

Welcome

December 26, 2021

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

LSB 386

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.

P Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are sinful and unclean. We have taken for granted the free gift of salvation You give us through Jesus. Help us to focus on the reason for the season, the birth of Your Son. Forgive us, O God, and let us depart in peace, according to Your Word, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, who came to save us from our sins.

P Receive the free gift that Jesus offers: the forgiveness of sins. As a called and ordained servant of our newborn King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Thank You, Jesus! Amen.

Introit

LSB 387; Psalm 98:1–4; Isaiah 52:10

Joy to the World

LSB 387 v. 1

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.

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

C His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

Joy to the World

LSB 387 v. 2

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.

- P** The LORD has made known His salvation;
C **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**
P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
C **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Joy to the World

LSB 387 v. 3

- 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.

- P** The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
C **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

Joy to the World

LSB 387 v. 4

- 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.

- P** Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
C **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Kyrie (spoken)

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the peace of our newborn King, which is beyond our understanding, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For our salvation from Christ, the Prince of Peace, for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P For the Holy Christian Church, for we have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389 vs. 1-2, 6-7

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, our Savior, we praise and thank You for coming to be born of Mary so that through faith in You we might depart this life in peace. Grant that we may ever share this gift; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22–40

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

C (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”)

P and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord,

C “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

P Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

Men: *“Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.”*

P And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother,

Men: *“Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”*

Women: *And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and*

day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

P And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

What Child Is This

LSB 370

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Offering & Rite of Friendship

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LSB 393

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.

Benediction

Luke 2:29–32

P Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you all. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—abide with you, now and forever.

C Amen.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

LSB 361

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