

THE BENEDICAMUS & THE BENEDICTION

M: Bless we the Lord.



C: Thanks be to God.

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



C: A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Once He Came in Blessing | 74

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE KING:

SUNDAY, 12/10	Divine Service , 9:00 a.m. Education Hour, 10:30 a.m.
TUESDAY, 12/12	Woman on a Mission, 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Emerald Bay Service, 4:00 p.m. Advent Supper, 5:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Service, 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	Board of Elders, 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY, 12/17	Divine Service w/Holy Comm., 9:00 a.m. Education Hour, 10:20 a.m.

ADVENT/
CHRISTMAS
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

2nd Midweek Advent
Service -
Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.

3rd Midweek Advent
Service -
Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service -
Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Service
(Comm.) -
Dec. 25, 9:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Service
(Comm.) -
Dec. 31, 5:30 p.m.

The
King
is coming



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for our Advent worship tonight! We spend weeks, even months, getting ready for Christmas, from planning the dinners to the presents to special Christmas worship services. How did God get the world ready for the very first Christmas? Besides getting Mary and Joseph ready, God got another family ready as well: Elizabeth and Zechariah, the parents of John the Baptist. This short series gives us an opportunity to meditate on the whole story of the promise of John the Baptist and how preparing for this other special child helped believers get ready for Jesus.

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty – He is the King of glory.

For your convenience the order of service is printed on the following pages. The Order of Vespers is found on p. 41ff in the front of the red hymnal.

The Order of Vespers

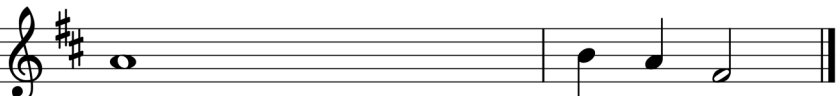
Please stand.

HYMN

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes | 66

VERSICLES

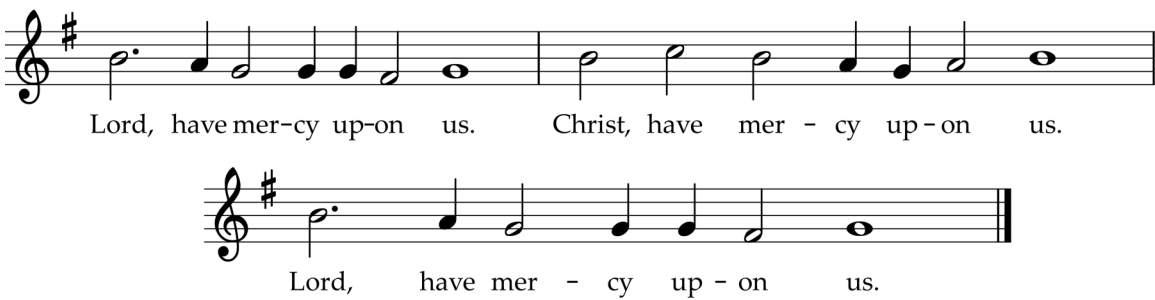
M: O Lord, open Thou my lips.



C: And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

Please stand.

THE KYRIE & THE LORD’S PRAYER




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

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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.

THE SALUTATION & THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And with thy spir - it.

M: O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works proceed, give 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 by You from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness. Heavenly Father, thank you for forgiving me all my sins by sending Jesus on that first Christmas. But I also thank you for making known to me my need of forgiveness. Through your Holy Spirit, prepare my heart for the Christ-child by turning me away from sin in repentance towards the peace and joy of your forgiveness and love. Amen.



C: A - men.

VERSICLE

M: Let my prayer rise before You as incense:

C: And the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de-part in peace accord - ing to
Thy Word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Sal - va - tion,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peo - ple; A
Light to light - en the Gen-tiles, and the Glory of Thy peo - ple Isra - 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.

M: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.
C: Glory 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. Hal - le - lu - jah!

You may be seated.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 24

M:
N: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
C: **for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.**
M: Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?
C: **The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.**
M: They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God their Savior.
C: **Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, God of Jacob.**
M: Lift up your heads, you gates;
C: **be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
M: Who is this King of glory?
C: **The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.**
M: Lift up your heads, you gates;
C: **lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
M: Who is he, this King of glory?
C: **The LORD Almighty—He is the King of glory.**
ALL: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the**

Please stand.

GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 1:1-25

¹Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. ³With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

⁵In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. ⁶Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord’s commands and decrees blamelessly. ⁷But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.

⁸Once when Zechariah’s division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

¹¹Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. ¹⁴He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. ¹⁶He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” ¹⁸Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”

¹⁹The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. ²⁰And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.”

²¹Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. ²²When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

²³When his time of service was completed, he returned home. ²⁴After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. ²⁵“The Lord has done this for me,” she said. “In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”

M: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



C: Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

You may be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken | 75

Please stand for the singing of the last verse.

SERMON - Luke 1:1-25

Turn Your Hearts

OFFERING