
fore us And bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Text (sts. 1–3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500–1535; (sts. 1–3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, 1524, Erfurt

Text and tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

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.

Absolution

LSB 185

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.

+ Service of the Word+

Introit

1 Samuel 2:1–2, 7–8; antiphon: Luke 1:46b–47



My soul magni- | fies the Lord,*

and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted | in the LORD.*

My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your sal- | vation.

There is none holy like the LORD; there is none be- | sides you;*
there is no rock | like our God.

**The LORD makes poor and | makes rich;*
he brings low and | he exalts.**

He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the | ash heap*
to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of | honor.

**For the pillars of the earth | are the LORD's,*
and on them he has | set the world.**

**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.

My soul magni- | fies the Lord,*

and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

Kyrie

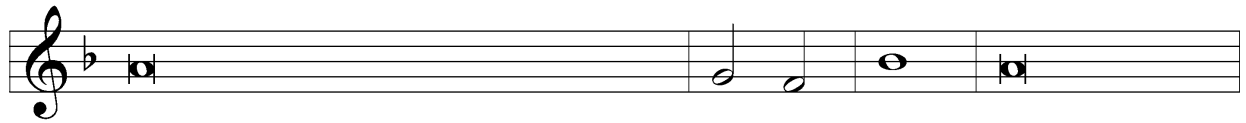
LSB 186

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

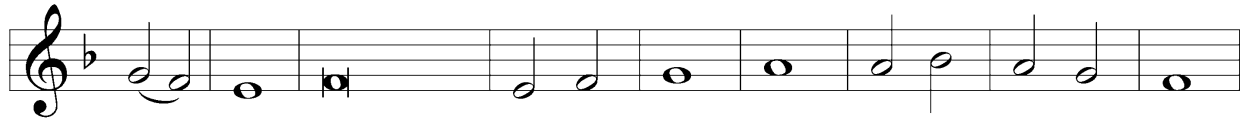
Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

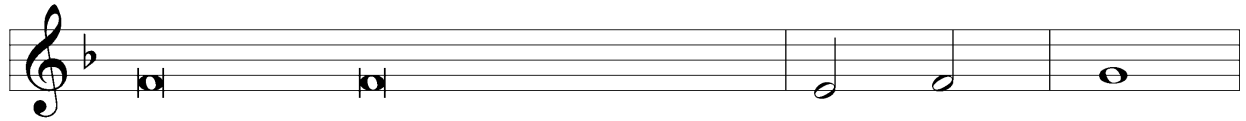
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O 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 spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You chose the virgin Mary to be the mother of Your Son and made known through her Your gracious regard for the poor and lowly and despised. Grant that we may receive Your Word in humility and faith, and so be made one with Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 11:1-5

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 103:2; 105:5; 100:4



Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and forget not all his | benefits.

**Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his | courts with praise!*
Give thanks to him; | bless his name!

Epistle

Romans 12:9–16

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.
¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.
¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.
¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.
¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony

with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Procession

Alleluia & Verse of the Day

Luke 1:45



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

P Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord. Alleluia.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39–56

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

⁴⁶And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
 ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
 For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.
⁵⁰And his mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
⁵²he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
 and exalted those of humble estate;
⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and the rich he has sent empty away.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
 in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers,
 to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.

332 Savior of the Nations, Come *(Congregation sings stanzas 1, 4, 7-8; Men sing stanzas 2 & 5;
Women sing stanzas 3 & 6)*



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



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,



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.

5 God the Father was His source,
 Back to God He ran His course.
 Into hell His road went down,
 Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
 Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole
 All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
 Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides;
 In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
Text (sts. 3, 6–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383
Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Votum

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

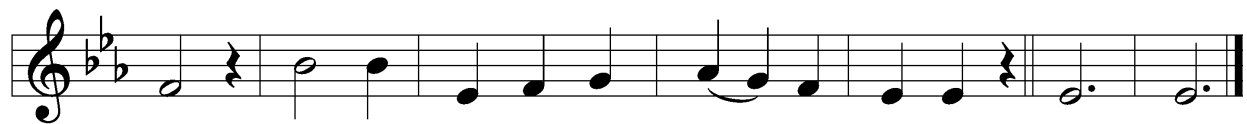
Offering - Please place your offering and attendance card in the plate as it is passed.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

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


+ Service of the Sacrament+

Preface


LSB 194



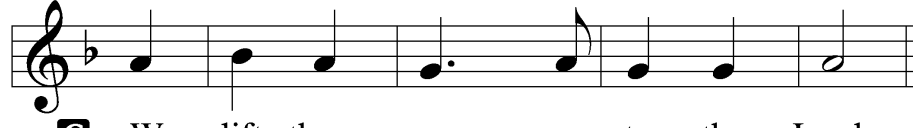
P The Lord be with you.



