

St. Luke's Lutheran Church



4801 Anderson Ave Manhattan, KS 66503 www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Saturday, December 20, 2025 – 6:00 PM Sunday, December 21, 2025 – 8:30 AM

Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor William Prann, Director of Christian Education Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

(Series A)

Divine Service, Setting 4 (Page 203)

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

Though Matthew is already telling of the birth of Jesus Christ, it is not yet the account we look forward to hearing on Christmas Eve. But this one, lighter on details, is heavy with the promise Jesus' birth fulfills. This Sunday, we hear of Joseph's own angel visit, of the name that shall be given to this child, and of His birth to save His people from their sins. All of this is prefigured in the voice of the Advent prophet Isaiah and framed in the essential message of the church by the words of Paul. Each of the readings appointed for today remind us that God has it all figured out, and even though it all unfolded in time before us, it was appointed by God from the beginning of time. As we remember again all that happened, we also happily remember that God still has it all in hand and that Christ is not only the fulfiller of the past but also the author of the future.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). *Matthew 1:23*

WELCOME

▼PREPARATION ▼

343 PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY



- 1 Pre pare the roy al high way; The King of kings is near! 2 God's peo-ple, see Him com ing: Your own e ter nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o pen To greet your prom-ised king!
- 4 His is no earth ly king dom; It comes from heav'n a bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear! Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing! Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring. His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry: God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you! All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na-tions, now a - dore Him! So let your praise be sound-ing For kind-ness so a - bound-ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful-fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002155

Tune: Public domain

Stand

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 203

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B**ut with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 203

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

ABSOLUTION LSB 203

- 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.

₩ WORD ₩

Psalm 130:5-8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1

- L Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,*
- that the mountains might quake at your | presence.
- **L** I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*
- and in his | word I hope;

- my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,*
- more than watchmen for the morning.
- L O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
- and with him is plentiful re- | demption.
- L And he will redeem | Israel*
- from all his in- | iquities.
- 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.
- L Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,*
- that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

KYRIE LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

During Advent, the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 205

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

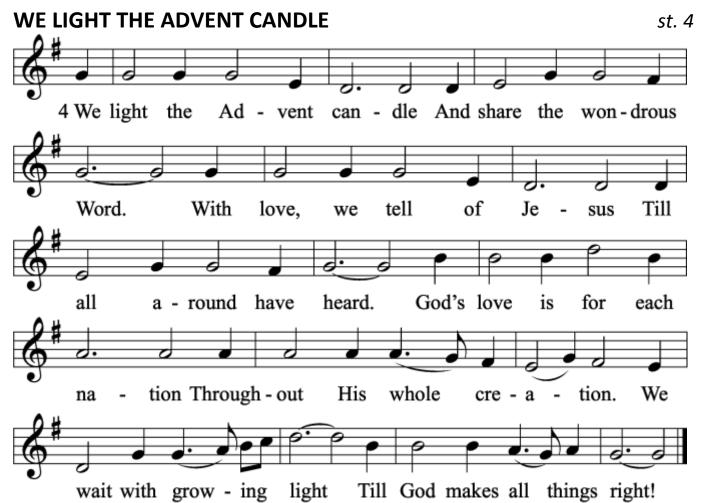
P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

WE LIGHT FOUR CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH



Text: Lisa M. Clark

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 7:10-17

("The virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Immanuel.")

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

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

341 LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES



Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: August Lemke, 1820–1913
Text and tune: Public domain

EPISTLE Romans 1:1-7

(Long promised by God, the Savior, Jesus Christ, has come.)

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Stand

ADVENT ALLELUIA and VERSE



Tune: PICARDY (LSB 621, LW 15) Words: Michael J. Schmidt **HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 1:18-25*

("The birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way.")

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall call his name Immanuel"

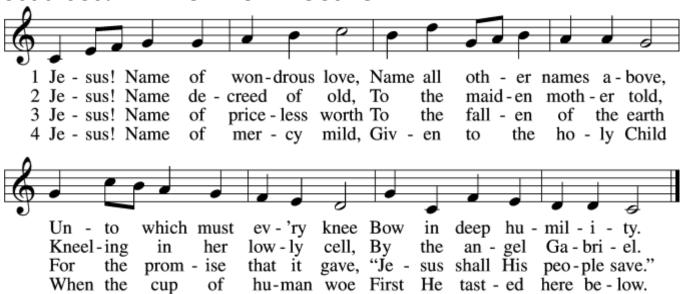
(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

900 JESUS! NAME OF WONDROUS LOVE



- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
 Under all the mighty heav'n
 Whereby those to sin enslaved
 Burst their fetters and are saved.
- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above; Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt.

