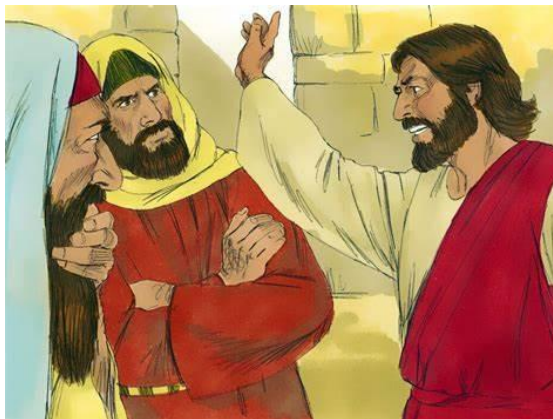


# **Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**December 07, 2022**

*Advent Midweek 2*



Who is the son of Abraham? Like Adam and Eve before them, Abram and Sarai also received a promise from the Lord concerning their descendants. God pledged that Abram's offspring would be as numerous as the stars in the sky. But as this childless couple grew older, their patience with God's promise grew thinner. Having decided to take matters into their own hands, Abram has a son by Hagar, a servant who was not his wife. Yet, in His grace and mercy, God still fulfills the promise of another son, Isaac, born to impatient Abram and Sarai. Through him, in God's perfect timing, the Lord would finally send the true Son of Abraham, Jesus Christ, into the world.

**2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792**

**Church Phone 692-7027**

**Preschool Phone 698-5900**

**Church E-mail: [mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com](mailto:mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.mtpisgahlutheran.com](http://www.mtpisgahlutheran.com)**

**Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH**

**9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday**

# Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

## *Serving Today*

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**Pastor Jonathan Christensen**

**Robert Hamrick, Organist**

**Craig Escude, Choir Director/Cantor**

	<u><b>1:00 PM</b></u>	<u><b>7:00 PM</b></u>
<b>Elders</b>	<b>Paul Mincer</b>	<b>David White</b>

<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Leah Ryel</b>	<b>Wendy White</b>
<b>Ushers</b>		

<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Jackie Fry</b>	<b>Nona Schmook</b>
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## **Serving Next Week Advent December 14th**

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	<u><b>1:00 PM</b></u>	<u><b>7:00 PM</b></u>
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Debby Zagone</b>	<b>Diane Sanborn</b>
<b>Ushers</b>		

<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Jackie Fry</b>	<b>Nona Schmook</b>
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**We are delighted to have you worship with us today.** May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. **To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at [mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com](mailto:mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com).**

## **Acknowledgments**

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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# The Order of Evening Prayer

Prelude

Arise, O Christian People

Anne Krentz Organ

*Stand*

Hymn

354 Arise, O Christian People



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -

2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the

3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on

4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your

best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this

high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror, The haugh - ty

side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The

heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The

soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That

Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from

low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -

heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -

now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es




heav - en To all the world is shown.

bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.

ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.

glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Invocation

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

**G** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

Psalm 146:3–5

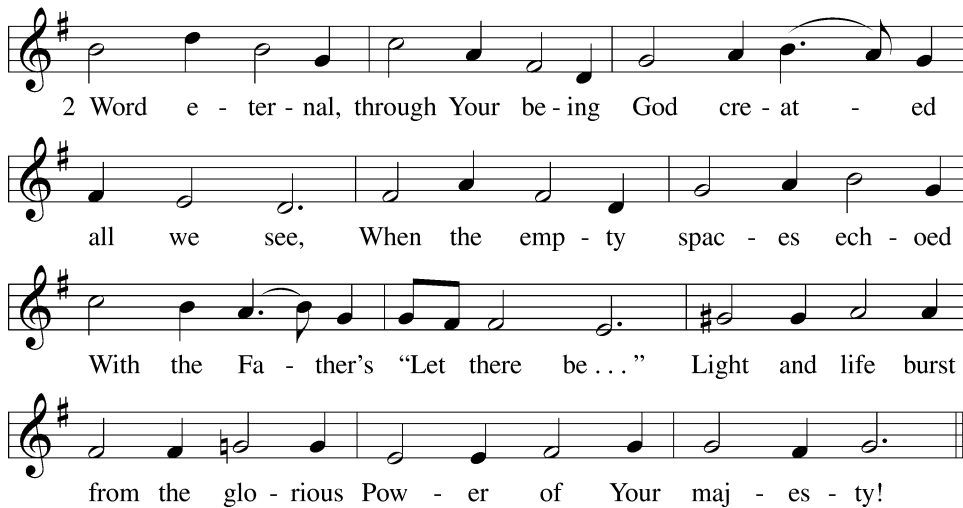
- P** Put not your trust in princes,  
**C** in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.  
**P** When his breath departs he returns to the earth;  
**C** on that very day his plans perish.  
**P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
**C** whose hope is in the LORD his God.

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*As the hymn is sung, the candles of the Advent wreath and/or on the altar are lighted.*

### Hymn

914 Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten st. 2



2 Word e - ter - nal, through Your be - ing God cre - at - ed  
all we see, When the emp - ty spac - es ech - oed  
With the Fa - ther's "Let there be . . ." Light and life burst  
from the glo - rious Pow - er of Your maj - es - ty!

