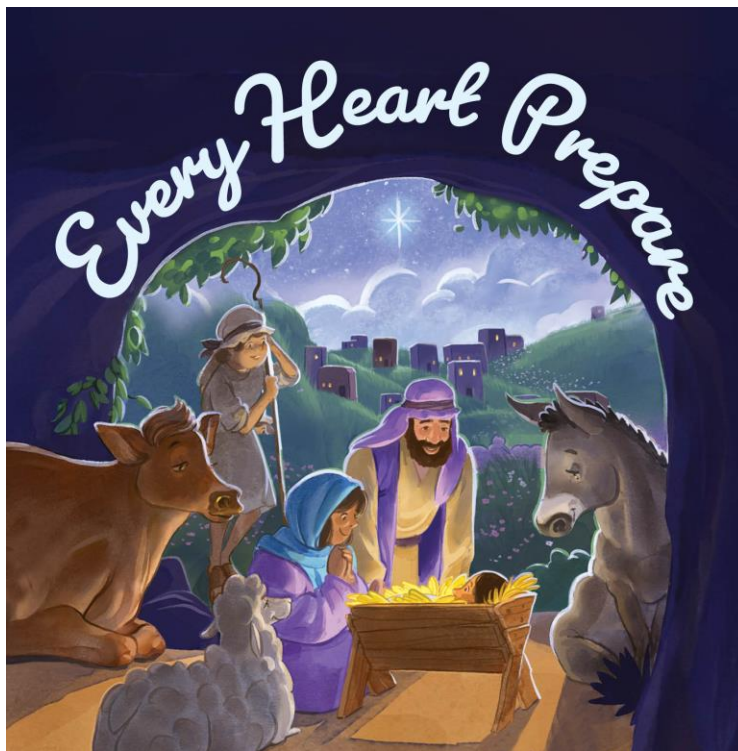




*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn  
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

**MIDWEEK ADVENT  
EVENING PRAYER  
DECEMBER 10, 2025  
7:00 PM**



Pastor

Rev. Kelly Dean Krieg  
(214) 208-1364

[PastorKrieg@BethlehemWmPenn.org](mailto:PastorKrieg@BethlehemWmPenn.org)

Secretary

Janice Pazderny  
(979) 836-7303

[Office@BethlehemWmPenn.org](mailto:Office@BethlehemWmPenn.org)

Organist

Ann Sommer

Ushers

Craig Kankel  
Clinton Kettler  
Caleb Kettler  
Matt Kettler

Acolyte

Taylor Hinze

## *Midweek Advent Evening Prayer*

*December 10, 2025 – 7:00 PM*

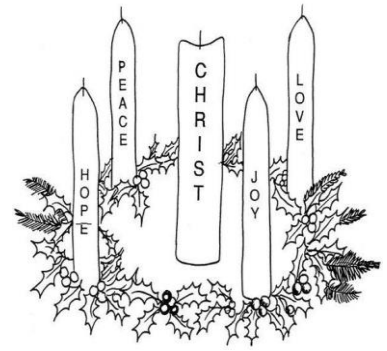
---

### EVENING PRAYER

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 243-252*

*Pre-Service Music*

---



### *Ring of the Church Bell*

#### ADVENT 2: LIGHTS

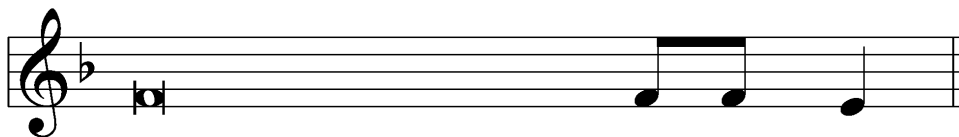
“Prepare!” is often the watchword of the season as the world gets ready for another celebration of Christmas. An integral part of any preparation is decoration. We see decorations everywhere this time of year. The world may not comprehend the real meaning of Christmas, but even secular preparations use many of the same decorations beloved by Christians—an appropriation we shouldn’t mind at all, because these decorations point us to Christ. This year, as we look forward again to the coming of the Messiah, we take a fresh look at how the adornments of the season draw our eyes to Jesus, that we may more richly behold the love, peace, joy, and hope He comes to bring as this beauty is set before us.

Tonight, we focus on lights. You see them everywhere this time of year. Some neighborhoods even compete, and tourist destinations spend millions on attractive light displays. Like evergreens, this is something nonreligious people do this time of year without appreciating their true significance. Yet we know that Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12). He came to restore righteousness to the world. This restoration continues to unfold through the ministry He has entrusted to His church. As Zechariah sang, “In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace” (*LSB, Benedictus, Morning Prayer*). We gather this evening to bask in the light of Jesus that His Word would have its way with us and so reflect His saving light into the darkness that remains in our world.

