

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church (LCMS)

321 N 10th, Beatrice, NE 68310

December 28, 2025

Hymns from the Lutheran Service Book in the pews. We're using Divine Service, Setting 1, page 151 in the front section of the hymnal.

(♪denotes responses that are to be sung.)

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

389 Let All Together Praise Our God v. 6-7

6 He is the key and He the door To bless - ed
△ 7 Your grace in low - li - ness re - vealed, Lord Je - sus,
par - a - dise; The an - gel bars the way no more. To
we a - dore And praise to God the Fa - ther yield And
God our prais - es rise, To God our prais - es rise.
Spir - it ev - er - more; We praise You ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

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Tune: Public domain

please stand

Invocation page 151

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

C: Amen.

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

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.

Introit Psalm 31: 1,3,5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

C: In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

P: For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

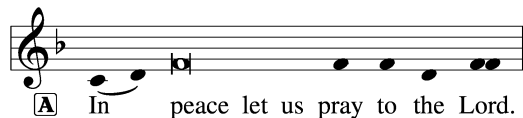
**C: Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Kyrie LSB 152





flesh for us; here - in Thy grace forth shin - eth.
join us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
pow'r of hell and Sa - tan's bold de - ceiv - ing.
thee to Him; how great - ly God must love thee!

- 5 Remember thou
What glory now
The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.
The angel host
Can never boast
Of greater glory, greater bliss or gladness.
- 6 The world may hold
Her wealth and gold;
But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true treasure.
To Him hold fast
Until at last
A crown be thine and honor in full measure.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Tune: Kenneth T. Kosche, 1947

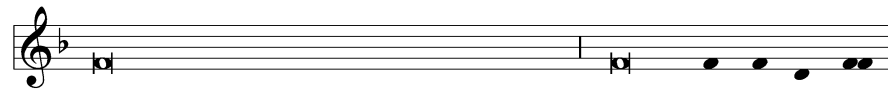
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C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



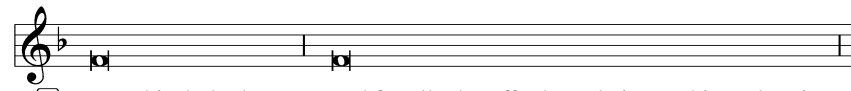
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



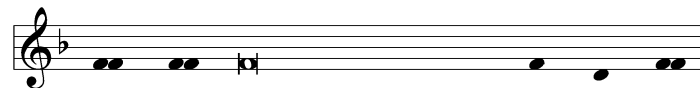
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis ♪ (LSB pg 154)

♪P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

♪C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks,

we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father;

receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One,

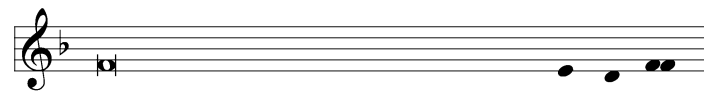
You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



Benediction LSB 166



♫ 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.



Salutation and Collect ♪ pg 156

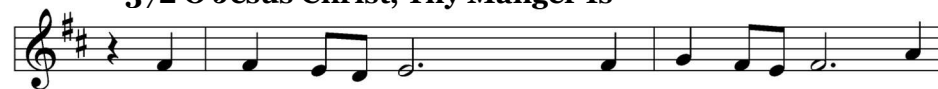
♪P: The Lord be with you.

♪C: And also with you.

P: Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪C: Amen.

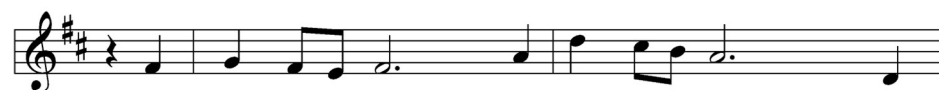
372 O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is



1 O	Je - sus	Christ,	Thy	man - ger	is	My
2 He	whom	the	And	wind	o - bey	Doth
3 Thy	light	and	Our	guilt	ef - face,	Thy
4 Thou	Chris -	tian	Who	e'er	thou art,	Be



par - a -	dise	at	which	my	soul	re -	clin -	eth.
come	to	serve	the	sin -	ner	in	great	meek -
heav'n -	ly	rich -	es	all	our	loss	re -	triev -
of	good	cheer	and	let	no	sor -	row	move



For	there,	O	Lord,	Doth	lie	the	Word	Made
Thou,	God's	own	Son,	With	us	art	one,	Dost
Im -	man -	u -	el,	Thy	birth	doth	quell	The
For	God's	own	Child,	In	mer -	cy	mild,	Joins

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:15-17

Thus says the LORD: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping.

