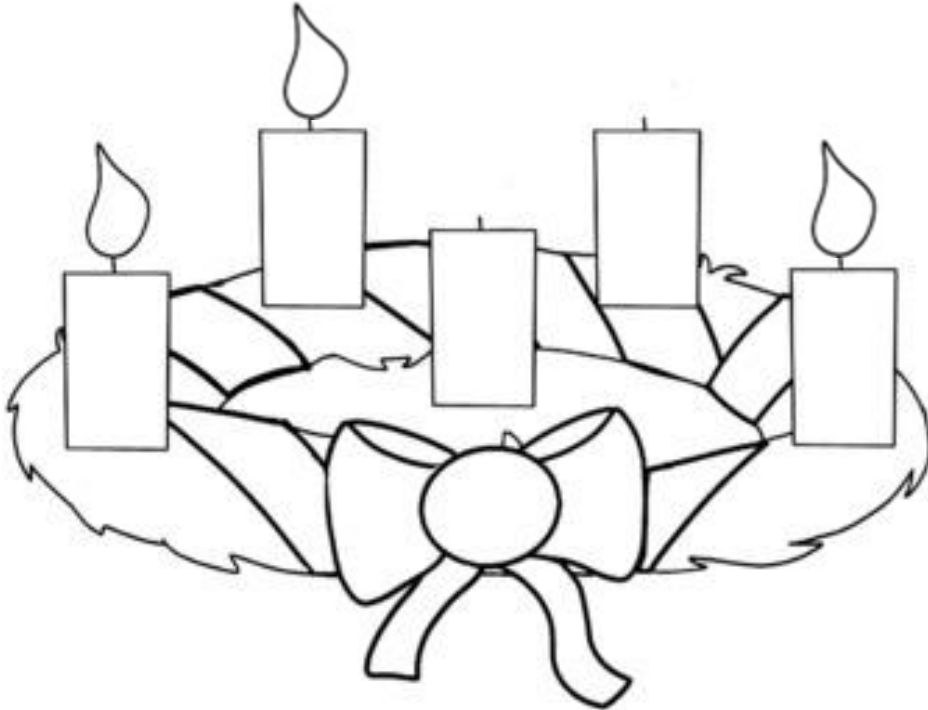


# Advent



## The Third Midweek Service in Advent

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

1:30 pm · 6:30 pm

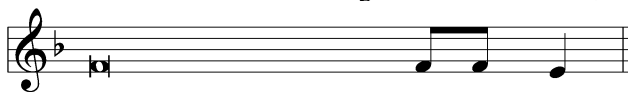
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 N. Broad Street  
Mankato, Minnesota

507-385-2180  
[www.oslcmankato.org](http://www.oslcmankato.org)  
[contact@oslcmankato.org](mailto:contact@oslcmankato.org)

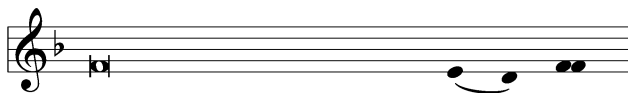
## Service of Light



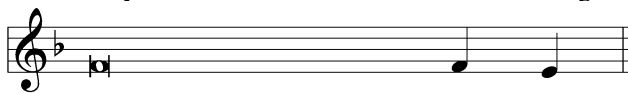
**L** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



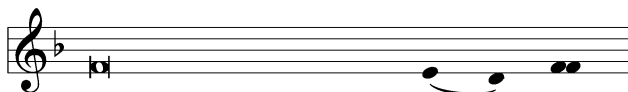
**C** the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



**L** Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



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



**L** Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



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

## Phos Hilaron

*LSB 244*



**L** Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



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



bles - 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.

### Thanksgiving for Light

*LSB 245*

**L** Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u-ni-verse,  
 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 mer-ci-ful, and You love Your whole cre-a-tion  
 and we, Your creatures, glo-ri-fy You, Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it.



**G** A - men.

## Psalmody

### Psalm 141

LSB 245



**G** 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. **G** 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;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



**II** But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.



Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



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



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

**L** 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.

### Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

LSB 338

1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Text: Public domain

## Readings

### Reading

*Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11*

- L** A reading from Isaiah, chapter 61.

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;  
<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.  
<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations. . . .  
<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
<sup>9</sup>Their offspring shall be known among the nations,  
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge them,  
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to sprout up before all the nations.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Reading

*John 1:6–8, 19–28*

**L** A reading from John, chapter 1.

<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>19</sup>This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup>He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” <sup>26</sup>John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** 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.


