Third Sunday in Advent Divine Service III

349 Hark the Glad Sound



Stand

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- f P In the name of the Father and of the m H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- 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,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 85:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4-5



Rejoice in the Lord | always;* again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, you were favorable | to your land;* you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your | people;* you covered | all their sin.

Will you not revive us again,*

that your people may re- | joice in you?

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*

for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to | folly.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

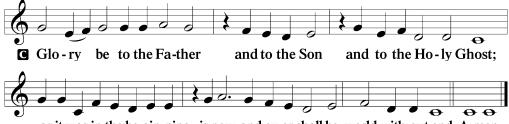
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;* again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.*

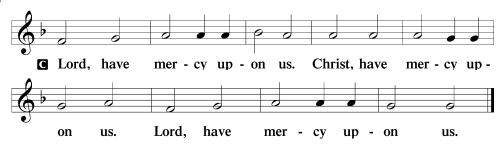
The Lord is at hand.



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

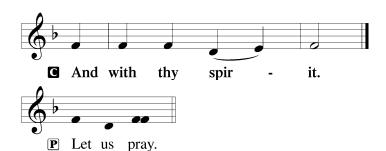
LSB 186



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord GoD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

11He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 4:1–5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia LSB 190



Holy Gospel Matthew 11:2–11

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
- Glory be to Thee, O Lord

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

"'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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.

Sit

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



5

Sermon

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

Stand



Sit

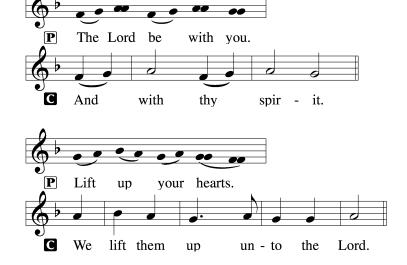
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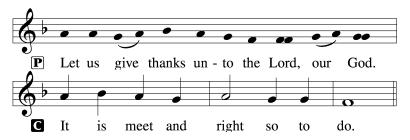
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Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

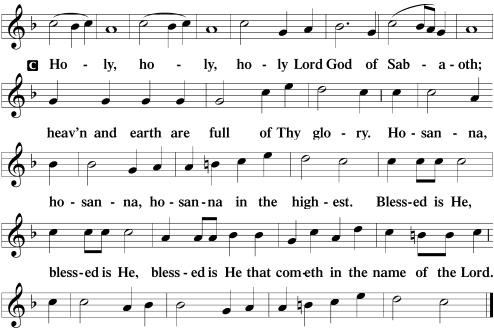






P It is truly meet, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 195



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

LSB 196

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 Words of Our Lord LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

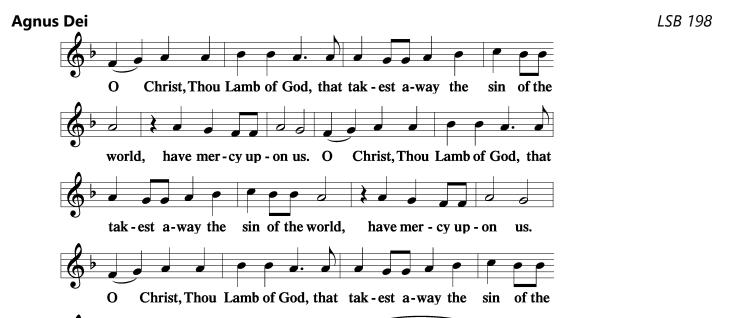
→ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My +

blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

A

peace.

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

men.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

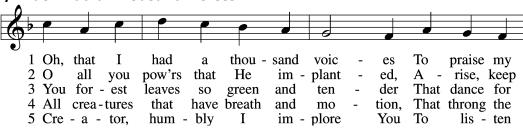
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

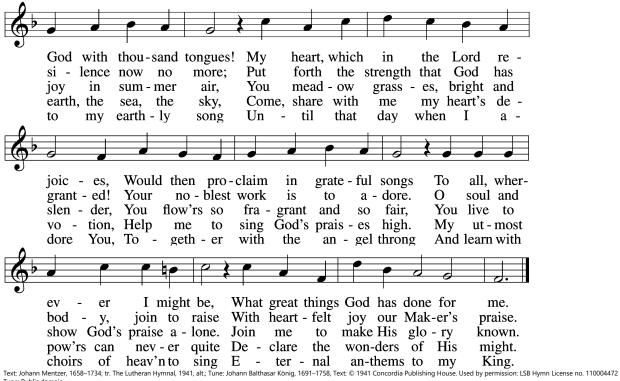
- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

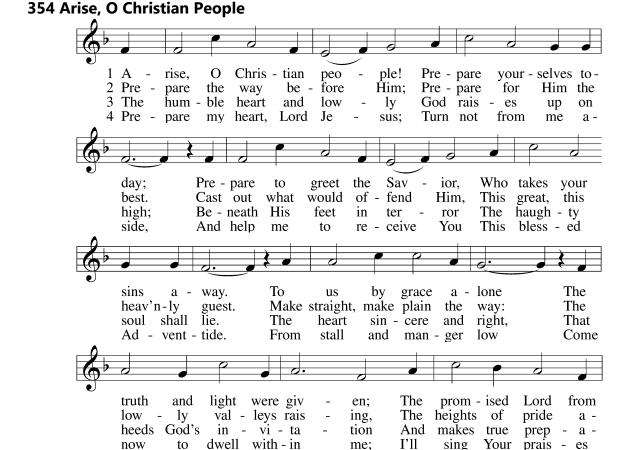
 → in peace.
- C Amen.

811 Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices

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636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



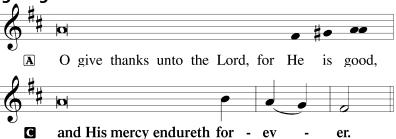
- Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure, Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding: Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You; Worthily let me receive You And, so favored, never leave You.
- Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends, most tender, Jesus, joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring: At Your feet I cry, my maker, Let me be a fit partaker Of this blessèd food from heaven, For our good, Your glory, given.
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish, To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness. By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.
- Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
 Let me gladly here obey You.
 By Your love I am invited,
 Be Your love with love requited;
 By this Supper let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
 Through the gift of grace You give me
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662; Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004472; Text (sts. 2–3, 6–8) and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199



Thanksgiving LSB 200



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.



Salutation and Benedicamus

LSB 202

- P The Lord be with you.
- And with thy spirit.
- A Bless we the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction LSB 202

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.

Amen, amen, amen.

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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