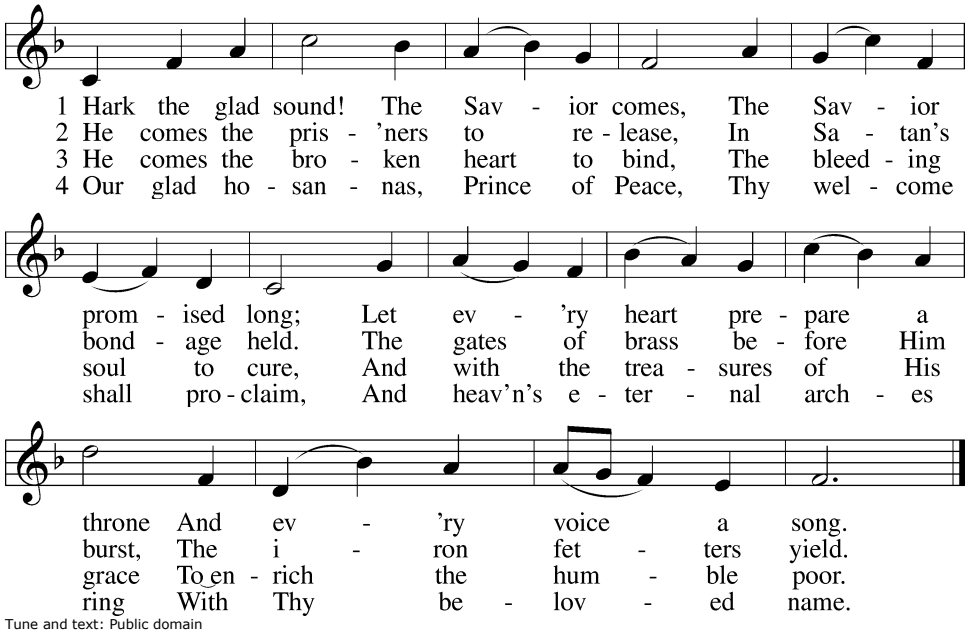
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Pastor Collver, acollver@saintpaulstroy.org

The Third Sunday in Advent/December 13,2020

Confession and Absolution

349 Hark the Glad Sound



Tune and 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 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Prayer for Forgiveness

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

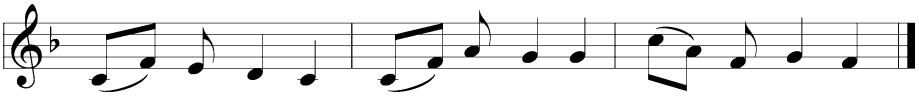
Introit

Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7

Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.
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.
Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,*
that glory may dwell | in our land.
Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,*
and our land will yield its | increase.
Righteousness will go be- | fore him*
and make his foot- | steps a way.
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.
Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

[1]The 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;
[2]to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
[3]to 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.
[4]They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations. . . .

[8]For 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.
[9]Their 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.
[10]I 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.
[11]For 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.

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

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

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

[23]Now 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. [24]He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

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

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 1:6–8, 19–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

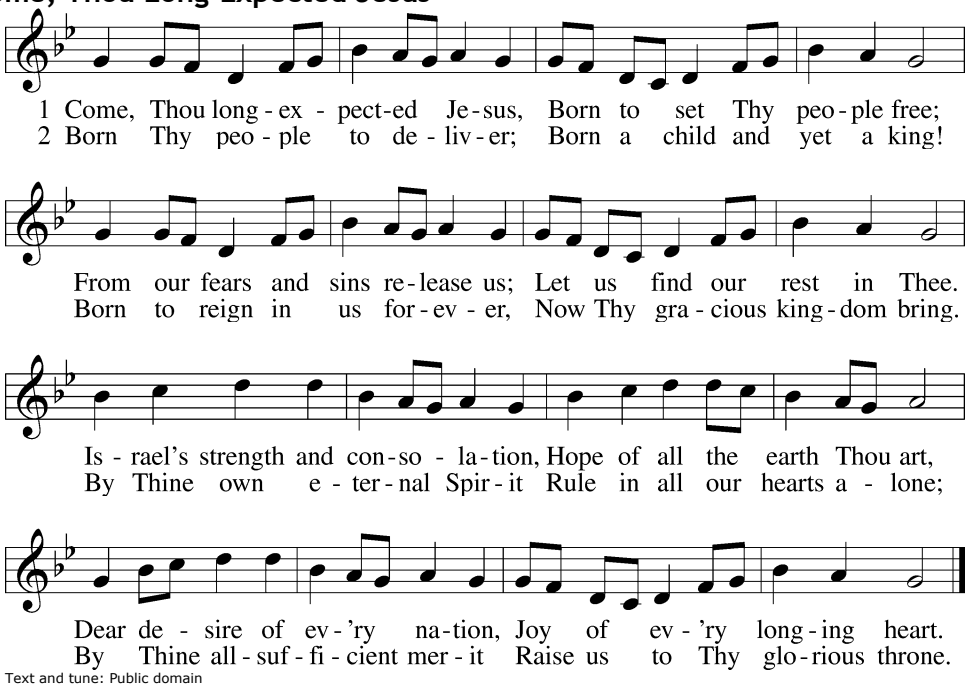
C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