Rachel is weeping for her children;

she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."

Thus says the LORD: "Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears,

for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD,* and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country."



Sit

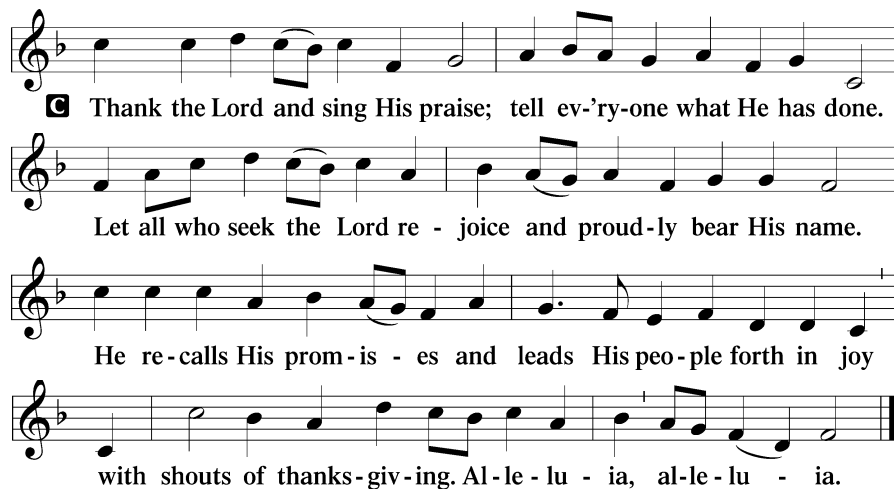
Distribution

Hymn 575 “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

Hymn 969 “Sweet Flowerets of the Martyr Band”

Hymn 352 “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

Thank the Lord LSB 164



Post-Communion Collect

- A 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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle: Revelation 14:1–5

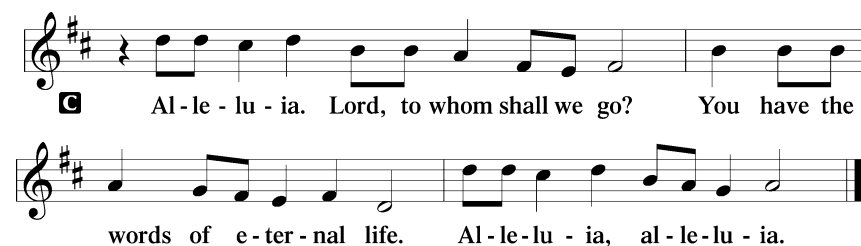
¹Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, ³and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, ⁵and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

please stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:13-18

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

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night

and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be seated

517 By All Your Saints in Warfare v. 1, 3

1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For
 △ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And

all Your saints at the rest, Your ho - ly name, O
 wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the

Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For
 Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till

You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the
 all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry
 throne; As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed to from God Your throne.
 And praise to God a - lone.

Lord's Prayer

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.

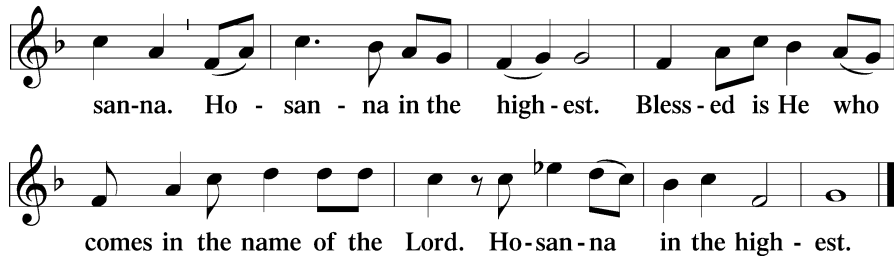
Pax Domini LSB 163

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

C A - men.

Agnus Dei LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



Prayer of Thanksgiving LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth,

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 τ 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 τ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

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.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Tex1913, alt. Tune: English; coll. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
t: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–Both: Public domain

Sermon

please stand

Creed *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 τ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P Let us go to our heavenly Father in prayer.

C At the conclusion of each petition: *"hear our prayer"*

P Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of our elder Brother and Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Offering

Stand

Offertory LSB 159

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, 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,

Sanctus

LSB 161

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -