

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



THEY
SHALL
BRING
GOLD and
FRANK.
INCENSE
and
SHALL
PROCLAIM
the PRAISE
of
THE LORD

ISAIAH 60:6



The Epiphany of Our Lord (Observed)
December 31, 2023

Welcome

If you are a guest with us today, we extend a special welcome in the name of Jesus! If you have questions or prayer requests or want to get in touch with us, please sign the guest book in the lobby (or use this QR code) or email or call.



Children's Bulletins are available in the lobby.

Service Live-streamed In The Learning Center Turn right when you leave the sanctuary and follow the hall around to The Learning Center if you need a break during the service.

Prelude: Please use the prelude as a time for quiet prayer and meditation before worship.

Prayer before Worship: *O Lord, creator, redeemer, and comforter, I come to worship You in spirit and in truth. Open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus name. Amen.*

For Those Who Desire to Receive the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. Paul in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. (Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion trays.)

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School
2001 Old Frederick Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228
Church: 410-747-1897 School: 410-747-1924
www.stpaulcatonsville.org email: secretary@stpaulcatonsville.org
Pastor Gregory Alms Renata O'Reilly, Organist & Choir Director

The Epiphany of Our Lord (observed)

December 31, 2023

Prelude: Three Kings of Orient

Janet Linker (b. 1938)

397 As with Gladness Men of Old

LSB 397



1 As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be-hold;
 2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to Thy low-ly bed,
 3 As they of-fered gifts most rare At Thy cra-dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day Keep us in the nar-row way;
 5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright Need they no cre-at-ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
 There to bend the knee be-fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;
 So may we with ho-ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al-loy,
 And when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran-somed souls at last
 Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev-er-more be led by Thee.
 So may we with will-ing feet Ev-er seek Thy mer-cy seat.
 All our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo-ry hide.
 There for-ev-er may we sing Al-le-lu-ias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.

Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

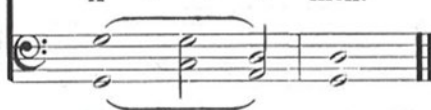
P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C



Confession

P




Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

with a true heart and confess our sins unto
 name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us

Kneel/Sit

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

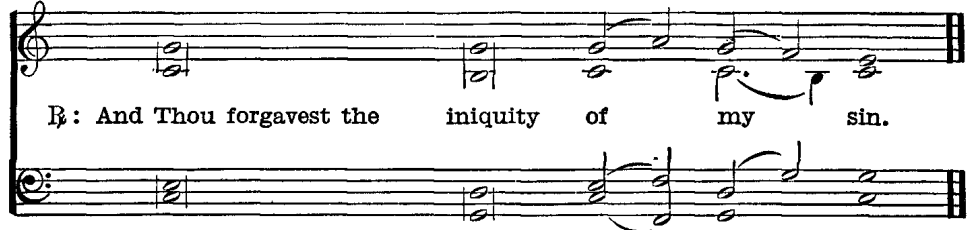
C



B: Who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C



B: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.


C **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

[John 20:19-23]

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C



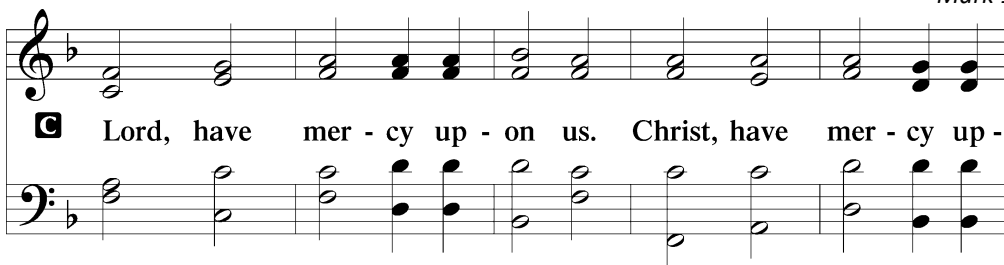
B: A - - - men.

