



# OUR REDEEMER

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod, established in 1924*



## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*Rorate Coeli*

Sunday, 24 December A+D 2023 • 9:00 A.M.

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

**420 W. Breitung Ave.**

**Kingsford, MI 49802**

**(906) 774-1844 • [www.ourredeemerkingsford.org](http://www.ourredeemerkingsford.org)**

Rev. Matthew D. Ruesch, Pastor  
[pastor@ourredeemerkingsford.org](mailto:pastor@ourredeemerkingsford.org)

Claire Valeski, Secretary  
[secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org](mailto:secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org)

## ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Order of Service:	<i>LSB</i> , Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184
Hymns:	398, 357, 956, 549, 624, 385, 623, 383
Sermon Title:	"Christian Preaching Makes Straight the Way of the Lord"
Sermon Text:	John 1:19-28

## WELCOME TO OUR REDEEMER

**WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU WITH US TODAY AS WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S GIFTS OF FORGIVENESS, LIFE, AND SALVATION.** If you are with us for the first time, please take a moment to introduce yourself to our pastor. Should you be looking for a church home, please indicate so when you sign the Record of Fellowship tablet. We would love to take the opportunity to tell you more about our congregation and what it means to be a part of the people of God here in the Twin Cities area.

**A WORD TO OUR GUESTS ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION:** In the Sacrament of the Altar, our Lord Jesus Christ gives us His very Body and Blood to eat and drink. Receiving the Sacrament is not merely a matter between God and the person, but a "communion," something done in "community." It is a public confession of our faith and expression of the unity that exists between Christians. Because of these reasons, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church practices closed communion. We invite those who are members in good standing of LCMS congregations to join us at the altar today. All those communing for the first time should speak with the pastor before doing so.



**PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR:** Christ offers His very body and blood, with the bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. Those who come before the holy altar of God to receive this body and blood do so having prepared to receive this holy gift.

1. Have you confessed your sins before God in heaven? (See the Ten Commandments, *LSB* page 321.)
2. Are you able to come forward in a spirit of unity with those communing with you? (See 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:18-19.)
3. Do you share the confession of faith proclaimed in this congregation and church body? (See Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:26.)
4. Do you believe that this bread and wine is truly the body and blood of Christ? (See *LSB*, page 326, "What is the Sacrament of the Altar?")
5. Do you believe that this body and blood are given for your forgiveness, life, and salvation? (See *LSB* page 327, "What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?")

**Our Redeemer is a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.  
To learn more about The LCMS, visit [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org).**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT OUR REDEEMER:** Join us in receiving the newborn King!

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>:** 7:00 P.M. Candlelight Service

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00 A.M. Christmas Day Divine Service

The originally scheduled **CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT SERVICE** has been cancelled.

Please note that there is **NO CATECHISM VESPERS OR WEDNESDAY EVENING DIVINE SERVICE** on 12/27.

**THERE IS NO EDUCATION HOUR THIS MORNING OR NEXT SUNDAY.** Adult Bible study, Youth Group, and Sunday school will resume on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. **THERE IS NO BIBLE STUDY** this Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.

**2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now in your mailbox. If you did not receive envelopes and would like them or do not have a mailbox and would like one, please contact Claire in the church office at (906) 774-1844 or at [secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org](mailto:secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org).

**BOTTLES/CANS:** The Youth Group wants your bottles and cans! You may drop off your bottles/cans at the church entrance bottle bin.

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR—Advent IV:** Jesus brought God delicately amidst sinners, as humble in crucifixion as He was helpless in conception. Yet this estate did not hinder but, in fact, heralded the full realm and reign of God for us. And thereby He reaffirmed the worth of even the feeblest human beings. God's gift of life arrives all the better for the plain packaging He habitually hides it behind. *Prayer: Lamb of God, make it so that our taking hold of You leads us to cradle Your little ones as well. Amen.*

**"THIS TIME OF THE YEAR ALWAYS FILLS US WITH CHEER** | But the reason we celebrate is not always clear | The cookies, the lights, the presents, the tree | The carols, the decorations, the family parties | But all of the delight and all of the fun | Does not mean a thing if we don't know God's Son | The tiny baby that was born to die | Can sometimes cause us to stop and ask why | Do we really deserve the sacrifice He made? | Are we worth the offering and the price that was paid? | In His eyes, we are, because He made us His own | And on the cross, the ultimate love was shown | So take joy in the season and spread His true love | But always remember the gift from above!" *Jerrold Nelson – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

	<u>MUSIC</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>
<u>Week of 12/24</u>			
Sunday, 9:00 A.M.	Digital Music	Rob Kuehl	Sue Rochon
Sunday, 7:00 P.M.	Digital Music	Jim Reed	Sue Rochon
Monday, 9:00 A.M.	Digital Music	Jim Reed	Sue Rochon

<u>Week of 12/31</u>			
Sunday, 9:00 A.M.	Digital Music	Gary Peterson	Jenna Long
Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.	Digital Music	Jim Sleik	Jenna Long

THIS WEEK AT OUR REDEEMER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Sunday (24)	9:00 A.M.	Divine Service
	7:00 P.M.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Lessons & Carols
Monday (25)	9:00 A.M.	Christmas Day Divine Service
Tuesday (26)		
Wednesday (27)		
Thursday (28)		
Friday (29)		Pastor's Day Off
Saturday (30)		
Sunday (31)	9:00 A.M.	Divine Service

GIVING REPORT & BUDGET UPDATE

<u>WEEKLY OFFERINGS</u>		<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>	
Last Week Offering:	\$2,158.15	Year-to-Date Offerings:	\$136,622.24
Other Income and Gifts:	\$994.30	Other Income and Gifts:	\$24,037.7
Total Income This Week:	\$3,182.45	Total Income This Year:	\$160,659.94
Needed for Budget:	\$3,346.24	Needed for Budget:	\$167,311.00
Difference:	-\$163.79	Difference:	-\$6,651.06

ATTENDANCE REPORT

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>COMMUNION</u>
Sunday, 12/17, 9:00 A.M.	91	79

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*Rorate Coeli*

Sunday, 24 December A+D 2023 • 9:00 A.M.

***Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184***

## Confession and Absolution

### HYMN OF INVOCATION

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed" LSB 398*

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression  
And rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with rescue speedy  
To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in His sight.
- 3 He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains  
Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains  
From hill to valley flow.

- 4 Kings shall fall down before Him  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him,  
His praise all people sing.  
To Him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.
- 5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,  
He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever—  
That name to us is Love.

Text: Public domain

### *Stand*

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

**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.

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

- 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.

## Service of the Word

### INTROIT

*Psalm 19:1, 4–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a*

- P** Shower, O heavens, from above,
- C** and let the clouds rain down righteousness;
- P** let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit;
- C** let the earth cause them both to sprout.
- P** The heavens declare the glory of God,
- C** and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- P** Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.
- C** In them he has set a tent for the sun,
- P** which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,
- C** and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
- P** Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
- C** and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- C** ♪ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**P** Shower, O heavens, from above,  
**C** and let the clouds rain down righteousness;  
**P** let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit;  
**C** let the earth cause them both to sprout.

## KYRIE

*LSB 186*

**C** ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** ♪ The Lord be with you.

**C** ♪ And with thy spirit.

**P** ♪ Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** ♪ Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Deuteronomy 18:15–19*

**P** The Old Testament Reading for the Fourth Sunday in Advent is from Deuteronomy, chapter 18.

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.’”



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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 145:18, 21*

**P** The LORD is near to all who call on him,

**C** to all who call on him in truth.

**P** My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,

**C** and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

## EPISTLE

*Philippians 4:4–7*

**P** The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 4.

<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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*Psalm 40:17b; LSB 190*

**P** Alleluia. You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God!  
Alleluia.

**C** ♪ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 1:19-28*

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

**C** ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, “What then? Are you

Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup>He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” <sup>26</sup>John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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

**C** ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

#### **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 ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

*Refrain* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law  
In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;

Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Text: Public domain

## **SERMON**

*"Christian Preaching Makes Straight the Way of the Lord"*  
*John 1:19-28*

*Stand*

## **OFFERTORY**

*"Create in Me" LSB 956*

- 1 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence;  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;  
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Text: Public domain

*Sit*

## **OFFERING**

*Stand*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Service of the Sacrament

## **PREFACE**

*LSB 194*

**P** ♪ The Lord be with you.

**C** ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

**P** ♪ Lift up your hearts.

**C** ♪ **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

**C** ♪ **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** ♪ It is truly meet, 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 195*

**C** ♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of  
the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*LSB 196*

**P** ♪ 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.

**C** ♪ **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and  
ever. Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*LSB 197*

**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**

*LSB 197*

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

**C** ♪ Amen.

## **AGNUS DEI**

*LSB 198*

**C** ♪ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

*Sit*

## **DISTRIBUTION**

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" LSB 549*

1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.

2 Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God,  
Who from His altar call;  
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod  
And crown Him Lord of all.

Extol the stem of Jesse's rod  
And crown Him Lord of all.

3 Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all.

4 Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,  
Whom David Lord did call,  
The God incarnate, man divine,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God incarnate, man divine,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
The wormwood and the gall,  
Go, spread your trophies at His feet  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Go, spread your trophies at His feet  
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,  
On this terrestrial ball  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all majesty ascribe  
And crown Him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song  
And crown Him Lord of all.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

*"The Infant Priest Was Holy Born" LSB 624*

- 1     The infant Priest was holy born  
      For us unholy and forlorn;  
      From fleshly temple forth came He,  
      Anointed from eternity.
- 2     This great High Priest in human flesh  
      Was icon of God's righteousness.  
      His hallowed touch brought sanctity;  
      His hand removed impurity.
- 3     The holy Lamb undaunted came  
      To God's own altar lit with flame;  
      While weeping angels hid their eyes,  
      This Priest became a sacrifice.
- 4     But death would not the victor be  
      Of Him who hung upon the tree.  
      He leads us to the Holy Place  
      Within the veil, before God's face.
- 5     The veil is torn, our Priest we see,  
      As at the rail on bended knee  
      Our hungry mouths from Him receive  
      The bread of immortality.
- 6     The body of God's Lamb we eat,  
      A priestly food and priestly meat;  
      On sin-parched lips the chalice pours  
      His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7     With cherubim and seraphim  
      Our voices join the endless hymn,  
      And "Holy, holy, holy" sing  
      To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.



**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

*"From East to West" LSB 385*

- 1 From east to west, from shore to shore  
Let ev'ry heart awake and sing  
The holy child whom Mary bore,  
The Christ, the everlasting king.
- 2 Behold, the world's creator wears  
The form and fashion of a slave;  
Our very flesh our maker shares,  
His fallen creatures all to save.
- 3 For this how wondrously He wrought!  
A maiden, in her lowly place,  
Became, in ways beyond all thought,  
The chosen vessel of His grace.
- 4 And while the angels in the sky  
Sang praise above the silent field,  
To shepherds poor the Lord Most High,  
The one great Shepherd, was revealed.
- △ 5 All glory for this blessed morn  
To God the Father ever be;  
All praise to You, O Virgin-born,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.

Text: Public domain

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

*"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray" LSB 623*

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray  
That we may feast on You today;  
Beneath these forms of bread and wine  
Enrich us with Your grace divine.

- 2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,  
Your body broken and Your blood,  
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,  
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.
- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold  
To seize the gift of love retold;  
All that You are we here receive,  
And all we are to You we give.
- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,  
Rejoicing in our unity,  
Proclaim Your love until You come  
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.
- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:  
O keep us steadfast till that day  
When each will be Your welcomed guest  
In heaven's high and holy feast.

Text: Public domain

*Stand*

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*LSB 199*

**☐** ♪ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared  
before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without  
end. Amen.

## **THANKSGIVING**

*LSB 200*

**☐** ♪ O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**☐** ♪ and His mercy endureth forever.

**P** ♪ Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** ♪ Amen.

**P** ♪ The Lord be with you.

**C** ♪ And with thy spirit.

## **BENEDICAMUS**

*LSB 202*

**P** ♪ Bless we the Lord.

**C** ♪ Thanks be to God.

## **BENEDICTION**

*LSB 202*

**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 ✠ give you peace.

**C** ♪ Amen, amen, amen.

## **HYMN TO DEPART**

*"A Great and Mighty Wonder" LSB 383*

1 A great and mighty wonder,  
A full and holy cure:  
The virgin bears the infant  
With virgin honor pure! *Refrain*

*Refrain* Proclaim the Savior's birth:  
"To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth!"

2 The Word becomes incarnate  
And yet remains on high,

And cherubim sing anthems  
To shepherds from the sky. *Refrain*

3 While thus they sing your Monarch,  
Those bright angelic bands,  
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,  
And oceans, clap your hands. *Refrain*

4 Since all He comes to ransom,  
By all be He adored,  
The infant born in Bethl'em,  
The Savior and the Lord. *Refrain*

5 All idols then shall perish  
And Satan's lying cease,  
And Christ shall raise His scepter,  
Decreeing endless peace. *Refrain*

Text: Public domain

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright

© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.