

3rd Sunday in Advent

December 13, 2020

9:00a

Morning Prayer p. 235

Versicles

LSB 235

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth shall declare Your praise.
C 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.

- C** Alleluia, alleluia.

Psalmody

- L** Give glory to God, our light and our life.
C O come, let us worship Him.

Venite (Sung by Pastor and Cantor)

LSB 236

- C** O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
I Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
II For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.
I In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.
II The sea is His, for He made it; and His hand formed the dry land.
I O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.
II For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
C 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.

- L** Give glory to God, our light and our life.
C O come, let us worship Him.

Psalm 126:1-6

- P** When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
C Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;
P then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.
C Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb!
P Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!
C He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

333 Once He Came in Blessing

1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -
dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,
Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -
save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Readings

Reading

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

John 1:6–8, 19–28

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . .

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.”

²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

L 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.

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Sermon

Theme: “The Man Who Witnessed”

Text: John 1:6-8

Canticle

Benedictus (Congregation part spoken / Cantor part sung)

LSB 238

C Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
He has come to His people and redeemed them.
He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of His servant David.
Through His holy prophets He promised of old
that He would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember His holy covenant.
This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship Him without fear,
holy and righteous in His sight all the days of our life.

L You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare His way,
to give His people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God,
the dawn from on high shall break upon us
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

C 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.

Prayer

Collects

Petitions ending in...

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Collect of the Day

L Let us pray.
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.

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely
brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty
power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of
danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be
righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 241

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.

Benedicamus

LSB 241

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 242

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

Parting Blessing

*As darkness fills the endless sky, and silence covers the earth,
Not a sign appears, not a sound is heard of the coming Savior's birth.
But the light is drawing closer in with each step along the way;
and a heavenly music begins as the night turns into day.
Rejoice, rejoice, good news we have to tell
"To you shall come Emmanuel."*

Please place your offering in an offering plate as you depart.

Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.