Stand

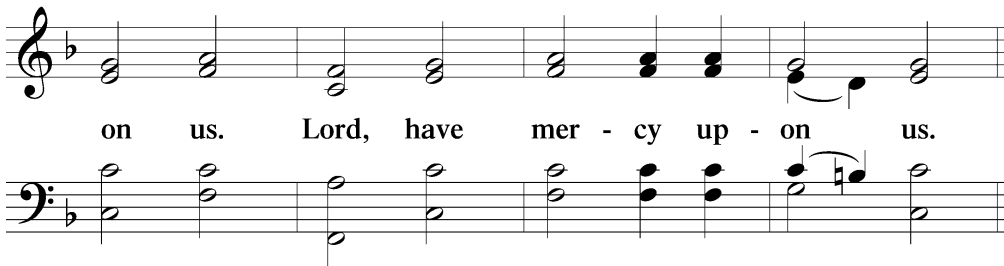
Service of the Word

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



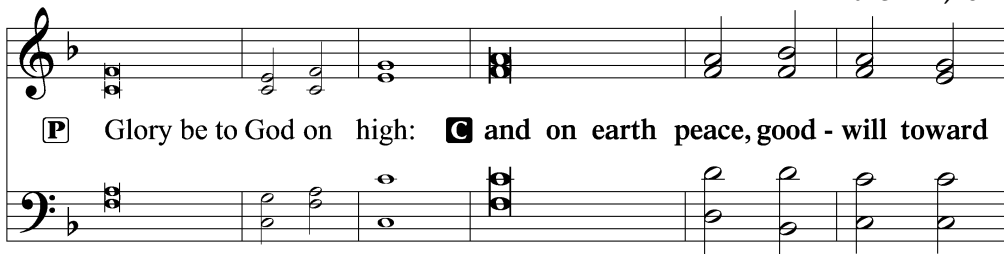
C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



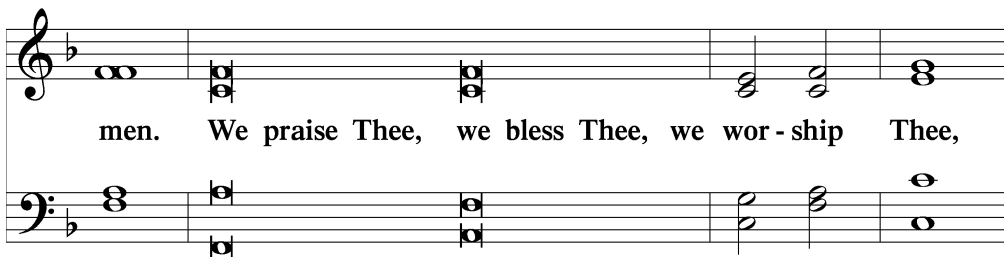
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

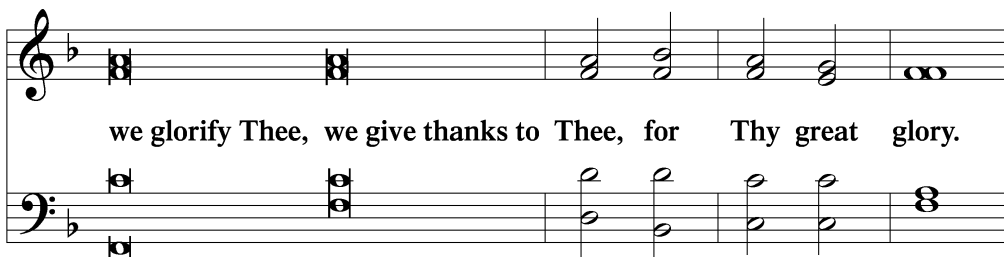
Luke 2:14; John 1:29



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



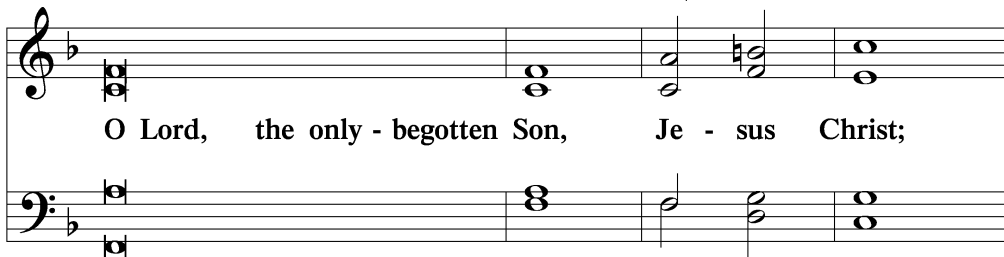
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