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

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon – "Hold Fast to What is Good"

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Bill and Carolyn Ackerman
Gerard Bierman
LaVerne Boeshans
Aaron Bohnenstiehl
The family of Connie Chrusciel
Hope Tiesen-Claxton
Jim Diemer
Diane Durham
Denise Ebers Mother of Jennifer Mallette
Tom Ebl
Sarah Frey
Beulah Jones
Logan Kiwolski friend of Ryan Kaffer Karen Kull
Steve Martin
Patience Martin
Doris Lyons Austin Miller
Judy Morgan
Angie Mollet, sister of Sam Italiano
Virginia Niebruegge
Julie Nosbisch
Carolyn Oakley
Sue Pavelski
Alicia Raynor
Lois Rodenbaugh
The Salanitro Family at the death of John Salanitro, Mike's father
Shawn Schaefer
Kathy Smith
Lyle Suedmeyer
John Thomas
Sage Thompson
Laura Weatherspoon
Bill Wittmaier
Gary Witt

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Offering: **If you prefer to give online, please go to https://www.saintpaulstroy.org/give/ .**
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Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

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

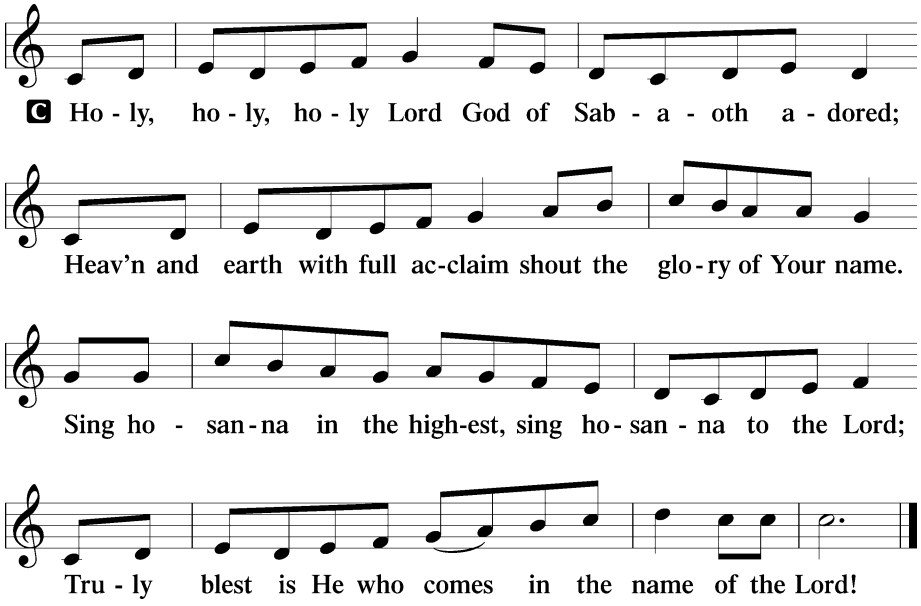
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 208



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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