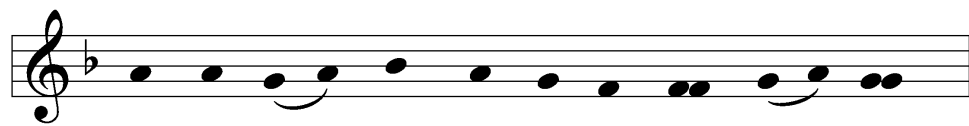
C And with thy spir - it.




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.

Proper Preface

P It is truly meet, 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 by the Holy Spirit Your

only-begotten Son was conceived in the womb of the blessed virgin Mary and brought forth in the substance of our human flesh that we might partake of His divine life. 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 195



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

LSB 196

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

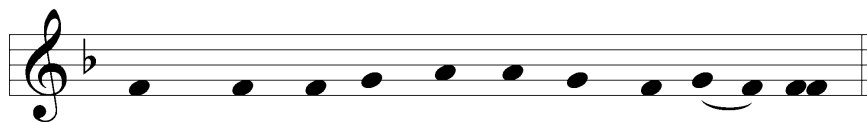
LSB 197

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

LSB 197



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

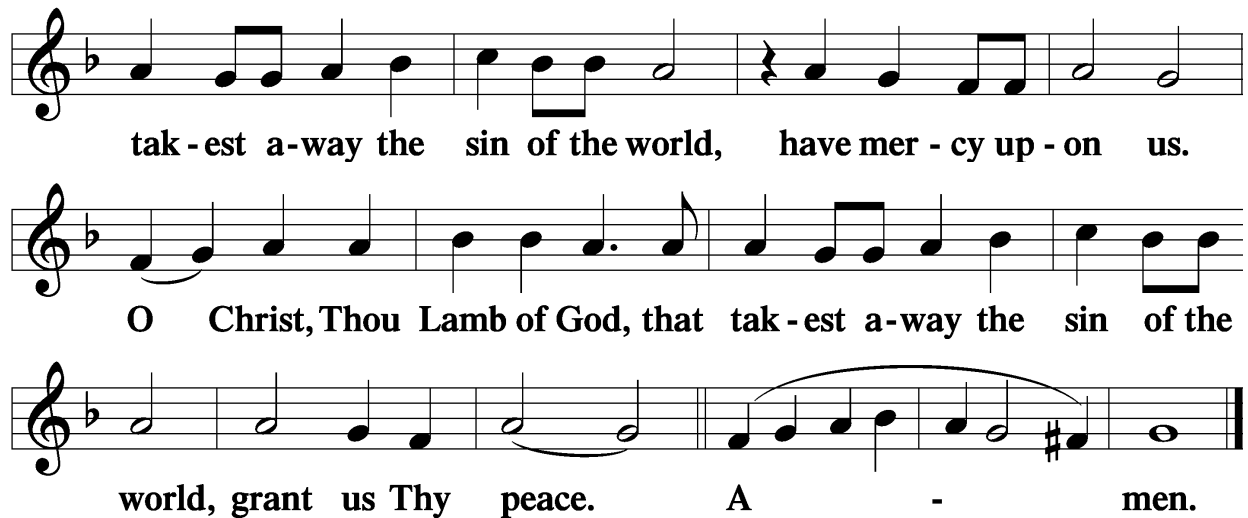
LSB 198



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



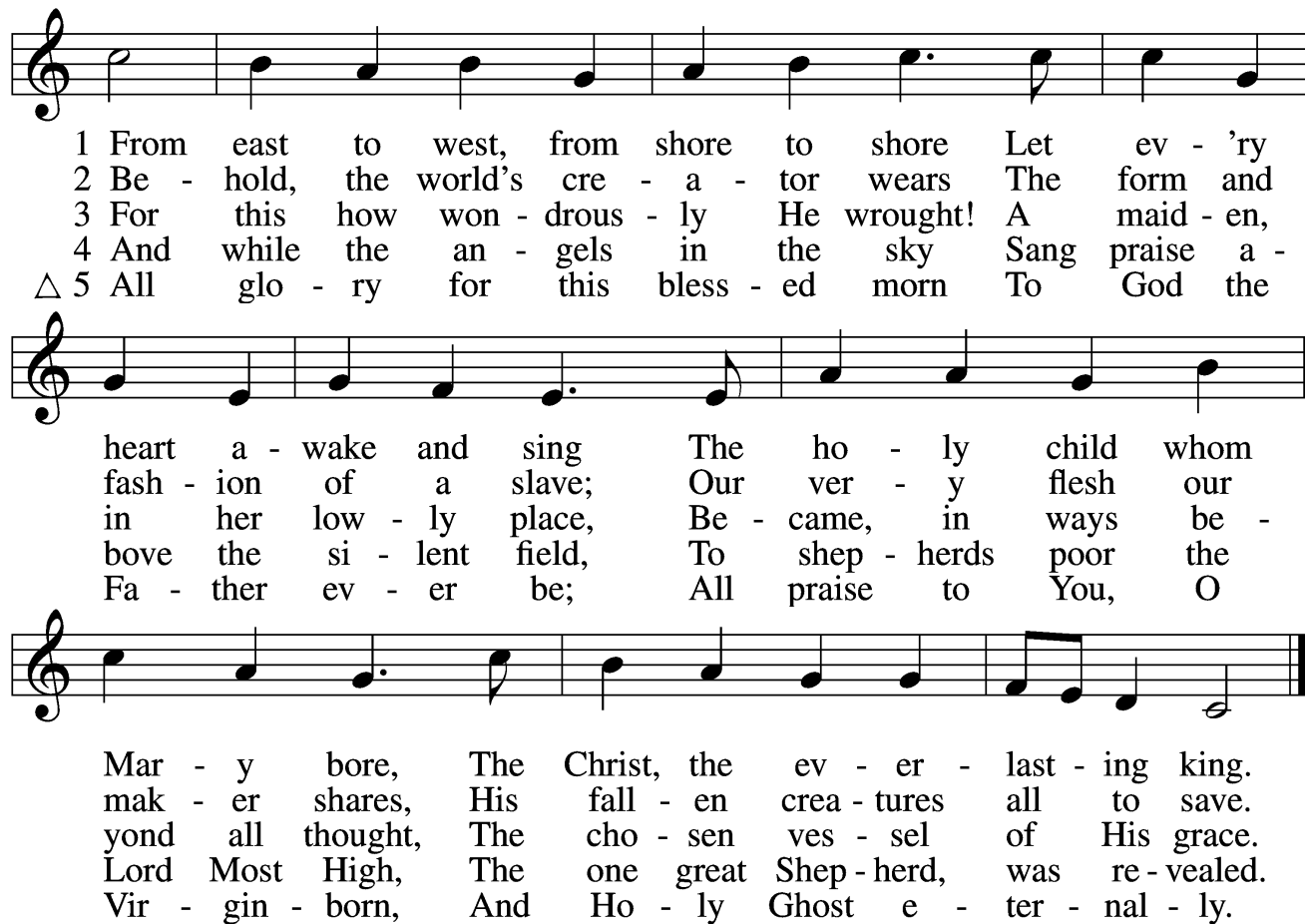
tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

Sit

385 From East to West



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry
 2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and
 3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,
 4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -
 △ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the

heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom
 fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our
 in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -
 bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the
 Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O

Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.
 mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.
 yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.
 Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.
 Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Ellerton, 1826–93, alt.

Tune: Geistliche lieder, 1539, Leipzig, ed. Valten Schumann

Text and tune: Public domain

395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di-vine, And deep with-in
 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls
 4 Al-might-y Fa-ther, in Your Son You loved us when



own truth and light, A-glow with grace and mer-cy!
 our hearts now shine; There light a flame un-dy-ing!
 from God a-bove A ray of pur-est plea-sure.
 not yet be-gun Was this old earth's foun-da-tion!



Of Ja-cob's race, King Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas-s
 In Your one bod-y let us be As liv-ing branch-
 Your Word and Spir-it, flesh and blood Re-fresh our souls
 Your Son has ran-somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on-ly!
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup-ply-ing.
 with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear-est trea-sure!
 here and a-bove: This is Your great sal-va-tion.



Low-ly, ho-ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic-to-rious,
 Now, though dai-ly Earth's deep sad-ness May per-plex us
 Let Your mer-cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!
 Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the liv-ing, To us giv-ing



Rich in bless-ing! Rule and might o'er all pos-sess-ing!
 And dis-tress us, Yet with heav'n-ly joy You bless us.
 For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.
 Life for-ev-er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev-er!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608

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Tune: Public domain

534 Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor



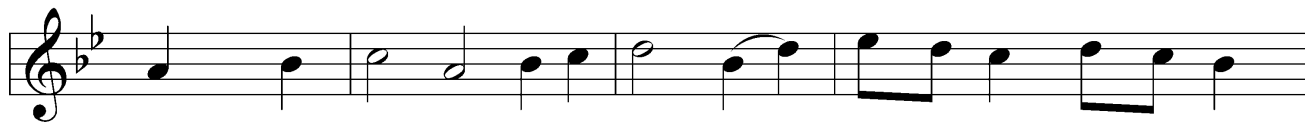
1 Lord, en - throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor, First - be - got - ten
 2 Though the low - liest form now veil You As of old in
 3 Pas - chal Lamb, Your of - f'ring, fin - ished Once for all when
 4 Life - im - part - ing heav'n - ly man - na, Strick - en rock with



from the dead, You a - lone, our strong de - fend - er,
 Beth - le - hem, Here as there Your an - gels hail You,
 You were slain, In its full - ness un - di - min - ished
 stream - ing side, Heav'n and earth with loud ho - san - na



Lift - ing up Your peo - ple's head. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Shall for - ev - er - more re - main, Al - le - lu - ia,
 Wor - ship You, the Lamb who died, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus, true and
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! We in wor - ship
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Cleans - ing souls from
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ris'n, as - cend - ed,



liv - ing bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!
 join with them; We in wor - ship join with them.
 ev - 'ry stain; Cleans - ing souls from ev - 'ry stain.
 glo - ri - fied! Ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Text: George H. Bourne, 1840–1925, alt.

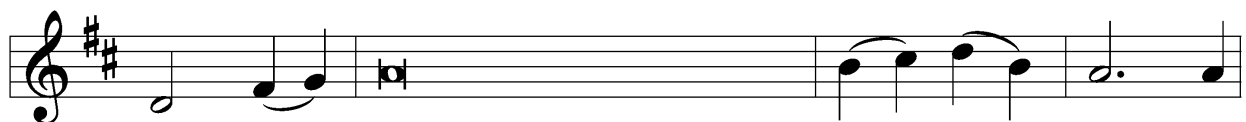
Tune: William Owen, 1813–93

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



C Lord, now letttest 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 with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

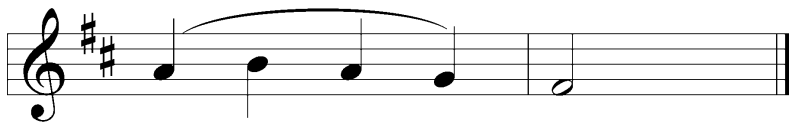
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



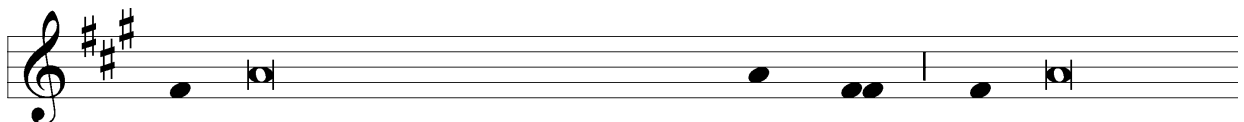
A Bless we the Lord.



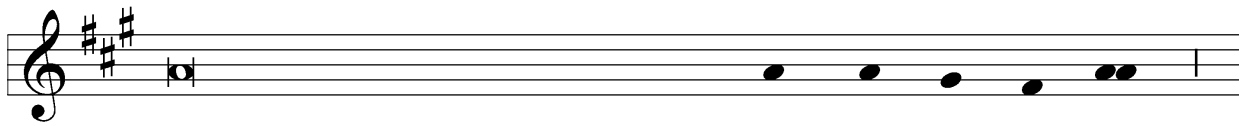
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



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



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Please face the procession, returning after it passes

401 From God the Father, Virgin-Born



1 From God the Fa - ther, vir - gin - born To us the
2 Be - gin - ning from His home on high, In hu - man
3 Glide on, O glo - rious Sun, and bring The gift of
4 A - bid with us, O Lord, we pray; The gloom of



on - ly Son came down; By death the font to con - se -
flesh He came to die; Cre - a - tion by His death re -
heal - ing on Your wing; To ev - 'ry dull and cloud - ed
dark - ness chase a - way; Your work of heal - ing, Lord, be -



crate, The faith - ful to re - gen - er - ate.
stored, And shed new joys of life a - broad.
sense The clear - ness of Your light dis - pense.
gin, And take a - way the stain of sin.

5 Lord, once You came to earth's domain
And, we believe, shall come again;
Be with us on the battlefield,
From ev'ry harm Your people shield.

△ 6 To You, O Lord, all glory be
For this Your blest epiphany;
To God, whom all His hosts adore,
And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: Antiphoner, 1753, Grenoble
Text and tune: Public domain

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