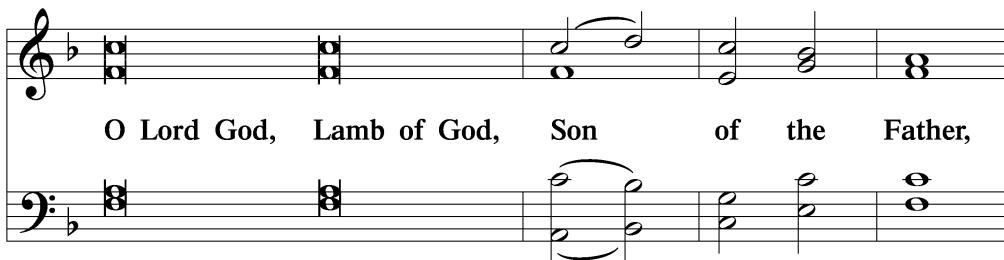
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



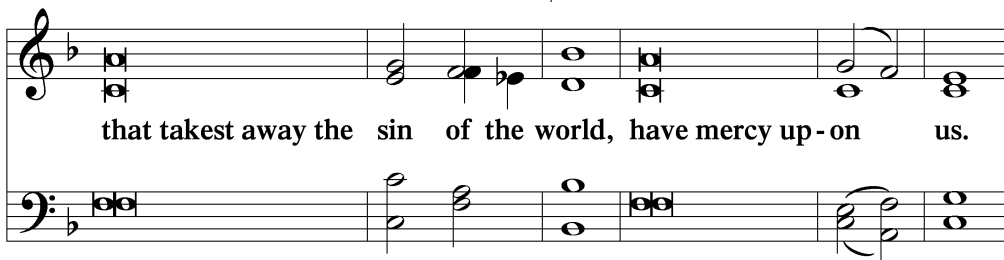
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



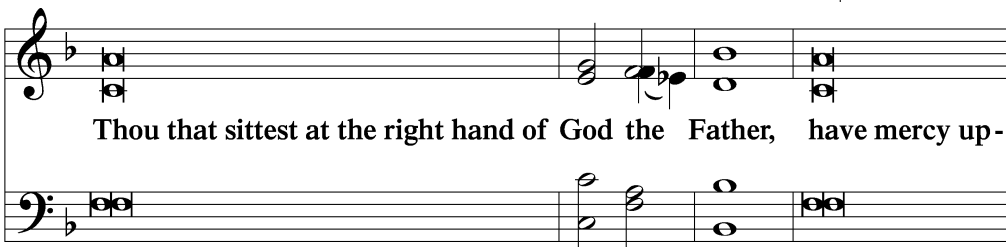
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



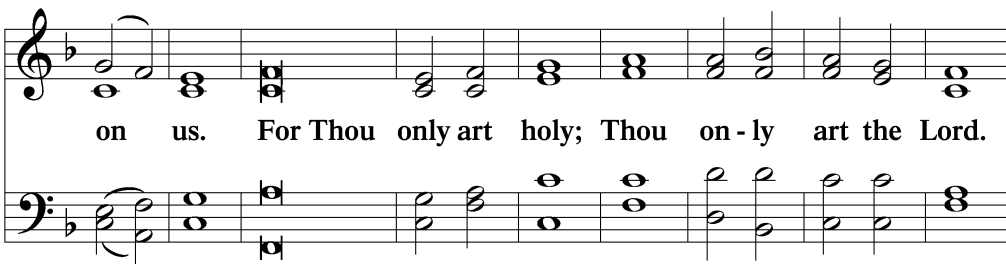
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