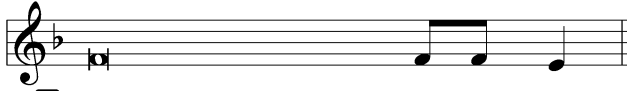
### Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who in spite of the impatience of Abram and Sarai still graciously kept Your promise to them of a son and countless descendants. 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.

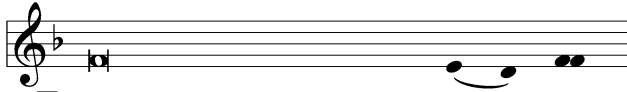
## Service of Light



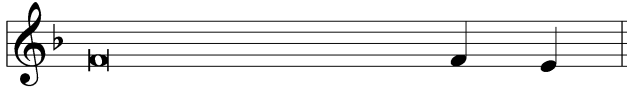
**L** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



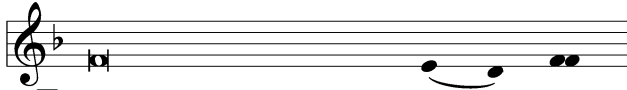
**C** the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



**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

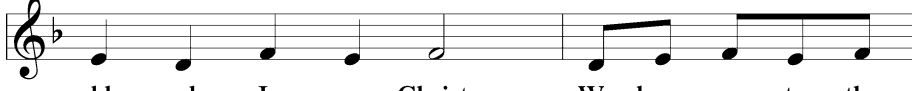
LSB 244



**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, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.

**C** A - men.

# 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;  
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



- 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.

## Catechesis

*Sit*

- P** In the Apostles' Creed we confess that Jesus Christ suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. What does this mean?
- C** He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.
- P** What statement are we making when we confess that Jesus has redeemed us?
- C** The entire human race lived under the tyranny of sin, death, and the devil and stood condemned under the righteous judgement of God. Jesus has rescued and reclaimed us from these powers that we cannot overcome.
- P** How did we come to be lost and condemned?
- C** The devil led Adam and Eve into rebellion by tempting them to doubt and to desire to become like God. We all have inherited their desire to sin and the resulting punishment.
- P** How did Jesus rescue us from sin, death, and the devil?
- C** Jesus defeated Satan by obeying His Father's will throughout his earthly life, even going all the way to the cross, all in our place.

In His loving compassion for us, He died on the cross to pay the entire penalty for our sin and guilt and destroyed the power of sin to enslave us.

With His sacrificial death, He fully endured and appeased the wrath of God toward all people, thereby reconciling us to God. He then rose again on the third day. With His death and resurrection, He defeated death and the grave for us.

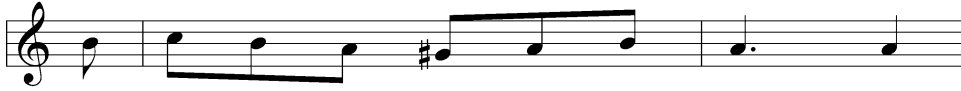


## Hymn

## 510 A Multitude Comes from the East and the West



1 A mul - ti - tude comes from the east and the west  
 2 O God, let us hear when our Shep - herd shall call  
 3 All tri - als shall be like a dream that is past,  
 4 The heav - ens shall ring with an an - them more grand



To sit at the feast of sal - va - tion  
 In ac - cents per - sua - sive and ten - der,  
 For - got - ten all trou - ble and mourn - ing.  
 Than ev - er on earth was re - cord - ed.



With A - bra - ham, I - saac, and Ja - cob, the blest,  
 That while there is time we make haste, one and all,  
 All ques - tions and doubts have been an - swered at last,  
 The blest of the Lord shall re - ceive at His hand



O - bey - ing the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion.  
 And find Him, our might - y de - fend - er.  
 When ris - es the light of that morn - ing.  
 The crown to the vic - tors a - ward - ed.



Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!  
 Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!  
 Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!  
 Have mer - cy up - on us, O Je - sus!

## Readings

### First Reading

*Genesis 16:1–16*

**P** A reading from Genesis, the sixteenth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. <sup>2</sup>And Sarai said to Abram, "Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. <sup>3</sup>So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. <sup>4</sup>And he went

in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. <sup>5</sup>And Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!" <sup>6</sup>But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. <sup>8</sup>And he said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." <sup>9</sup>The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." <sup>10</sup>The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." <sup>11</sup>And the angel of the LORD said to her,

"Behold, you are pregnant  
and shall bear a son.  
You shall call his name Ishmael,  
because the LORD has listened to your affliction.

<sup>12</sup>He shall be a wild donkey of a man,  
his hand against everyone  
and everyone's hand against him,  
and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

<sup>13</sup>So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me." <sup>14</sup>Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

<sup>15</sup>And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.

<sup>16</sup>Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*Galatians 4:21—5:1*

**P** A reading from Galatians, the fourth and fifth chapters.

<sup>21</sup>Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? <sup>22</sup>For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. <sup>23</sup>But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. <sup>24</sup>Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. <sup>25</sup>Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. <sup>26</sup>But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. <sup>27</sup>For it is written,

"Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;  
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!  
For the children of the desolate one will be more  
than those of the one who has a husband."