#### + SERVICE OF LIGHT +

*Stand*

**P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



**C** the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

**P** Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



**C** and the day is almost o - ver.

**P** Let Your light scatter the darkness



**C** and il - lu - mine Your Church.

PHOS HILARON

*LSB 244*

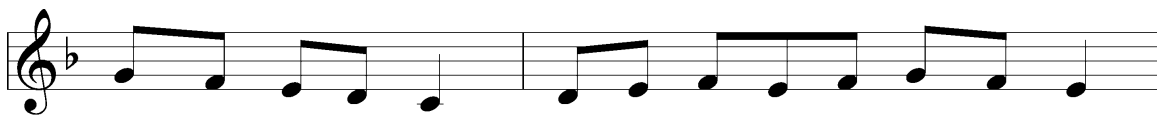
**P** Joyous light of glory:



**C** of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

**P** Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

+ Psalmody +

PSALM 141

LSB 245



**C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



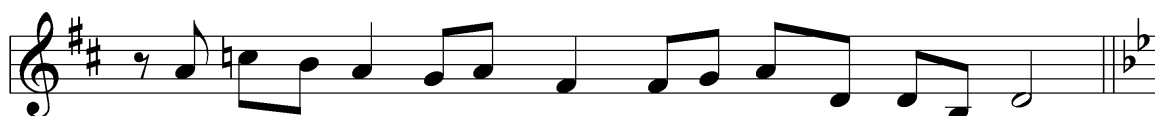
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



**I** O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



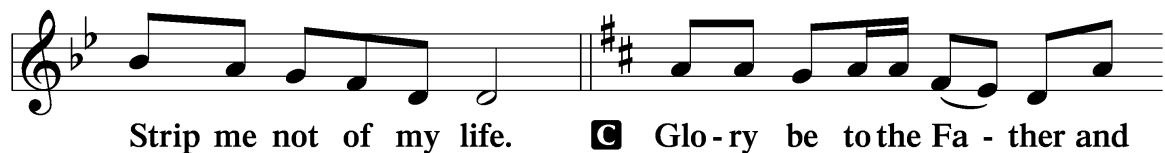
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



**II** Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



**I** Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



**P** Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

**C** Amen.

OFFICE 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.

Tune: Public domain

+ READINGS +

FIRST READING

*Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7*

**P** A reading from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

<sup>1</sup> But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
 have seen a great light;  
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
 on them has light shined.

<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**[P]** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**[C]** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

*2 Corinthians 4:3-6*

**[P]** A reading from Second Corinthians, the fourth chapter.

<sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing.  
<sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**[P]** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**[C]** Thanks be to God.

## THIRD READING

*John 1:1-9*

**[P]** A reading from John, the first chapter.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**[P]** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

**[C]** But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

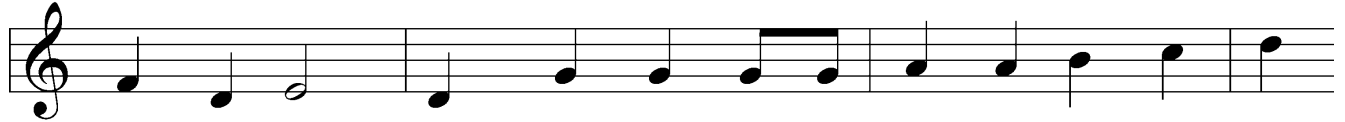
# HYMN OF THE DAY

## *Sing Praise to the God of Israel*

LSB 936



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His  
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on  
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His  
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,  
oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:  
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,  
lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a  
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -  
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and  
And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!  
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.  
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.  
foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955. Tune: Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842. Text: © 1992 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005013. Tune: Public domain