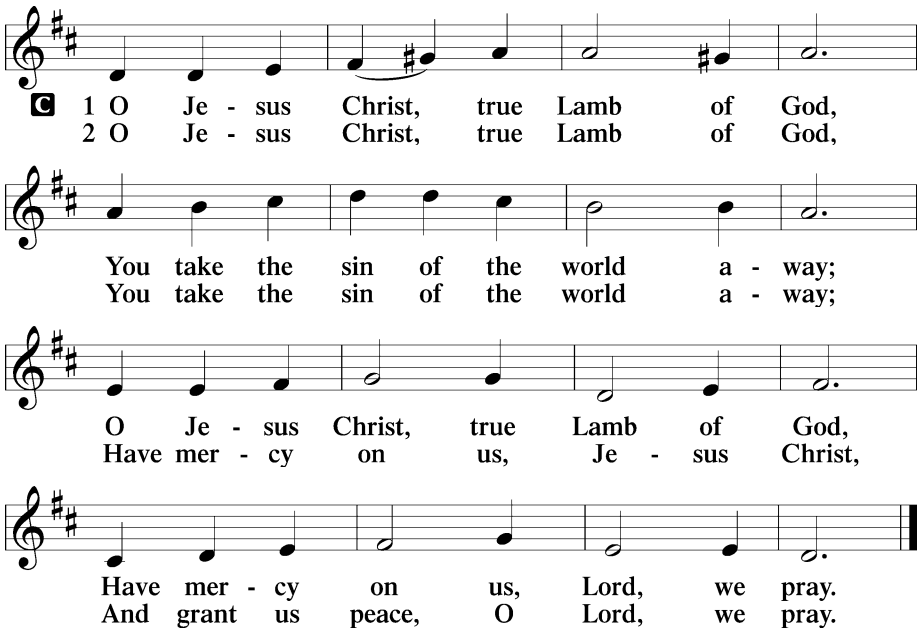
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 210



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:

Left Column

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

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

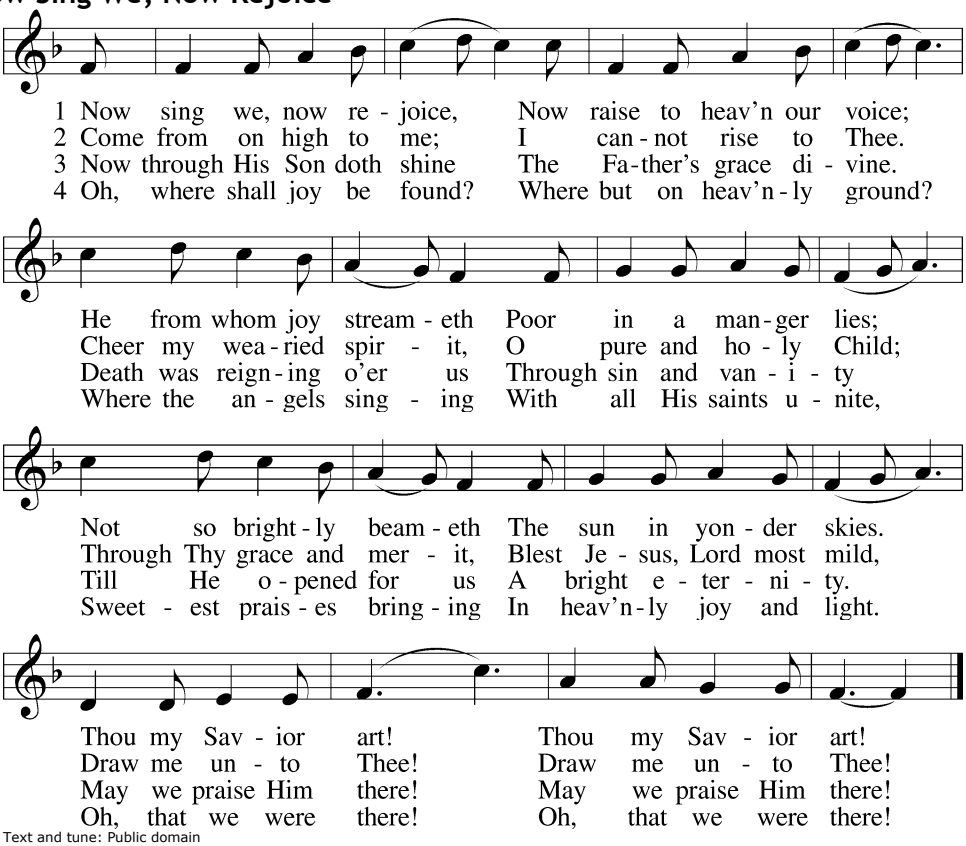
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The 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.**

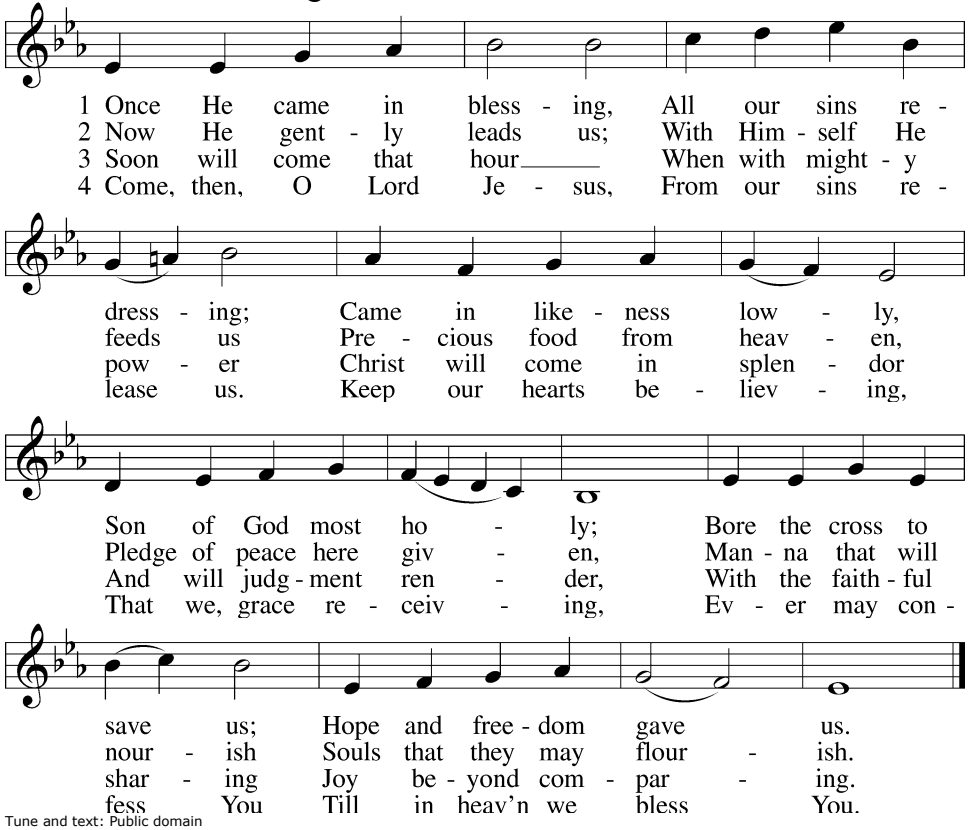
386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



Text and tune: Public domain

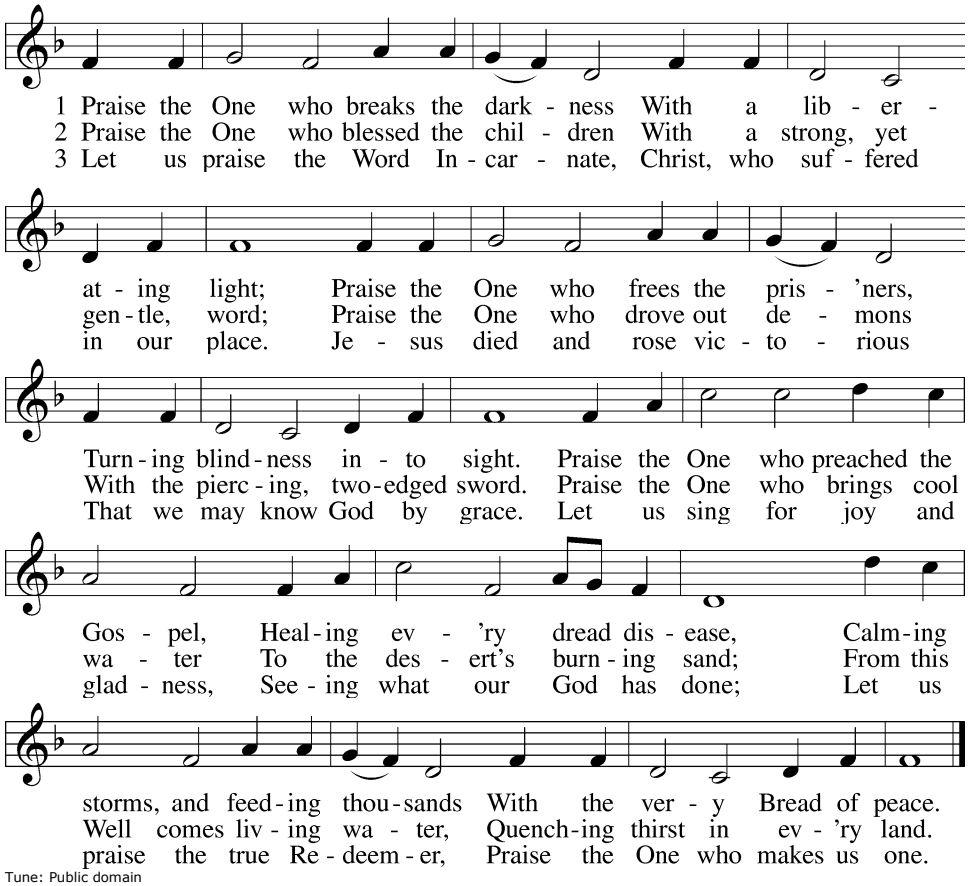


333 Once He Came in Blessing



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849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

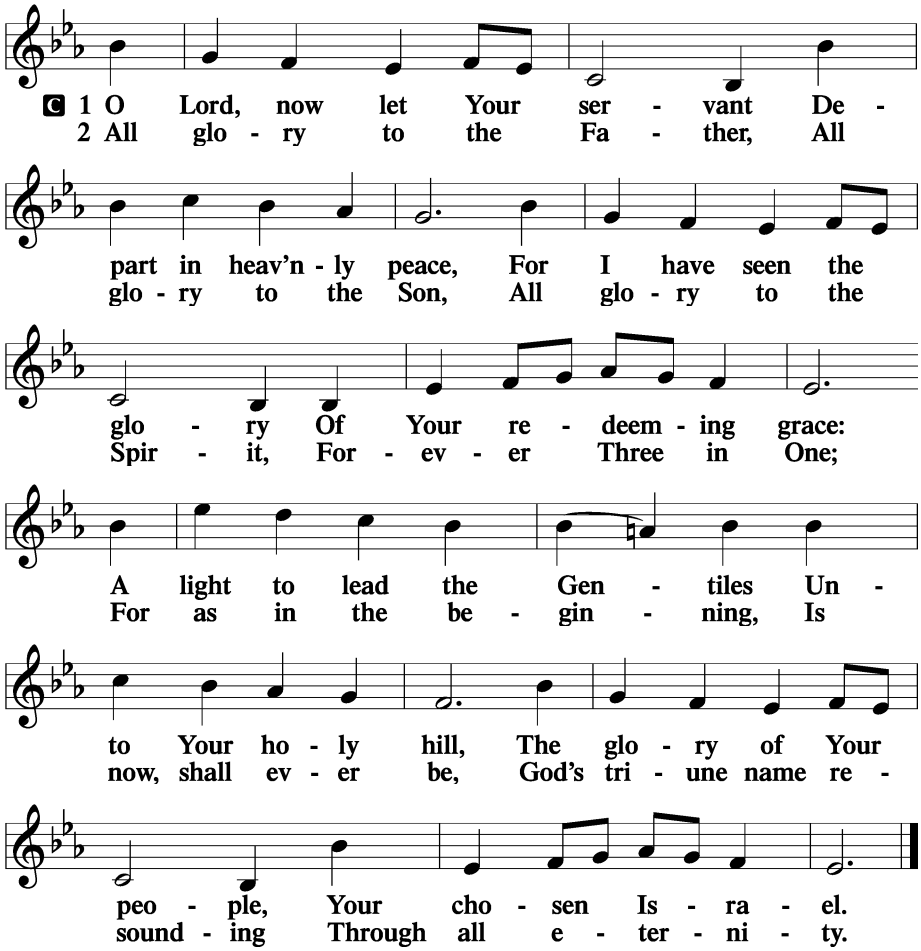


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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



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.**

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

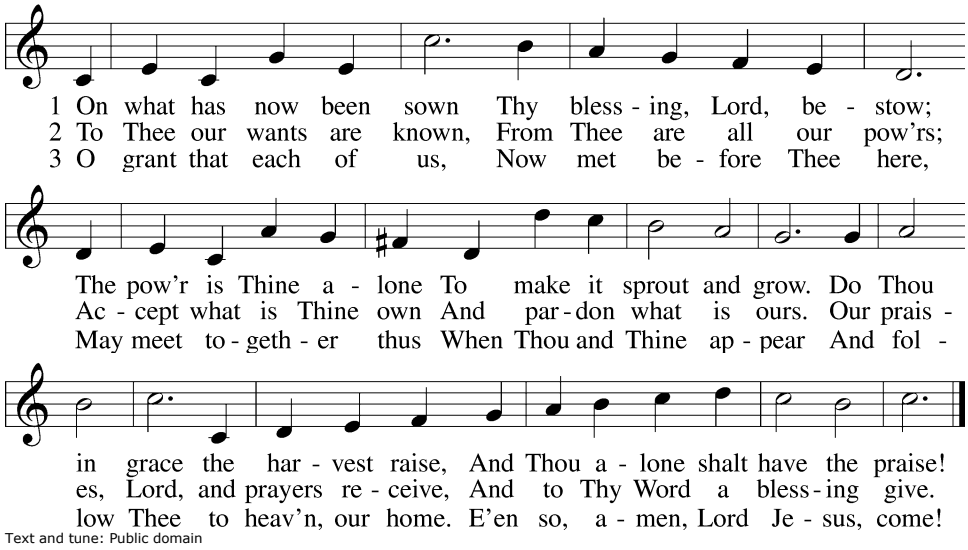
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

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.**

921 On What Has Now Been Sown



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Those Serving Us Today:
Saturday Seminarian: Kyle Ronchetto
Sunday Seminarian: Kendall Davis
Pianist: Jen Engelbrecht

Voter's Meeting: There is a Voter's meeting **Today Sunday, December 13th** after the service. Please plan to attend.

Advent Services: We will continue our final Advent Services on December 16th at 7pm as we prepare for the birth of our Savior.

Those involved in the Ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church
New, interested in a particular function or getting involved? Have a question?
Here is who to talk to at St. Paul's:

Pastor	Rev. Albert B. Collver	636-751-3979	acollver@saintpaulstroy.org
Church Secretary	Lana Ferrill	618-667-6681	lferril@saintpaulstroy.org
School Secretary	Linda Craig	618-667-6614	lcraig@saintpaulstroy.org
School Principal	Christopher Lingel	618-667-6314	clingel@saintpaulstroy.org
Early Childhood Center	Christopher Lingel	618-667-2173	ecc@saintpaulstroy.org
Church Council Chair	Alan Kilzer	618-667-8263	alankilzer@hotmail.com
Board of Elders	Sam Italiano	618-779-2334	locksmithsam@aol.com
Financial Chair	Tony Sipes	314-503-8120	ksipes@epicsyinc.com
Bookkeeper	Cheryl Chrusciel	618-667-7512	coolaunt@att.net
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Altar Guild	Debbie Wittenberg	618-667-7357	ddwitt@charter.net
Family Choir	Ted Fedder	618-667-6250	
Glorious Day/Praise Team	Tom Rampold	618-667-8771	
Holy Smokers	Dave Meyer	618-667-1347	
Helping Hands	Grace Cottingham Shirley Rood	618-667-6552 618-667-9256	
Prayer Chain	Adeline Amen Debbie Wittenberg	618-667-2549 618-667-7357	



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