CALL TO WORSHIP “O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HANDBELL ANTHEM “CAROL OF THE BELLS”

OPENING HYMN “JESUS CAME, THE HEAVENS ADORING” LSB 353

1 Jesus came, the heav’ns adoring,
 Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came to win redemption,
 Lowly came on earth to die;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Came in deep humility.

2 Jesus comes again in mercy
 When our hearts are worn with care;
Jesus comes again in answer
 To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Comes to save us from despair.

3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,
 Bringing news of sins forgiv’n;
Jesus comes with words of gladness,
 Leading souls redeemed to heav’n.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Hope to all the world is giv’n.

4 Jesus comes in joy and sorrow,
 Shares alike our hopes and fears;
Jesus comes, whate’er befalls us,
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Comforts us in failing years.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
Text: Public domain

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

C **Amen.**

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.**

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

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.**

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P 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.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P 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.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Malachi 4:1–6

 1 “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. 2But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. 3And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

 4“Remember the law of My servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

 5“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. 6And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Romans 15:4–13

 4Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

 8For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, 9and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles,
 and sing to Your name.”

10And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people.”

11And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
 and let all the peoples extol Him.”

12And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
 even He who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in Him will the Gentiles hope.”

13May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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 21:25–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

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

 25[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, 26people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

 29And He told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. 31So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. 33Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

 34“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, 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** T **everlasting. Amen.**

SERMON HYMN “ONCE HE CAME IN BLESSING” LSB 333

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
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SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN “THE BRIDEGROOM SOON WILL CALL US” LSB 514

1 The Bridegroom soon will call us,
 “Come to the wedding feast.”
May slumber not befall us
 Nor watchfulness decrease.
May all our lamps be burning
 With oil enough and more
That we, with Him returning,
 May find an open door!

2 There shall we see in glory
 Our dear Redeemer’s face;
The long-awaited story
 Of heav’nly joy takes place:
The patriarchs shall meet us,
 The prophets’ holy band;
Apostles, martyrs greet us
 In that celestial land.

3 There God shall from all evil
 Forever make us free,
From sin and from the devil,
 From all adversity,
From sickness, pain, and sadness,
 From troubles, cares, and fears,
And grant us heav’nly gladness
 And wipe away our tears.

4 In that fair home shall never
 Be silent music’s voice;
With hearts and lips forever
 We shall in God rejoice,
While angel hosts are raising
 With saints from great to least
A mighty hymn for praising
 The Giver of the feast.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
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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.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . 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.**

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 T 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 T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

PAX DOMINI LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI LSB 163

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.**

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “O LORD, HOW SHALL I MEET YOU” LSB 334

1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,
 How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
 My hope, my heart’s delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
 Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
 All that may please You best.

2 Your Zion strews before You
 Green boughs and fairest palms;
And I too will adore You
 With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
 For You with praises new
And from Your name shall never
 Withhold the honor due.

3 I lay in fetters, groaning;
 You came to set me free.
I stood, my shame bemoaning;
 You came to honor me.
A glorious crown You give me,
 A treasure safe on high
That will not fail or leave me
 As earthly riches fly.

4 Love caused Your incarnation;
 Love brought You down to me.
Your thirst for my salvation
 Procured my liberty.
Oh, love beyond all telling,
 That led You to embrace
In love, all love excelling,
 Our lost and fallen race.

5 Sin’s debt, that fearful burden,
 Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
 And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
 The peace of sin forgiv’n,
His children thus securing
 Eternal life in heav’n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
 A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
 And blessèd hope to those
Who love the Lord’s appearing.
 O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
 And guide us safely home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

 “LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES” LSB 340

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise
Your joyful songs of praise.

2 A righteous Helper comes to thee;
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise
Your grateful hymns of praise.

3 How blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is He
Who comes to set His people free.
To God the Spirit raise
Your happy shouts of praise.

4 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav’n’s employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov’reign enter in
And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise
For word and deed and grace!

5 Redeemer, come and open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine;
Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.

C **Amen.**

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

P 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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “THE ADVENT OF OUR KING” LSB 331

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.

D 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

DISMISSAL

P Go in God's peace; love and serve your neighbor!

C **Thanks be to God!**

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