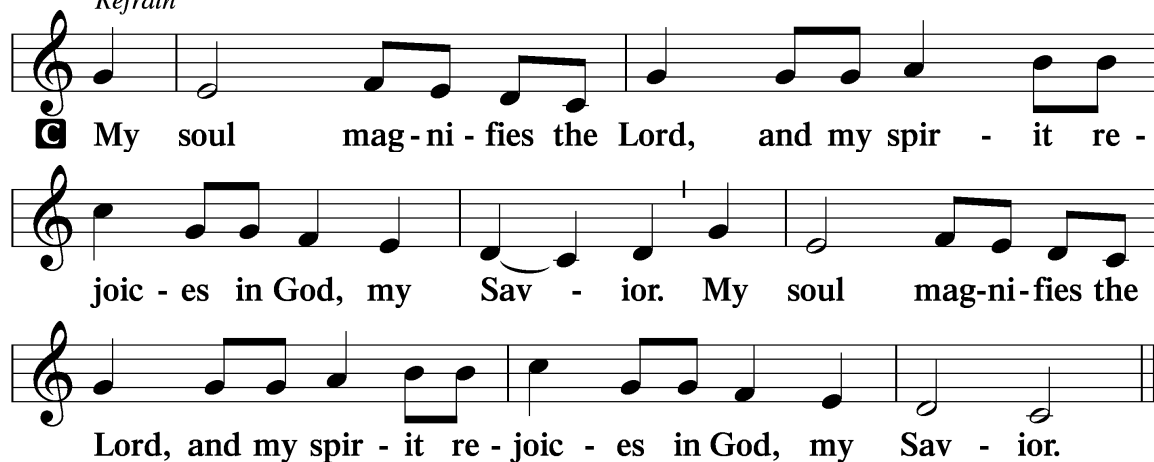
SERMON

*Lights*

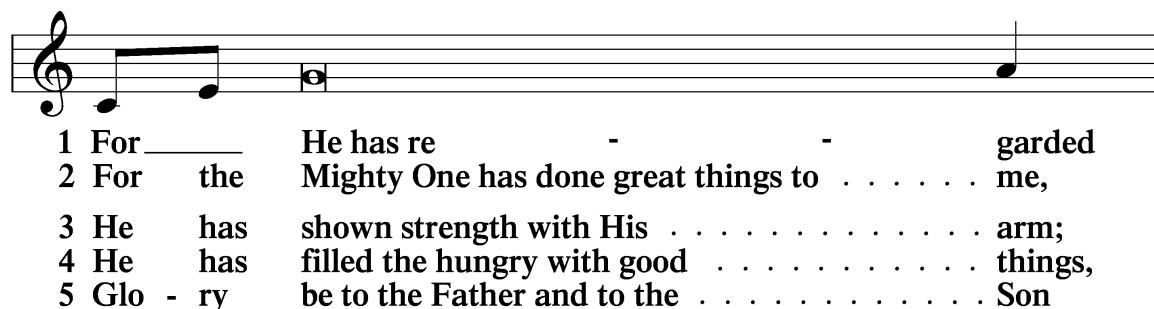
*John 1:1-9*

+ CANTICLE +

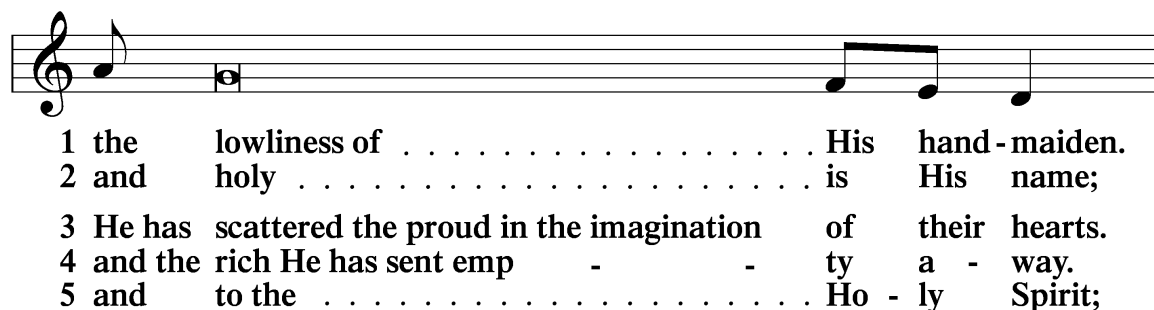
*Stand*

*Refrain*


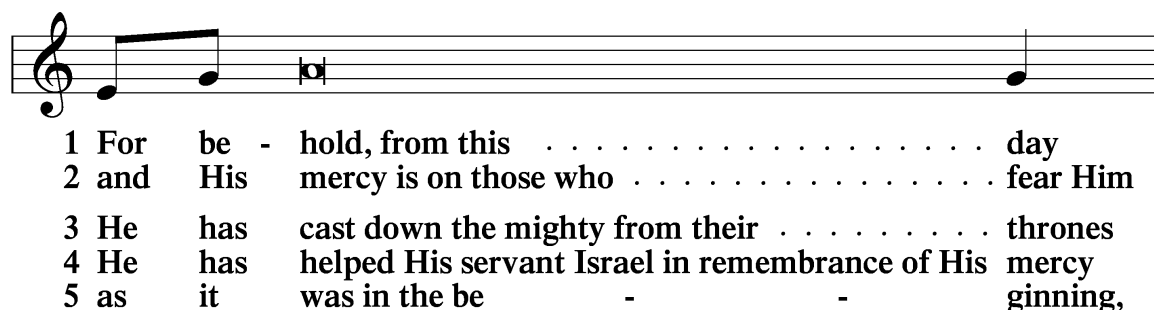
My soul mag-ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -  
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the  
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



