

Midday Advent Worship (Second Week in Advent)

December 10, 2025 – 12 Noon



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before Worship

Draw near to us, O Advent Lord, in this time of worship. Open our hearts and minds to your life-giving presence as we wait and watch for your promised coming. Amen.



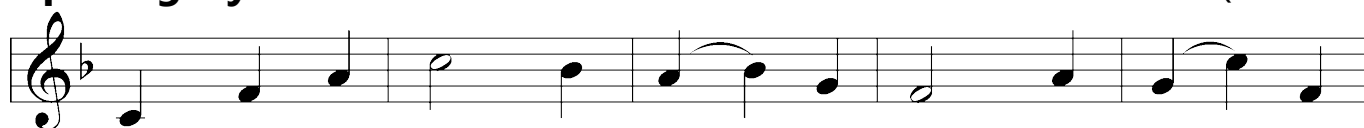
Pre-Service Music

Selections for the Advent Season

Welcome

Opening Hymn

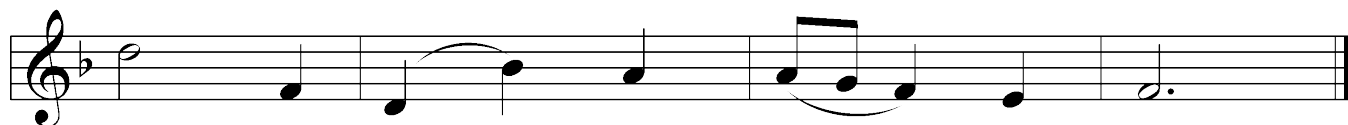
“Hark the Glad Sound” (LSB 349)



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51 Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820 Text and tune: Public domain

Opening Versicles

P Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,

C have mercy and hear us.

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.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

P Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

C Our God shall come; He does not keep silence.

(Psalm 50:2-3a)

P Prepare the way of the Lord.

C Make His paths straight.

(Isaiah 40:3)

P Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

C **Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.** *(Isaiah 45:8)*

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.

C **Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸ For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰ And again it says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹ And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹² And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;

in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

“First Song of Isaiah”

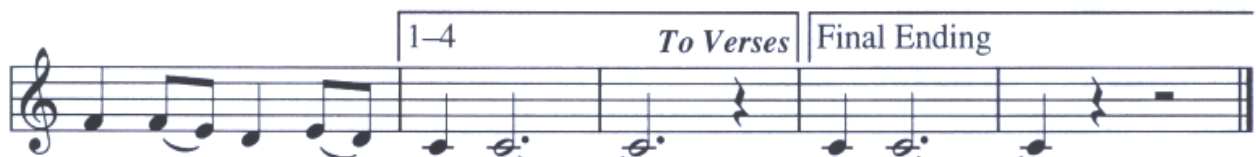
Refrain (Repeated at end)



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in Him and not be a -



fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and



He will be my Sa - vior, Sa - vior.

Verses



1. There - fore you shall draw wa - ter with re - joic - ing



from the springs of sal - va - tion. And on that day you shall say, give

To Refrain



thanks to the Lord and call up - on his name;



2. Make his deeds known a-mong the peo - ples; see that they re-mem-ber that his



name is ex-alt - ed. Sing the prais-es of the Lord, for He has done great

To Refrain



things, and this is known in all the world.



3. Cry a - loud in - hab - i - tants of Zi - on,



ring out your joy, for the great one in the

To Refrain



midst of you is the Ho - ly One of Is - rael.

Words: From the *Book of Common Prayer*; Music: Jack Noble White; Copyright © 1977 by Charles Mortimer Guilbert. Used by permission.

Meditation

Prayer

Other petitions may be offered, concluding with this prayer:

P Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, we humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Word and Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you but remember that we are ever walking in your sight. Keep us watchful and ready for the day of your Son's coming that we may welcome him who comes as our King and our Judge; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

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

C 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.

P 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.

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."

P 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."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

Dismissal

Post-Communion Collect

L 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 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 Amen.

Blessing

P Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

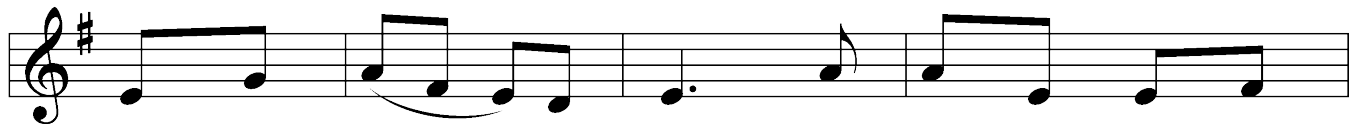
C Amen.

Hymn

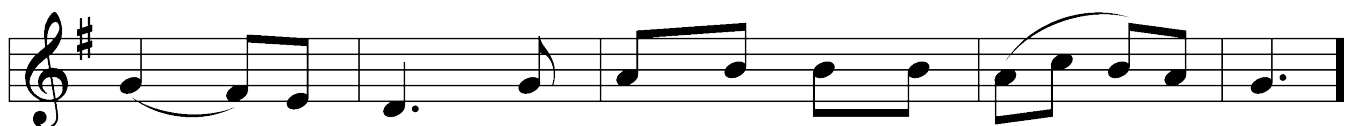
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (LSB 357, stanzas 3-4)



3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from

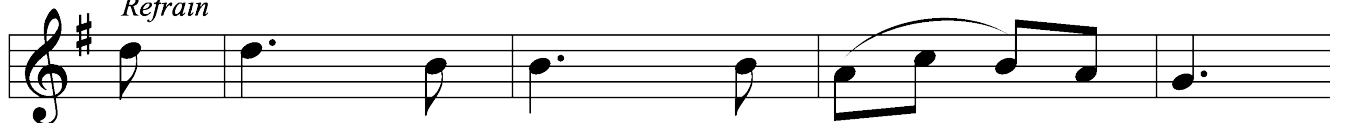


tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y

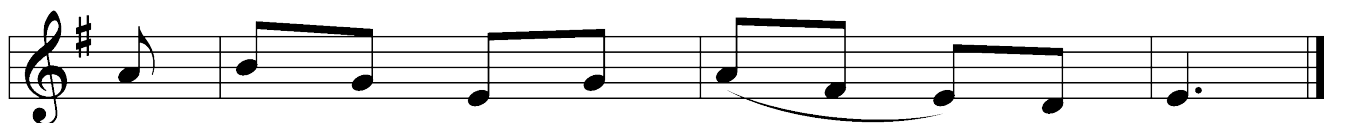


give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain



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



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

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

“Light One Candle to Watch for the Messiah
– VENI EMMANUEL”
(Keith Kolander)



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