<sup>28</sup>Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. <sup>29</sup>But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. <sup>30</sup>But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” <sup>31</sup>So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

<sup>1</sup>For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Responsory for Advent

*LSB, p. 230*

**P** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

### Gospel Reading

*Luke 3:1-9*

**P** A reading from Luke, the third chapter.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,  
<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

<sup>7</sup>He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

**P** 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.

*Sit*

## Hymn of the Day

## 798 The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand  
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace  
4 He by Him - self has sworn; I on His oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.  
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.  
Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.  
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,  
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.  
I shall be - hold His face; I shall His pow'r a - dore



I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.  
And Him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.  
And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.  
And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.

5 Though nature's strength decay,  
And earth and hell withstand,  
To Canaan's bounds I urge my way  
At His command.  
The wat'ry deep I pass,  
With Jesus in my view,  
And through the howling wilderness  
My way pursue.

6 The goodly land I see,  
With peace and plenty blest:  
A land of sacred liberty  
And endless rest.  
There milk and honey flow,  
And oil and wine abound,  
And trees of life forever grow  
With mercy crowned.

7 There dwells the Lord our king,  
The Lord our righteousness,  
Triumphant o'er the world and sin,  
The Prince of Peace.  
On Zion's sacred height  
His kingdom He maintains  
And glorious with His saints in light  
Forever reigns.

8 The God who reigns on high  
The great archangels sing,  
And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry,  
"Almighty King!  
Who was and is the same  
And evermore shall be:  
Jehovah, Father, great I AM!  
We worship Thee!"

△ 9 The whole triumphant host  
Give thanks to God on high.  
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
They ever cry.  
Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine!  
I join the heav'nly lays:  
All might and majesty are Thine  
And endless praise!

## Sermon

## Offering

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

John Bertalot

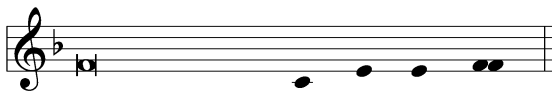
## Prayer

*Kneel/Sit*

## 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 Matthew our synodical president and for Bill our district president, 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 Joe our nation's president, 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:

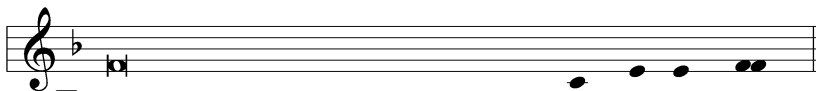
**C** Lord, have mercy.

**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:

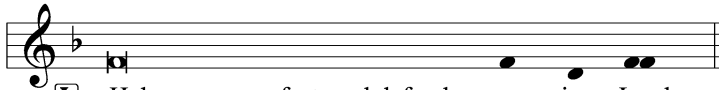
**C** Lord, have mercy.



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

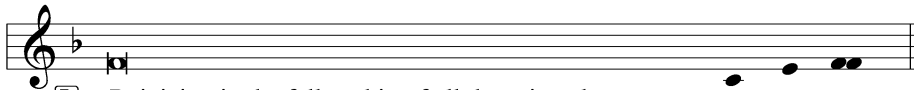


**C** Al - le - lu - ia.

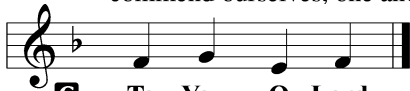


**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer.*



**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** A - men.

*Stand*

## 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.

## Prayer

- P** During this season of Advent, we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus." True Son of Adam,  
**C** come, Lord Jesus.  
**P** True Son of Abraham,  
**C** come, Lord Jesus.  
**P** True Son of David,  
**C** come, Lord Jesus.  
**P** True Son of God,  
**C** come, Lord Jesus.  
**P** True Son of Man,  
**C** come, Lord Jesus.  
**P** That we might receive adoption as sons,  
**C** come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

## Benedicamus

LSB 252



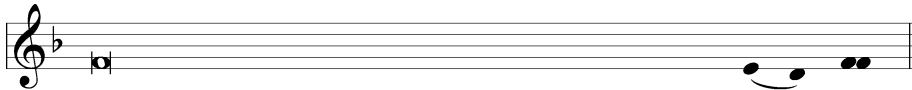
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**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

## In This Precious Baby Boy



1 In this pre - cious ba - by boy, We are giv - en  
2 God's own chil - dren, we have strayed, Con - stant - ly have  
3 Through this ba - by in the hay, God has giv - en



peace and joy. By the Spir - it, hope is won—  
dis - o - beyed In the gar - den, in the sand,  
us the Way To in - her - it life a - bove,



Mar - y bore the Fa - ther's Son. Son of God and  
Through the riv - er, in the Land. But the Child who  
Res - cued by His per - fect love. In this Child, we



Son of Man: He ful - fills the ho - ly plan.  
takes our place Bears the cross to earn us grace.  
all may be Chil - dren of e - ter - ni - ty.

## Postlude

## The God of Abraham Praise

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