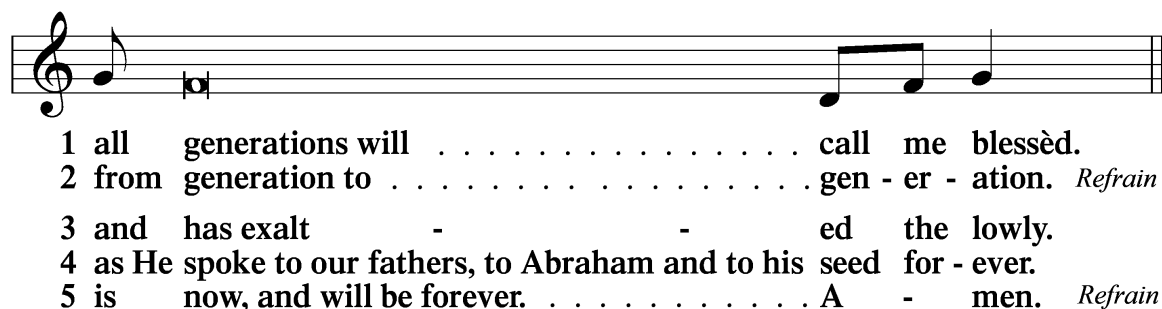
1 For \_\_\_\_\_ He has re - - - - - garded  
2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,  
3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;  
4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,  
5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son



1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand-maiden.  
2 and holy . . . . . is His name;  
3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.  
5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessed.  
2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.  
4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - - - - - men. *Refrain*

*Sit*

OFFERING

*Please fill out a pew attendance card and place it in the offering plate.*

*Stand*

+ PRAYER +

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** 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:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For Matthew and Jon, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For Donald, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

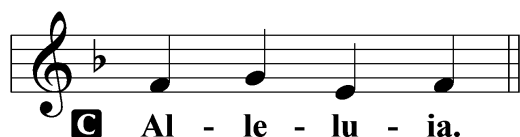
**P** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:



**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

**P** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:



#### COLLECT FOR PEACE

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

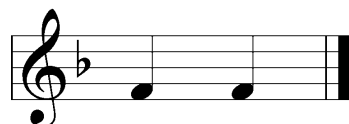


**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

LSB 252

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## CLOSING HYMN

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

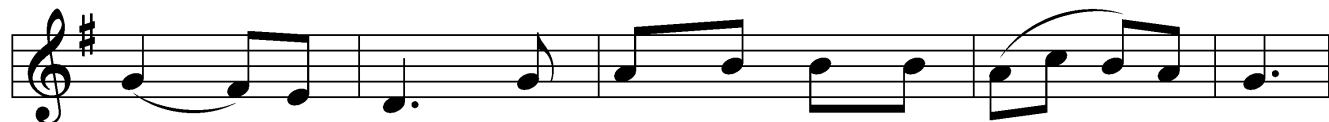
*LSB 357; vv 1,6*



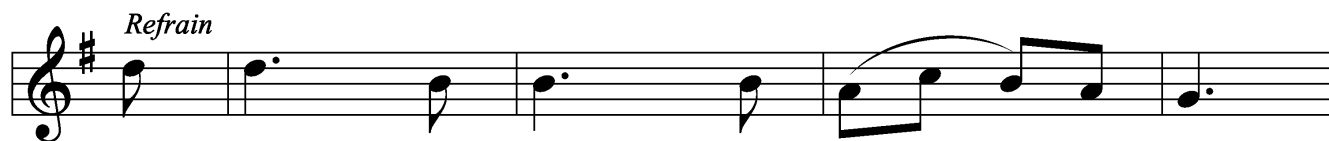
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.



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



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

*Thank you for worshipping with us!*



Third Sunday in Advent – December 14<sup>th</sup>      Sunday School at 9:00 AM  
Worship Service at 10:15 AM

Midweek Advent Vespers – December 17<sup>th</sup>      Meal at 6:00 PM  
Worship Service at 7:00 PM

Fourth Sunday in Advent – December 21<sup>st</sup>      Sunday School at 9:00 AM  
Worship Service at 10:15 AM



Christmas Eve Children's Program – December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

Christmas Day Worship Service – December 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM

New Year's Eve Worship Service – December 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM