

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David  
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

*Luke 2:11*



**Christmas Day  
December 25, 2024**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 North Broad Street  
Mankato, MN 56001**

**507-385-2180  
contact@oslcmandato.org  
www.oslcmandato.org**

## Pre-Service Hymn Sing

### Confession and Absolution

#### Opening Hymn: “Joy to the World”

LSB 387

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Text: Public domain

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

## Absolution

*LSB 185*

## Service of the Word

## Kyrie

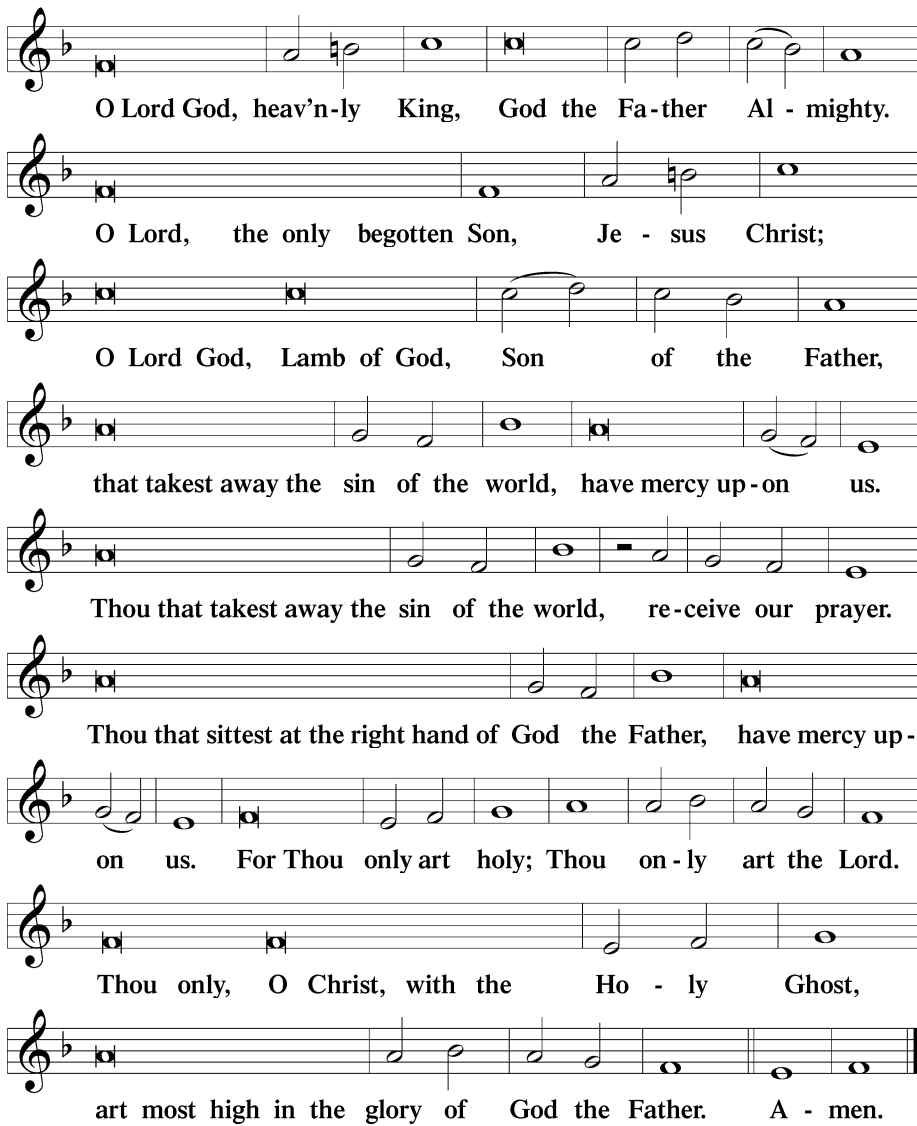
*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 187*

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
 men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 52:7–10*

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of him who brings good news,  
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,  
who publishes salvation,  
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

<sup>8</sup>The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy;  
for eye to eye they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Hymn: “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

**LSB 358**, *sts. 1–5*

1 “From heav’n above to earth I come  
To bear good news to ev’ry home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will say and sing:

- 2 “To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child of lowly birth  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High,  
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;  
He will Himself your Savior be  
From all your sins to set you free.
- 4 “He will on you the gifts bestow  
Prepared by God for all below,  
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,  
You may with us His glory share.
- 5 “These are the signs that you shall mark:  
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.  
There you will find the infant laid  
By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

## Psalm

## *Psalm 2*

- <sup>1</sup>Why do the | nations rage\*  
and the peoples | plot in vain?
- <sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel to- | gether,\*  
against the LORD and against his anointed, | saying,
- <sup>3</sup>“Let us burst their | bonds apart\*  
and cast away their | cords from us.”
- <sup>4</sup>He who sits in the | heavens laughs;\*  
the Lord holds them in de- | rision.
- <sup>5</sup>Then he will speak to them | in his wrath,\*  
and terrify them in his fury, | saying,
- <sup>6</sup>“As for me, I have | set my King\*  
on Zion, my | holy hill.”
- <sup>7</sup>I will tell of | the decree:\*  
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;  
today I have be- | gotten you.
- <sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,\*  
and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.
- <sup>9</sup>You shall break them with a | rod of iron\*  
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s | vessel.”

<sup>10</sup>Now therefore, O | kings, be wise,\*  
 be warned, O rulers | of the earth.  
<sup>11</sup>Serve the | LORD with fear,\*  
 and rejoice with | trembling.  
<sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son,  
 lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
 for his wrath is quickly | kindled.\*  
 Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.

## Gloria Patri

186

**☐ 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.**

## Hymn: “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

**LSB 358, sts. 6–10**

- 6 How glad we’ll be to find it so!  
 Then with the shepherds let us go  
 To see what God for us has done  
 In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,  
 And see what in the manger lies.  
 Who is this child, so young and fair?  
 It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,  
 Through whom the sinful world is blest!  
 You came to share my misery  
 That You might share Your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though You created all,  
 How weak You are, so poor and small,  
 That You should choose to lay Your head  
 Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair  
 And set with gold and jewels rare,  
 It would be far too poor and small  
 A cradle for the Lord of all.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

## Epistle

*Hebrews 1:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,  
<sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,  
<sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,  
and he shall be to me a son”?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

<sup>7</sup>Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,  
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

<sup>8</sup>But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

<sup>10</sup>And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

<sup>11</sup>they will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like a garment,

<sup>12</sup>like a robe you will roll them up,  
like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,  
and your years will have no end.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



## Hymn: “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

LSB 358, *sts. 11–15*

- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff  
You have but hay and straw so rough  
On which as King, so rich and great,  
To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases You to see  
This simple truth revealed to me:  
That worldly honor, wealth, and might  
Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,  
A quiet chamber set apart  
For You to dwell within my heart.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;  
My lips no more can silence keep.  
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue  
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav’n,  
Who unto us His Son has giv’n!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

## Alleluia

LSB 190



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:1–18

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



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

- <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 any thing 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. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## 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 ✠ of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## Hymn of the Day: “A Great and Mighty Wonder”

LSB 383

- 1 A great and mighty wonder,  
A full and holy cure:  
The virgin bears the infant  
With virgin honor pure! Refrain
  
- ref Proclaim the Savior’s birth:  
“To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth!”
  
- 2 The Word becomes incarnate  
And yet remains on high,  
And cherubim sing anthems  
To shepherds from the sky. Refrain
  
- 3 While thus they sing your Monarch,  
Those bright angelic bands,  
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,  
And oceans, clap your hands. Refrain
  
- 4 Since all He comes to ransom,  
By all be He adored,  
The infant born in Bethl’em,  
The Savior and the Lord. Refrain
  
- 5 All idols then shall perish  
And Satan’s lying cease,  
And Christ shall raise His scepter,  
Decreeing endless peace. Refrain


Text: Germanus, c. 634–c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

## Sermon

## Offertory

LSB 192

**C**re-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



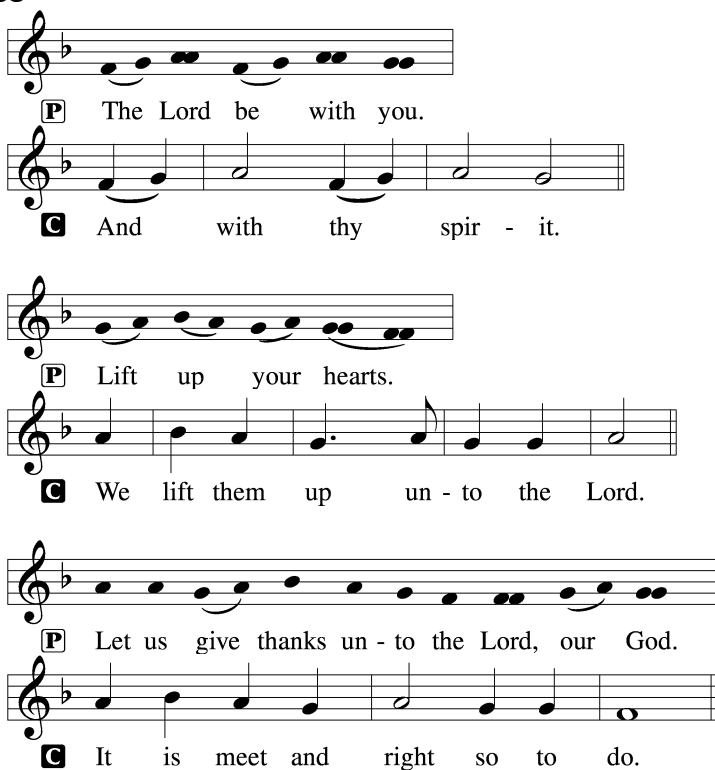
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it  
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-  
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

## Prayer of the Church

## Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

*LSB 194*



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir-it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them up un-to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks un-to the Lord, our God.  
**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 195*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 196*

**P** 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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

Pax Domini

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.  
**G** A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## Distribution Hymns:

### “Once in Royal David’s City”

LSB 376

- 1 Once in royal David’s city  
    Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
    In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.
  
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,  
    Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
    And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.
  
- 3 For He is our childhood’s pattern,  
    Day by day like us He grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
    Tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness,  
And He shares in all our gladness.
  
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
    Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
    Is our Lord in heav’n above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.
  
- 5 Not in that poor, lowly stable  
    With the oxen standing by  
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,  
    Set at God’s right hand on high.  
Then like stars His children, crowned,  
All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–95, alt.

Text: Public domain

## “By All Your Saints in Warfare”

LSB 517, *sts. 1, 7–9, 3*

- 1 By all Your saints in warfare,  
For all Your saints at rest,  
Your holy name, O Jesus,  
Forevermore be blest!  
For You have won the battle  
That they might wear the crown;  
And now they shine in glory  
Reflected from Your throne.
- 7 St. Stephen, Martyr (December 26)  
Praise for the first of martyrs  
Who saw You ready stand  
To help in time of torment,  
To plead at God’s right hand.  
Like You, our suffering Savior,  
His enemies he blessed,  
With “Lord, receive my spirit,”  
His faith, by death, confessed.
- 8 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist (December 27)  
For Your beloved disciple  
Exiled to Patmos’ shore,  
And for his faithful record,  
We praise You evermore.  
Praise for the mystic vision  
Through him to us revealed;  
May we, in patience waiting,  
With Your elect be sealed.
- 9 Holy Innocents, Martyrs (December 28)  
All praise for infant martyrs,  
Whom Your mysterious love  
Called early from their warfare  
To share Your home above.  
O Rachel, cease your weeping;  
They rest from earthly cares!  
Lord, grant us crowns as brilliant  
And faith as sure as theirs.
- △ 3 Then let us praise the Father  
And worship God the Son



And sing to God the Spirit,  
 Eternal Three in One,  
 Till all the ransomed number  
 Fall down before the throne,  
 Ascribing pow'r and glory  
 And praise to God alone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823-1913, alt.  
 Text: Public domain

## Nunc Dimittis

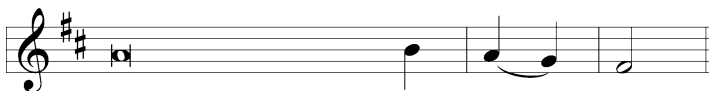
LSB 199

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**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.



**C** A - men.



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

*LSB 202*



**A** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

*LSB 202*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn: “Let Our Gladness Have No End”

LSB 381

- 1 Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!  
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia! Refrain
  
- ref On this day God gave us  
Christ, His Son, to save us;  
Christ, His Son, to save us.
  
- 2 Prophesied in days of old, alleluia!  
God has sent Him as foretold, alleluia! Refrain
  
- 3 See, the loveliest blooming rose, alleluia!  
From the branch of Jesse grows, alleluia! Refrain
  
- 4 Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!  
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia! Refrain

Text: Bohemian, 15th cent.; (sts. 1, ref, 3-4): tr. unknown, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Vincent Pisek, 1859-1930 Text: Public domain

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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