

[Please stand for parts marked with *]

Prelude: "Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice" ... arr. Leupold

*Opening Hymn: "See amid the Winter's Snow" [LSB 373]

1.) See amid the winter's snow, Born for us on earth below, See, the gentle Lamb appears, Promised from eternal years. <i>Refrain</i>	2.) Lo, within a stable lies He who built the stary skies, He who, throned in height sublime, Sits amid the cherubim. <i>Refrain</i>
3.) Sacred Infant, all divine, What a tender love was Thine, Thus to come from highest bliss Down to such a world as this! <i>Refrain</i>	4.) Teach, O teach us, holy Child, By Thy face so meek and mild, Teach us to resemble Thee In Thy sweet humility. <i>Refrain</i>
<i>Refrain</i> Hail, O ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn! Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"	

*Confession & Absolution [LSB 184]

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

C. Amen

P. Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C. who made heaven and earth.

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

C. and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P. O almighty God, merciful Father,

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

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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

*Introit:

Ps 98:1-4; antiphon: Is. 52:10

P. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

C. and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

P. Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

C. His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

P. The Lord has made known his salvation;

C. he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

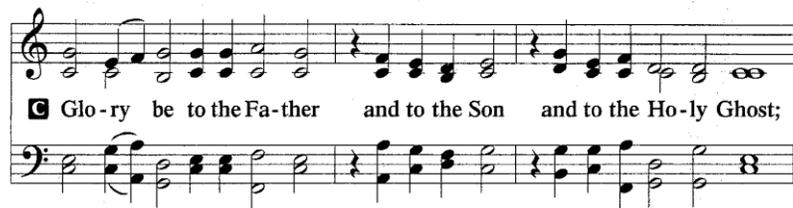
P. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

C. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

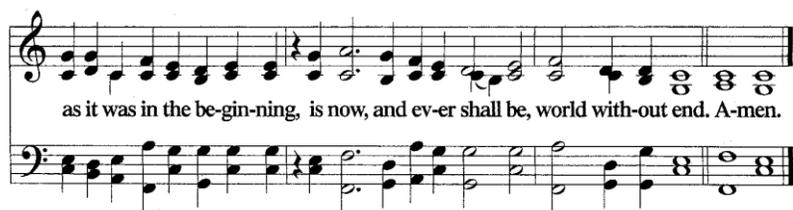
P. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

C. break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

*Gloria Patri: [LSB 186]



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

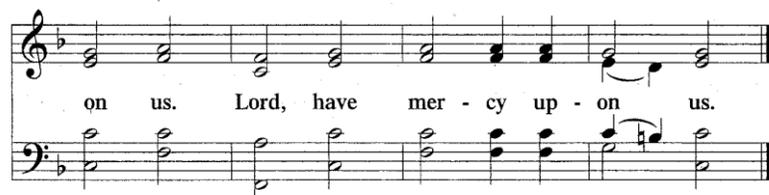


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

*Kyrie: [LSB 186]



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



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

*Gloria In Excelsis: [LSB 187]

(we hope that you have a Hymnal to use for the music but here are the words for you to follow along.)

P. Glory be to God on high

C. and on earth peace, good-will toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

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

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

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

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon 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 upon 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

*Welcome & Prayer: P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray

ALL

O God, our Maker and Redeemer,

You wonderfully created us

and in the incarnation of Your Son

yet more wondrously restored our human nature.

Grant that we may ever be alive in Him

who made Himself to be like us;

**Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with the You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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.
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.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.
The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Epistle Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Alleluia: [LSB 190]



***Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:22-40**

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Nicene Creed

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

Hymn of the Day: “In His Temple Now Behold Him” [LSB 519]

<p>1)In His temple now behold Him, See the long-expected Lord; Ancient prophets had foretold Him, God has now fulfilled His word. Now to praise Him, His redeemed Shall break forth with one accord.</p>	<p>2)In the arms of her who bore Him, Virgin pure, behold Him lie While His aged saints adore Him Ere in perfect faith they die. Alleluia, alleluia! Lo, the incarnate God Most High!</p>
<p>3)Jesus, by Your presentation, When they blessed You, weak and poor, Make us see Your great salvation, Seal us with Your promise sure; And present us in Your glory To Your Father, cleansed and pure.</p>	

Sermon

*Offertory: “Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn” [LSB 391]

Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn,
A Savior unto us is born,
The Christ, the Lord of glory!
His lowly birth in Bethlehem
The angels from on high proclaim
And sing redemption’s story!
My soul, extol
God’s great favor;
Bless Him ever
For salvation;
Give Him praise and adoration!

Prayer of the Church

*Service of The Sacrament [LSB 194]

Preface
Sanctus [LSB 195]
Lord’s Prayer
Words of Institution
Agnus Dei [LSB 198]
Distribution ... music: “Cold December Flies Away”

*Post Communion: “*Nunc Dimittis*” [LSB 199]

*Post Communion Collect

*Benediction [LSB 202]

P. The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C. Amen, amen, amen

Closing Hymn: “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” [LSB 366]

1)It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold: “Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav’n’s all-gracious king.” The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.	2.)Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heav’nly music floats O’er all the weary world. Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov’ring wing, And ever o’er its babel sounds The blessed angels sing.
3)All you, beneath your heavy load, By care and guilt bent low, Who toil along a dreary way With painful steps and slow: Look up, for golden is the hour, Come swiftly on the wing, The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the angels sing.	4)For lo, the days have come to pass By prophets seen of old, When down into the circling years Came Christ as was foretold. His word of peace shall to the earth God’s ancient promise bring, And all who take this gift will hear The song the angels sing.

Postlude: “Go Tell It On the Mountain” ... arr. J. Wayne Kerr