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

VOTUM

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

Stand

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For faith to rejoice in the promise of the Father kept in Christ, for an end to worries and fears, and for peace to rule our hearts, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the courage in the face of danger and confidence in the face of doubt, knowing that God will keep us as His own possession, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For this congregation and the church across many nations, called by the Spirit and sustained by the means of grace, that we may not fail to tell the story of our Savior's birth nor the promise of His name, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peoples and leaders of all the nations, that in every place they may know justice and be free to worship the Lord without fear, and for an end to violence and war, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For all those who protect us in this and every place, for the emergency workers and disaster relief personnel, and for those who watch on our behalf in the armed forces, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For generous hearts that those in poverty and need may be supplied from the abundance the Lord has granted to us, and for our tithes and offerings to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

- P For families and homes, especially those alone in this holy season of our Savior's birth, that we may love and serve them, extending Christ's compassion to all those around us, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For God's mercy to the sick, His relief to those who suffer, His presence with the grieving and dying, and His peace to those troubled in mind or spirit, [especially . . .], let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For faith to discern and believe Christ's presence in this Holy Communion and for repentance that we may receive His body and blood for our good, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all those who travel and those whose celebrations may be missing loved ones, that the Lord may at last bring us together in His presence on high, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Come to the aid of Your people, O Lord, and defend us against all our enemies of body and soul, that at the day You have appointed, we may rejoice in Your presence together with those who have gone before us with the sign of faith and now rest in peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with the Father and the Spirit You are one God, one Lord, now and to the end of the ages.
- C Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

- Please **send** your offerings to
 St. Luke's Lutheran Church
 4801 Anderson Avenue
 - Manhattan, KS 66503
- 2. Electronic Funds Transfer Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Matthew 1:21 – "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." What our good works could never do, Jesus has done: He has saved us from our sins, paid our debt, set us free. How can we not give thanks to Him with lives of generosity and godliness? What God's Law could not do — truly motivate us to truly good works — Jesus' love has done!

Stand

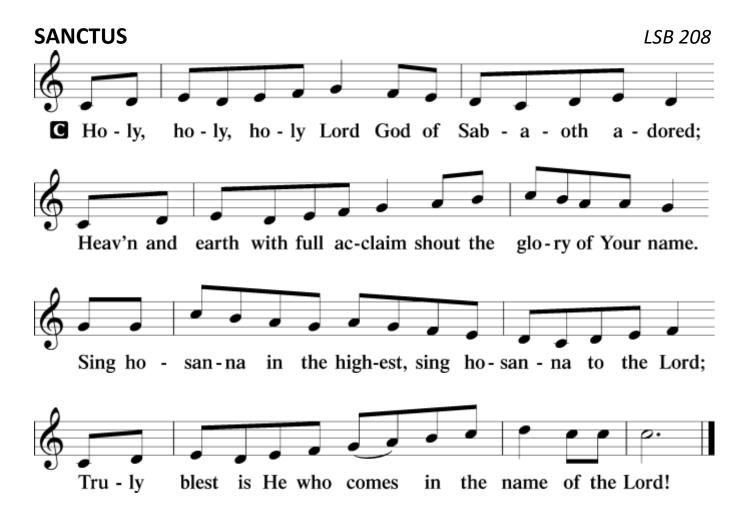
₩SACRAMENT

PREFACE LSB 208

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new 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:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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