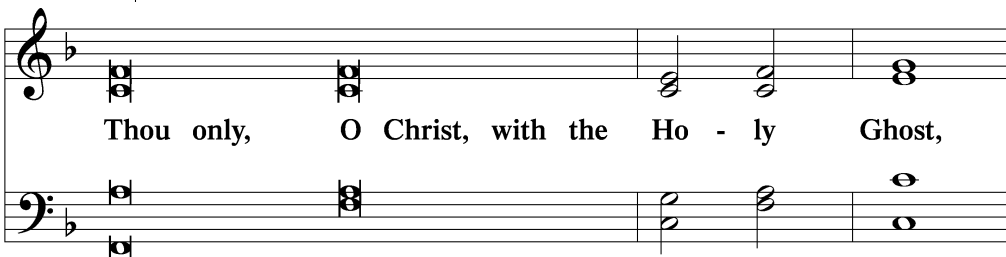
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.



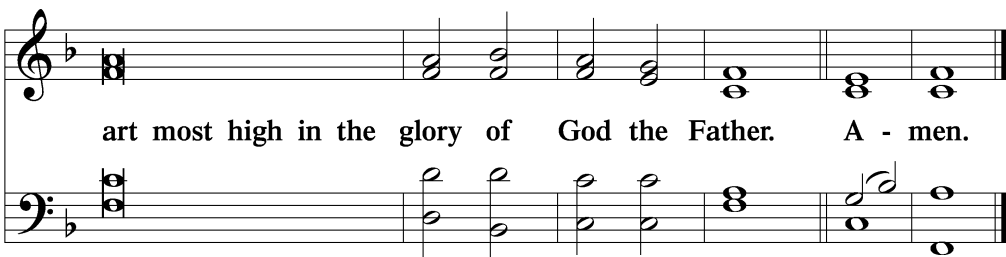
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

C O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

B: A - - - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

- ¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- ²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
- ³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
- ⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm (spoken responsively)

Psalm 72 various; antiphon v. 18

Blessèd be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the royal son!

**May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice!**

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness!

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor!

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands
render him tribute;**

may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!

May all kings fall down before him,
all nations serve him!

**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.**

Blessèd be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—
²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

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

Stand

The Triple Hallelujah

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

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

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The musical notation is a single treble clef staff in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and consists of a few notes. The lyrics are placed below the staff.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

LSB 394



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor-dan's stream, Proph-et, Priest, and King su-preme;
 3 Man - i - fest in mak-ing whole Pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;
 4 Sun and moon shall dark-ened be, Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
 5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord, Pres - ent in Thy ho - ly Word—



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,
And at Ca - na wed - ding guest In Thy God - head man - i - fest;
Man - i - fest in val - iant fight, Quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
Christ will then like light - ning shine, All will see His glo - rious sign;
Grace to im - i - tate Thee now And be pure, as pure art Thou;



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:
Man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, Chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
Man - i - fest in gra - cious will, Ev - er bring - ing good from ill;
All will then the trum - pet hear, All will see the Judge ap - pear;
That we might be - come like Thee At Thy great e - piph - a - ny



An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
An - thems be to Thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
Thou by all wilt be con - fessed, God in man made man - i - fest.
And may praise Thee, ev - er blest, God in man made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life T everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering

(An offering plate is available in the narthex. You may also give electronically through our website at stpaulcatonsville.org/donation. If you would like to send in an electronic offering via text, text the dollar amount you would like to give to 410-888-0161.)



Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

P Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up un - to the Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

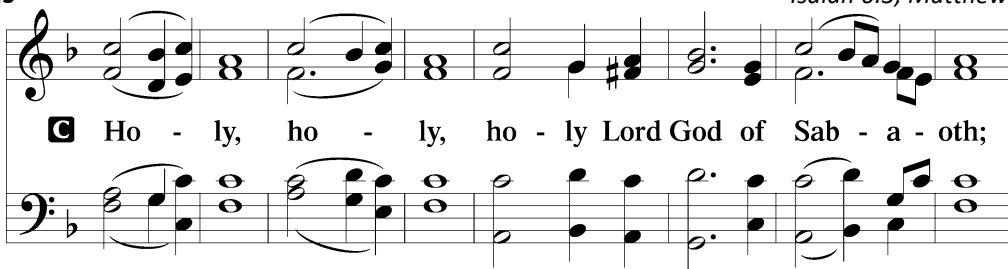
The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Proper Preface


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

Sanctus

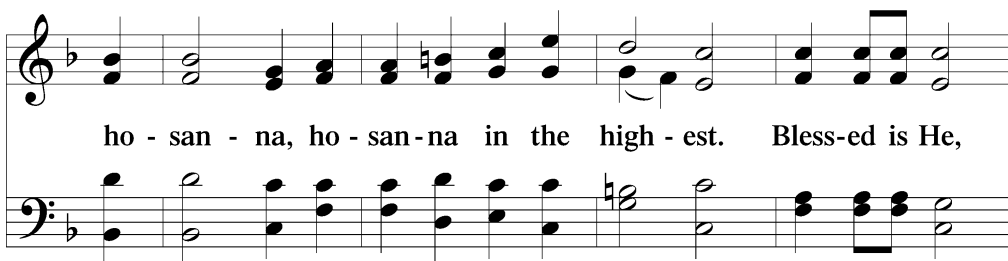
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



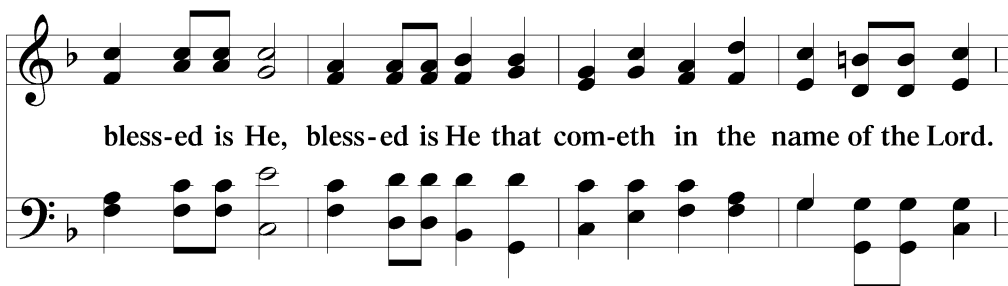
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



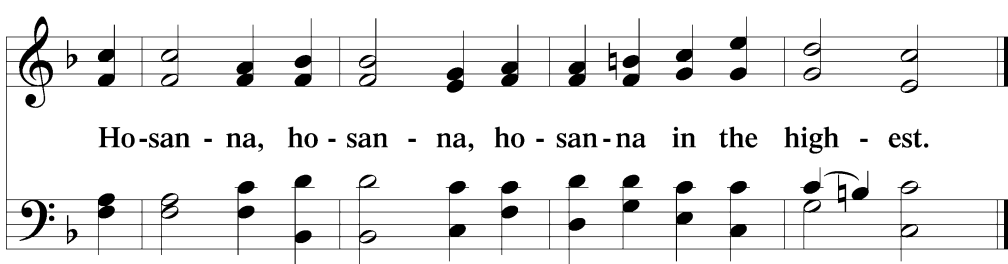
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



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

Lord's Prayer

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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

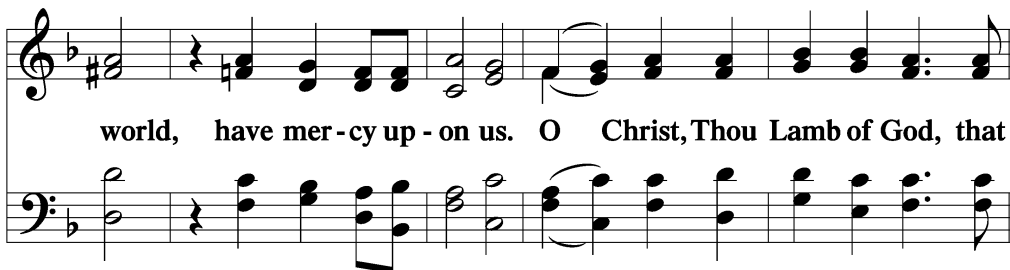
Musical notation for the phrase "The peace of the Lord be with you always!". The notation is written on two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Treble clef, with some accompaniment in the Bass clef. The lyrics "A - - - men." are written below the Treble staff. A square icon with the letter 'C' is located below the Treble staff.

Agnus Dei

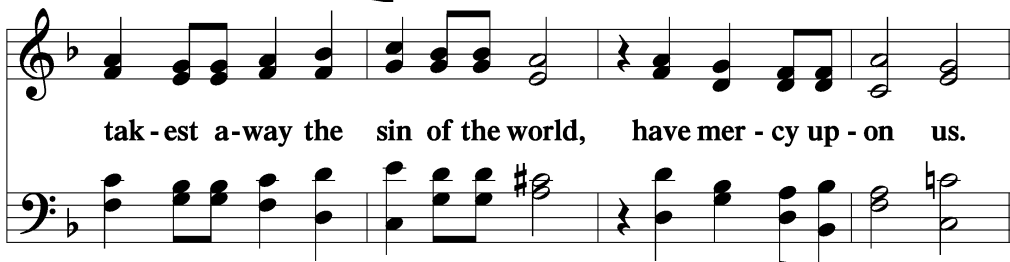
John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



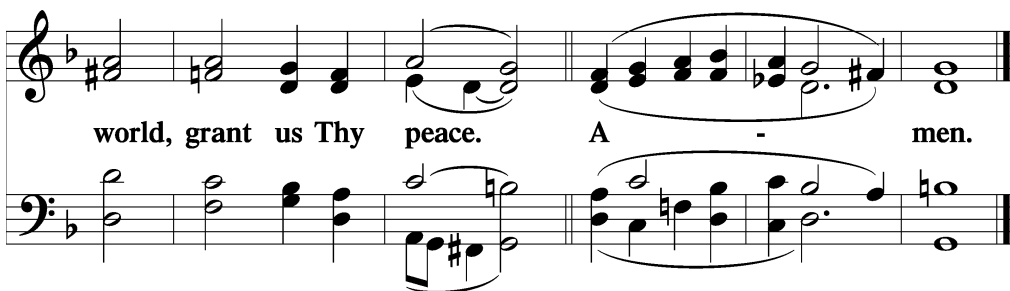
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.



Sit
400 Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

LSB 400



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
 2 Cold on His cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
 3 Shall we not yield Him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;
 Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
 Fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'ring di - vine,
 Vain - ly with gifts would His fa - vor se - cure.
 Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;



Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
 An - gels a - dore Him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
 Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
 Rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion;
 Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
 Mak - er and Mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.
 Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?
 Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
 Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

Tune: James P. Harding, 1850-1911, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

LSB 366



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,
 3 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,
 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
 And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.
 Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:
 When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



“Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav’n’s all-gra-cious king.”
 A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-’ring wing,
 Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,
 His word of peace shall to the earth God’s an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
 And ev-er o’er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt.

Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

Text and tune: Public domain

388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

LSB 388

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain

Be - hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.
 Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text (sts. 1-3): John W. Work II, 1873-1925, alt. Text (ref) and tune: African American spiritual Text and tune: Public domain

Stand Post-Communion Blessing

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -

cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The music is in common time. The lyrics 'and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.' are written below the staves, with a square box containing the letter 'C' at the beginning of the line.

P Let us pray. . . .

A - men.

The second system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The music is in common time. The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the staves, with a square box containing the letter 'C' at the beginning of the line.

P The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

The third system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The music is in common time. The lyrics 'And with thy spir - it.' are written below the staves, with a square box containing the letter 'C' at the beginning of the line.

A Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The fourth system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The music is in common time. The lyrics 'Thanks be to God.' are written below the staves, with a square box containing the letter 'C' at the beginning of the line.

2 Timothy 4:22

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

P 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 T give you peace.

C A - men, a - men, a - men.