## Sermon

# Canticle

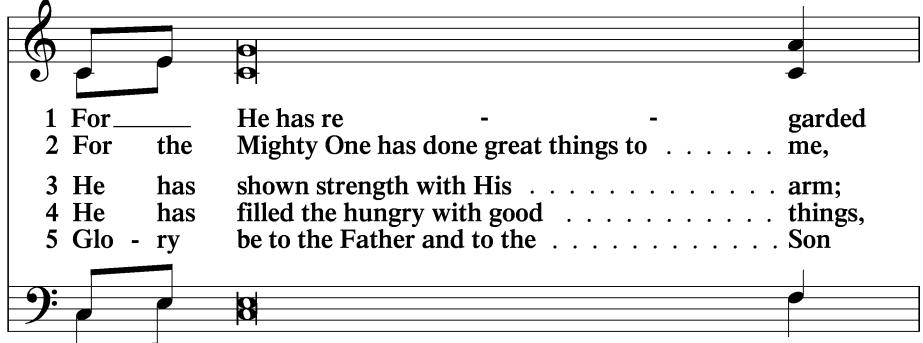
## Magnificat

LSB 248

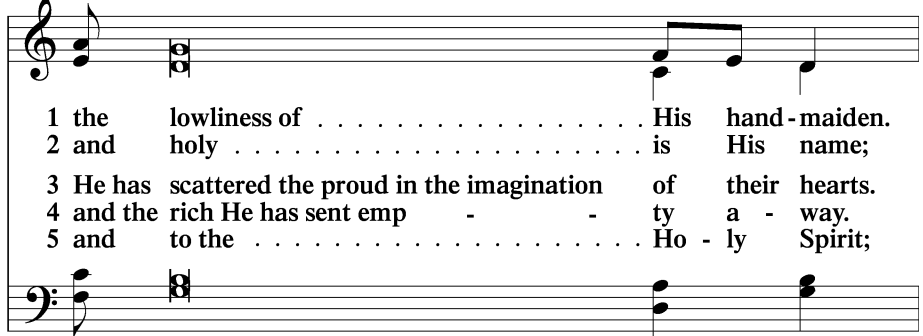
*Refrain*



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 me,  
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 blessèd.  
 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*

**Prayer**

**Litany**

*LSB 249*

*The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.*

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

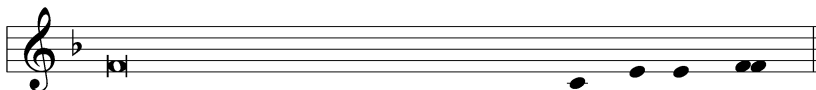
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

**C** Lord, have mercy.

- L** 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.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], 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.**
- L** For [*name of president or monarch*], 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.**
- L** 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.**
- L** 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.**
- L** 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.**
- L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers then continue:*



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



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

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

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

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

**C** To You, O Lord.

### Collect for Peace

- L** 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.

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB 251*

- L** 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.**

### Benedicamus

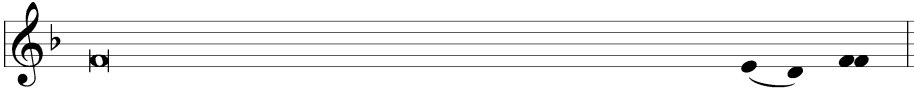
*LSB 252*

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

LSB 252



**P** The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the  $\text{✝}$  Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



**C** A - men.

**Closing Hymn: “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”**

**LSB 345**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!<br/>“Christ is near,” we hear it say.<br/>“Cast away the works of darkness,<br/>All you children of the day!”</p> <p>2 Startled at the solemn warning,<br/>Let the earthbound soul arise;<br/>Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,<br/>Shines upon the morning skies.</p> <p>3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,<br/>Comes with pardon down from<br/>heav’n.<br/>Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,<br/>One and all, to be forgiv’n;</p> | <p>4 So, when next He comes in glory<br/>And the world is wrapped in fear,<br/>He will shield us with His mercy<br/>And with words of love draw near.</p> <p>△ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion<br/>To the Father and the Son<br/>With the ever-living Spirit<br/>While eternal ages run!<br/><small>Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall,<br/>1814–78, alt. Text: Public domain</small></p> |
|--|---|

**Acknowledgments**

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**Serving Today:**

Liturgist and Preacher..... Rev. Adam M. Matheny  
Organist .....[1:30] Susan Klute; [6:30] Barb Anderson