

2nd Sunday in Advent

December 10, 2023

8:00a & 10:30a

Morning Prayer p. 235

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er

saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -

'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord

Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall

sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

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Versicles

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L O Lord, o - pen my lips,

C and my mouth shall de - clare Your praise.

C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite

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C O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joy-ful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.

I Let us come in-to His pres-ence with thanks-giv-ing;
let us make a joy-ful noise to Him with songs of praise.

II For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods.

I In His hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the moun-tains are His al-so.

II The sea is His, for He made it;
and His hand formed the dry land.

I O come, let us wor-ship and bow down;
let us kneel be-fore the Lord, our mak-er.

II For He is our God, and we are the peo-ple
of His pas-ture and the sheep of His hand.

C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C O come, let us wor-ship Him.

Psalm

Psalm 85; antiphon: v. 9

- P** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
- C** Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- P** You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
- C** You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
- P** Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!
- C** Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- P** Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- C** Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.
- P** 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.
- C** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

- P** Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- C** **Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.**
- P** Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- C** **Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.**
- 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.**
- P** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

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Readings

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.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

2 Peter 3:8–14

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Mark 1:1–8

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, ³the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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.

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, And let us all our
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

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Sermon

Theme: "Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Text: Mark 1:1-8

Canticle

Benedictus (**L** part sung by Cantor)

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C Bless - ed be the Lord, the God of Is - ra - el;



He has come to His peo - ple and re - deemed them.



He has raised up for us a might - y Sav - ior,



born of the house of His ser - vant Da - vid.



Through His ho - ly proph - ets He prom - ised of old



that He would save us from our en - e - mies, from the hands of all who



hate us. He prom - ised to show mer - cy to our fa - thers



and to re - mem - ber His ho - ly cov - e - nant.



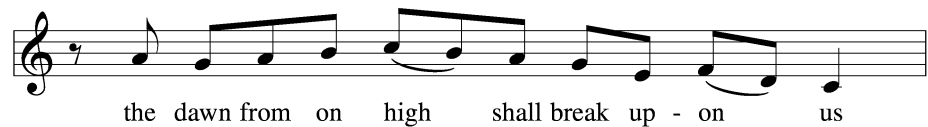
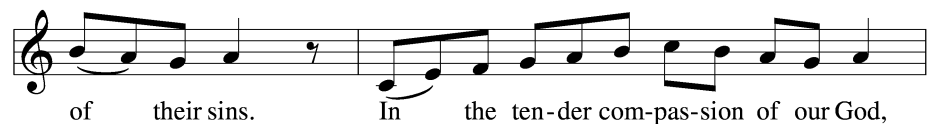
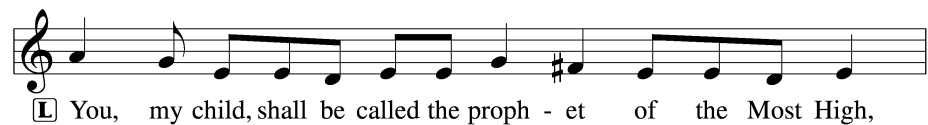
This was the oath He swore to our fa - ther A - bra - ham:



to set us free from the hands of our en - e - mies,

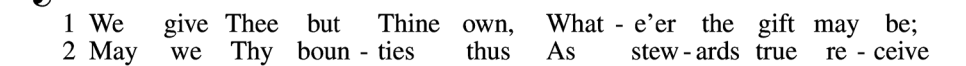


free to wor - ship Him with - out fear, ho - ly and



Presentation of our Offerings & Gifts to the Lord

781 We Give Thee But Thine Own



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Prayer

Collects

Petitions ending in...

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

Collect of the Day

- L** Let us pray.
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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

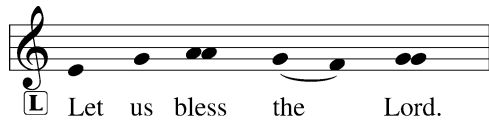
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L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

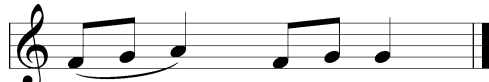
C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benedicamus

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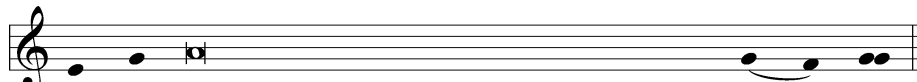
L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 242



P The al - mighty and merciful Lord, the Father,
the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



C A - men.

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.

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Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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