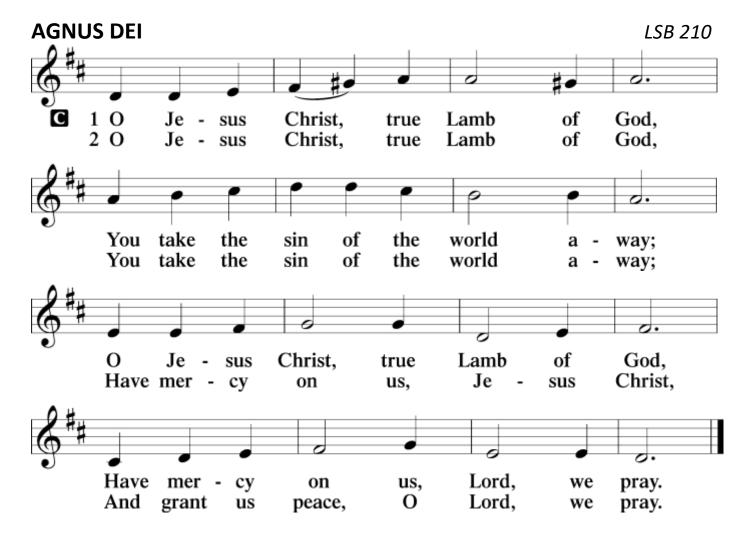
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

→ 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."

PAX DOMINI

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Sit

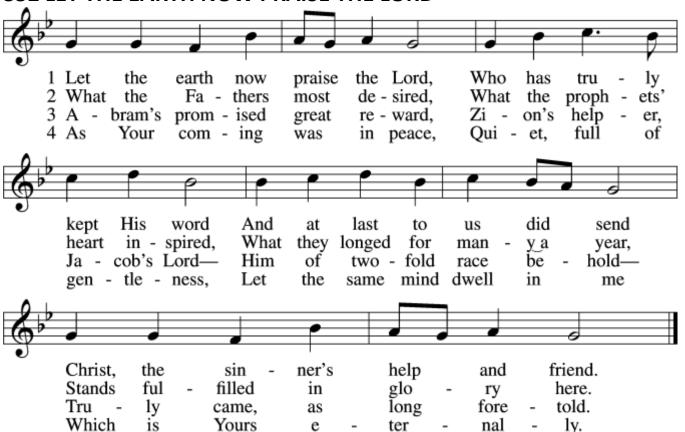
DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. They then distribute the body and blood of Christ to those in the pews who are unable to come forward, and then finally to those who come forward.

Distribution and dismissal will be done by half tables.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

352 LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD



- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread, I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign, I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

Text and tune: Public domain

"What Feast of Love"

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven? What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given? This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

Tune: GREENSLEEVES (LSB 370)

What feast of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven? What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given? This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven. Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, what holy drink from heaven? What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given? This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven. Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given.

810 O GOD OF GOD, O LIGHT OF LIGHT



- 1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and 2 For deep in proph-ets' sa cred page, And grand in po ets'
- 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in
- 4 Then raise to Christ a might y song, And shout His name, His



King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo-ry bright The song of wing-ed word, Slow-ly in type, from age to age The na-tions hate and scorn— These all are past, and now a-bove He reigns, our mer-cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for - ev - er rings. To Him who sits up - on the throne, saw their com - ing Lord; Till through the deep Ju - de - an night King once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, O might - y gates! earth, your an - them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a - gain, all glo - ry Be the the song, "Good-will to men!" Rang out Sung once by first - born sang that host be - yond our ken. Lift up your heads, your For - ev - er let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb, en -



He has All thanks and praise! won, A - men, now, "Good - will!" sons of light, It ech - oes A - men. King a - waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men. throned to reign, All glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

Text: John Julian, 1839-1913, alt.

Tune: Johann Störls . . . Schlag- Gesang- Und Noten-Buch, 1744, Stuttgart

Text and tune: Public domain



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 Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

- C Amen.

GREET ONE ANOTHER

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "The Lord be with you," "Peace be with you," or "The peace of the Lord be with you".

361 O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie! 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!

4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by; an - gels keep Their watch of While mor-tals sleep, the won-d'ring love. hu - man hearts The God im-parts to bless-ings of His heav'n. out our sin, and en - ter in. Be born in us to - day.



thy dark streets shin - eth The Yet ev - er - last - ing light. in to - geth - er Pro - claim the birth. O morn-ing stars, ho - ly No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin, an - gels The great glad tid - ings We hear the Christ - mas tell:



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night. prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth! And Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in. a - bide with us, Our Lord Im-man-u-el! O come to us.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93

Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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