373 See amid the Winter's Snow

LSB 373

1 See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
2 Lo, with - in a sta - ble lies He who built the star - ry skies,
3 Sa - cred In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,
4 Teach, O teach us, ho - ly Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,

See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this!
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.

Refrain

Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!

Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"

Text: Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.

Tune: John Goss, 1800–80

Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright! *Wie schön leuchtet*

Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

Acknowledgments

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Prayer List

CHURCH MEMBERS

Marilyn Blomster (recovering)
Bruce Staudinger (injured leg)
Laurie Dungey (concussion)
Rik Johnsson (recovering from neck/back surgery)
Rich Foks (physical therapy after knee surgery)
David Nguyen (recovering from back surgery)
Ann-Eliese Jordan (continuing recovery)
Lindsey Gay
John Gay (cancer)
Janice Gay (caretaker)
Debbie Frech (cancer, chemotherapy treatments)
Marilyn Haberl (scleroderma)



SHUT-INS

Mildred Klein, Betty Blackburn, and Janet Conklin.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Ronnie Stevenson, friend of the Kynes (recovering from rotator cuff surgery) 12/17
Kelly Woolford, friend of the Staudinger's 12/10
Walt O'Reilly, husband of Renata (undergoing radiation cancer treatments) 11/26
David Storey, our organ tuner/repairer (triple heart bypass) 11/26
Tim Will, grandparent & guardian of school child (recovering from abdominal surgery) 12/31
Steve Schafer, father of Alicia Dreessen (skin cancer) 12/3



Prayer is a great gift and privilege for Christians. To add people to the prayer list printed in the bulletin, please email pastoralms@stpaulcatonsville.org or dana.stigdon@splscatonsville.org or call the church office at 410-747-1897. Family and friends will automatically be removed after one month. If you want your request to stay on for another month, just contact the office.

News & Notes

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers give glory to God, beautify the sanctuary, and commemorate an important person or event in your life. The Flower Chart for 2024 is posted and has openings available. Consider sponsoring flowers, flowers can be taken home after the service.

Bible Classes

Sunday morning Bible classes resume on January 7th. Pastor will be leading the study in the Fellowship Hall on the Suffering, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Mark. The women's study in the upstairs Conference Room will continue the study of Joseph.

Lutheran Books & Beer

The next meeting will be on January 25th at 7 pm at the Rathskellar in Elkridge. Beginning a new book: *I Am Not Afraid: Demon Possession and Spiritual Warfare* by Robert H. Bennett. A fascinating first-hand account of the spiritual warfare in Africa and closer to home. Book is available from CPH or from Amazon.

Newsletter: The articles for the January Newsletter will be due THIS Tuesday, January 2nd.

Mission Brunch 2024

Rev. Dr. Alexey Streltsov, a friend of Pastor Alms, from the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church will be our featured speaker on January 28th. Mark your calendars now!

Mission Project

On January 24th we will have a church and school event to put together health care kits. There is a great need for these kits that will be distributed by the Lutheran Mission Society. Watch for more information to come. Together we make a difference.

Daily Lectionary Readings

Following historic practice, this lectionary present a continuous reading through the books of the Bible, often associating certain books with particular seasons of the Church Year. These reading are in the bulletin each week. Two readings of 15-25 verses each are provided for each day – one from each the Old and New Testaments. Under this plan, nearly all of the New Testament and approximately one-third of the Old Testament are read each year.

Daily Readings: Dec 24: Is 44:21—45:13, 20–25, Rev 12:1–17; **Dec 25:** Is 49:1–18, Matt 1:1–17; **Dec 26:** Is 49:22–26; 50:4—51:8, 12–16, Matt 1:18–25; **Dec 27:** Is 51:17—52:12, Matt 2:1–12; **Dec 28:** Is 52:13—54:10, Matt 2:13–23; **Dec 29:** Is 55:1–13, Luke 1:1–25; **Dec 30:** Is 58:1—59:3, 14–21, Luke 1:26–38.



Sermon Notes

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ALL FROM
Sheba
WILL COME
Bearing

Gold
AND



Incense
Isaiah 60:6



ag '23