

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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December 15, 2024      ✚      Third Sunday in Advent

*St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.*

**Today** the paraments are blue as we begin a new church year, looking ahead to our Lord's return. The readings reflect Jesus' first Advent (appearance) when He came as a baby, and they look forward to His second Advent, when He will return in glory.

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, **please see the pastor prior to the service**).

Last Sunday, December 18 2024:

Attendance: 74 (3livestream)

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF: 16 / 12 / 2

Offerings: \$2097 / \$3 / \$345 (electronic)

Thanksgiving Day (11/28)

Attendance: 18 (2); Offerings: \$95

# Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

**CALVARY INSIDER** – What happened at Calvary last week, you ask?

- Students interested in attending Nichols Career Center had an opportunity to visit on Tuesday.
- Mr. Ziegelbein led chapel with an advent message. Following chapel, students and staff shared in food, fellowship, and Christmas celebration with their family groups.
- Choir and Band Lions shared their gifts of music as they shared the Christmas Message at Friday's Christmas concert.

**LION BASKETBALL** – Upcoming games at **Home**:

**Dec. 16 JV Boys/V Girls/V Boys at 5:30 v. Stoutland**

**Jan. 9 JV Boys/ V Boys at 5:30 v. Richland**

**Jan. 10-11 Calvary Girls Basketball Tournament**

(Lady Lions first game: Fri, 6:30)

*Live stream the games: [twitch.tv/calvarylhs](https://www.twitch.tv/calvarylhs)*

*Visit [calvarylhs.org/calendar/](https://calvarylhs.org/calendar/) to view the full calendar!*

**\$50 EARLY REGISTRATION BONUS** – Registration is OPEN for the 2025-2026 school year! Incoming 9th graders and current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students can already register for next year! When you apply or re-register for next school year with your *\$100 registration fee before January 6, 2025, you will receive a \$50 credit* toward your student's '25-'26 tuition. REGISTER TODAY!

**CHECK OUT THE CALVARY WISH LIST!** – A practical and simple way you can make an impact on our school is by donating items on our "WISH LIST!" Check it out at [calvarylhs.org/support](https://calvarylhs.org/support)

**DONATE. SHOP. VOLUNTEER. BREAK.** – Only **4** shopping days at Calvary's Gift remain before Christmas! The volunteers will be taking a break for the holidays, so the store will be closed December 23 and reopen on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. Donate your gently-used items. Shop for decorations, gifts, and more! You are also invited to volunteer at the store. This could mean sorting items, handling donations, and ringing up sales. Come see where you can help out in the New Year. Call (573) 821-8875.

**CHRISTMAS BREAK** – To celebrate the Christmas season, Calvary will be out of school from December 23 through January 3. In order to allow our staff to spend time with their families, the office will be closed on those days, too. The office will resume regular hours on January 6.

**SAVE THE DATE** –

Jan. 10-11 Calvary Girls Basketball Tournament

Jan. 16-18 Calvary Archery Tournament

Feb. 7-8 Calvary Boys Basketball Tournament

Feb. 6 *Discover Calvary Day (Visit Day for 7<sup>th</sup> Graders)*

## Happening at St. John's:

**Did you know that you can give to the church electronically**, whether a single transaction or recurring giving? There is a smartphone app (Vanco giving), or you can click the link on the front page of the church website. All electronic giving goes in a report to the financial secretary and is added on your year-end statement. Talk to Pastor Whittle for more information.

**“Who is going to be king? Christ or Herod? Christ or I?”** Every day we make dozens of decisions which either acknowledge Christ's lordship or which assert our own. The star of the Magi reminds the Christian that he has a gracious King to whom he can, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, submit his will and live. By His word Christ desires to reign in our hearts through faith!” *Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**TRUTH, GOODNESS & BEAUTY...** Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Movie “Gladiator II,” The Hymn “May God Bestow on Us His Grace,” Roman Catholicism & Indulgences, Mary Visits Elizabeth, The Testimony of John the Baptist and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn or a podcast provider.

### **This week:**

Sunday, 12/15 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF  
10am Divine Service  
Sunday School Christmas Program Practice

Tues, 12/17 6:30pm Confirmation

Sunday, 12/22 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF  
10am Divine Service  
Sunday School Christmas Program Practice

# Rejoicing in Suffering

The Third Sunday in Advent has been set aside for much of the church's history for a focus on rejoicing in the midst of anticipation and even suffering. We know a thing or two about anticipation. This close to Christmas, many can hardly wait. Not only the church, but even the culture have lifted up the holiday to such a place of prominence in the year that everyone anticipates it in one way or another.

Children wonder at their Christmas presents. They are eager for the mysteries that surround the special day. People look forward to traveling, visiting relatives and friends, and other sources of joy.

For many, the holiday hold some sort of dread or fear. For some, this is the first holiday after losing a loved one. Others are estranged from family and every reminder of families getting together is another dagger in the heart. There are many reasons for dreading the holiday, most of which are not about Jesus. It is a subtle reminder that we live in the midst of problems that do not seem to have an easy or quick resolution.

God's message is always one of rejoicing. Today, in particular, we focus on that aspect of the Gospel. It is like the proverbial person on a desert island who finally sees a ship, or the one who fell into a cave who sees a light and a rope being lowered down. Despite your suffering and trials, God has an end planned for them. The day will come that Christ will return; all who believe in Him will see their troubles end and their suffering gone.

The message of Jesus is encapsulated in the words of the angel to the shepherds, "good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Jesus came to pay for the sins of the whole world. Jesus came to undo all of the work of the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh; He came to release us from the power of sin and remove the threat of death.

That is reason to rejoice, whatever our current situation. Jesus will return in glory! That is our hope, our song, our joy.

# Confession and Absolution

## 338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
  
- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*Stand*

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

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

*LSB 151*

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel/Stand*

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

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

## Absolution

LSB 151

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 146:5–8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

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

**Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,\***  
**whose hope is in the | LORD his God,**  
**who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is | in them,\***  
**who keeps faith for- | ever;**  
**who executes justice for | the oppressed,\***  
**who gives food to the | hungry.**

**The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind.\***

**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the | righteous.**

**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.

## Kyrie

LSB 152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** 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.**

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Zephaniah 3:14–20*

- <sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!
- <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.  
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.
- <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion;  
let not your hands grow weak.
- <sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is in your midst,

a mighty one who will save;  
 he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
 he will quiet you by his love;  
 he will exult over you with loud singing.  
<sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
 so that you will no longer suffer reproach.  
<sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal  
 with all your oppressors.  
 And I will save the lame  
 and gather the outcast,  
 and I will change their shame into praise  
 and renown in all the earth.  
<sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in,  
 at the time when I gather you together;  
 for I will make you renowned and praised  
 among all the peoples of the earth,  
 when I restore your fortunes  
 before your eyes," says the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Philippians 4:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 156*

**C** Alleluia.  
 Lord, to whom shall we go?  
 You have the words of eternal life.  
 Alleluia, alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 7:18–28*

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



## **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>24</sup>When John’s messengers had gone, 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? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

<sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### **345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding**

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!  
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.  
“Cast away the works of darkness,  
All you children of the day!”
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.

Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all, to be forgiv'n;

4 So, when next He comes in glory  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
He will shield us with His mercy  
And with words of love draw near.

△ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion  
To the Father and the Son  
With the ever-living Spirit  
While eternal ages run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Sermon

*Stand*

## 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.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For pastors and church workers, that God would send them as messengers before the face of Jesus to prepare His way, making known His saving name; and that Christ would open the ears of all who hear to rejoice, repent and firmly believe, especially for Pastor James Lanning, missionaries Jerry Lawson and Jason Growth, and military chaplains Mario Ancira, Sol Grosskopf and Patrick Pooch, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who suffer for the name of Jesus, that our heavenly Father, who rescues the daughter of Zion, would look on them with compassion, giving them wisdom when they are pressured to compromise, providing for them when they suffer loss, granting courage when they are afraid, and delivering them from all evil, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our homes, that God would provide companionship for those who are alone, strengthen the bonds of marriage, and equip parents to raise their children in love and faith; and that, for Jesus' sake, our homes would be places of joy, reasonableness, peace and prayer, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For families, that we would rejoice in all the Lord's blessings and in every circumstance, especially for those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, including Lindsey Stinson, Palmer Kautsch, James McCoy, Carolyn Walker, and Andrew & Sara

Katusch, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our republic in its need, that abandoning all anxiety, we would instead, by prayer and thanksgiving, make our requests known to God; for the authorities and those newly elected, that God would give wisdom, health and success to those who govern us; and for peace in our time, even as we rest confident in the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the anxious, that the God of all joy would forgive their doubts, reveal the causes of their doubts, and guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, through whom all prayers are heard, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those in need, [*especially Cindy Eggen, Marguerite Young, LeeRoy Wunderlich, Tammy Deaver, Ken Meller, and Marilyn Brandt*], let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who partake at the Supper of Christ's body and blood, that our Father would watch over them and preserve in them repentant and worthy hearts, firmly believing the words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Presentation of Offering

### Offertory

LSB 159

**C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His

people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O  
Jerusalem.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

*LSB 160*

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## Proper Preface (Full)

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 161*

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*LSB 161*

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 162*

**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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

**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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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 163*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

**Distribution**

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

**The Dismissal**

- P** 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.

**618 | Come, O Savior, to Thy Table**

- 1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,  
For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able  
To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain

ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

- 2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning  
That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;  
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain

- 3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,  
Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,  
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain

- 4 Weary am I and heavy laden;  
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden  
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain

- 5 What higher gift can we inherit?

It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit,  
The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.

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### 331 The Advent of Our King

- 1 The advent of our King  
Our prayers must now employ,  
And we must hymns of welcome sing  
In strains of holy joy.
- 2 The everlasting Son  
Incarnate deigns to be,  
Himself a servant's form puts on  
To set His servants free.
- 3 O Zion's daughter, rise  
To meet your lowly King,  
Nor let your faithless heart despise  
The peace He comes to bring.
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light,  
He soon will come again  
And His true members all unite  
With Him in heav'n to reign.
- 5 Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.

- △ 6 All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.

Text: Public domain

### 333 Once He Came in Blessing

- 1 Once He came in blessing,  
All our sins redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly,  
Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us;  
Hope and freedom gave us.



- 2 Now He gently leads us;  
With Himself He feeds us  
    Precious food from heaven,  
    Pledge of peace here given,  
Manna that will nourish  
Souls that they may flourish.
- 3 Soon will come that hour  
When with mighty power  
    Christ will come in splendor  
    And will judgment render,  
With the faithful sharing  
Joy beyond comparing.
- 4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus,  
From our sins release us.  
    Keep our hearts believing,  
    That we, grace receiving,  
Ever may confess You  
Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Text (sts. 1, 4): Public domain

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*Stand*

## **Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB 165*

- C** Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:  
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.  
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.

## **Post-Communion Collect**

- 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.

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## 349 Hark the Glad Sound

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne  
And ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav'n's eternal arches ring  
With Thy belovèd name.

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