



**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
320 WEST CENTRAL AVENUE  
ARKANSAS CITY, KS 67005-2637**

**[www.rlcarkcity.com](http://www.rlcarkcity.com)**

A congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod – lcms.org

Adopted mission: West Africa – Pastor Tim and Beth Heiney

Dominican Republic — Pastor Daniel and Kathy Conrad

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**Divine Service III  
The Holy Innocents, Martyrs  
December 28, 2025**

## Good morning and welcome to the House of the Lord.

We pray: May the Words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

### Hymn of Invocation "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe" No. 666



1 O lit - tle flock, fear not the foe Who mad - ly  
2 Be of good cheer; your cause be - longs To Him who  
3 As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor  
4 A - men, Lord Je - sus, grant our prayer; Great Cap - tain,



seeks your o - ver - throw; Dread not his rage and pow'r.  
can a - venge your wrongs; Leave it to Him, our Lord.  
hell's sa - tan - ic crew A - gainst us shall pre - vail.  
now Thine arm make bare, Fight for us once a - gain!



And though your cour - age some-times faints, His seem - ing  
Though hid - den yet from mor - tal eyes, His Gid - eon  
Their might? A joke, a mere fa - cade! God is with  
So shall Thy saints and mar - tyrs raise A might - y



tri - umph o'er God's saints Lasts but a lit - tle hour.  
shall for you a - rise, Up - hold you and His Word.  
us and we with God— Our vic - t'ry can - not fail.  
cho - rus to Thy praise For - ev - er - more, A - men.

Text: Jacob Fabricius, 1593–1654; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: German, 1534, Nürnberg Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

### Confession and Absolution

*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 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b*

P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

**C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

P: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

**C: in your righteousness deliver me.**

P: For you are my rock and my fortress;

**C: and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.**

P: Into your hand I commit my spirit;

**C: you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.**

**ALL: 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.**

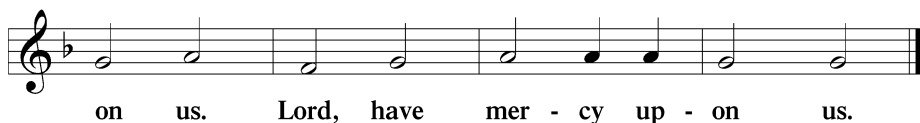
P: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

**C: They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

## Kyrie

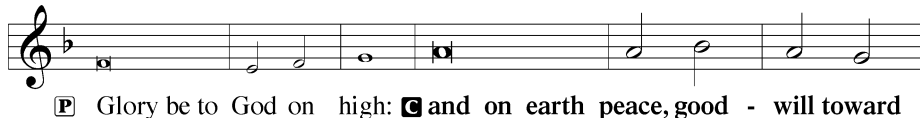


**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

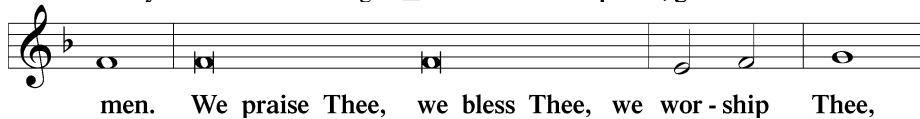


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

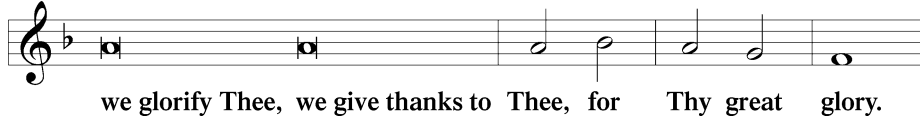
## Gloria in Excelsis



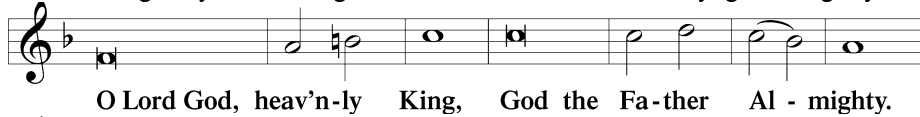
Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



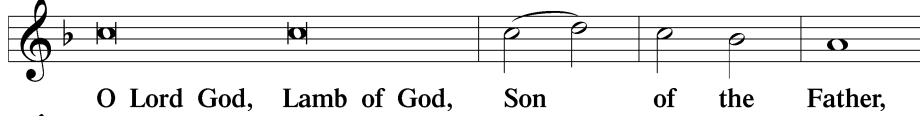
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



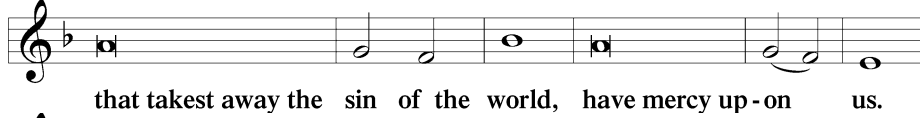
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



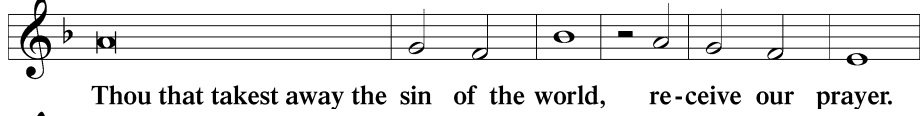
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



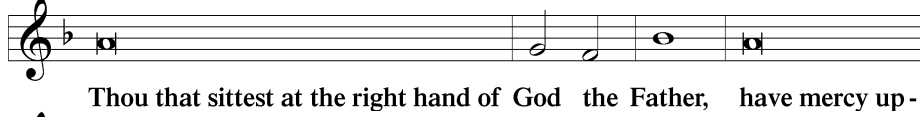
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



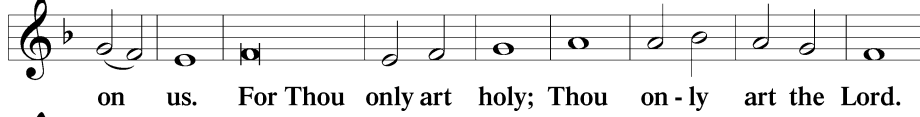
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



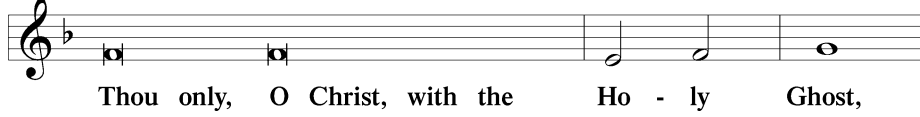
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Let us pray. Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 31:15–17*

<sup>15</sup>Thus says the LORD:

"A voice is heard in Ramah,  
lamentation and bitter weeping.

Rachel is weeping for her children;  
she refuses to be comforted for her children,  
because they are no more."

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD:

"Keep your voice from weeping,  
and your eyes from tears,  
for there is a reward for your work,  
declares the LORD,  
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

<sup>17</sup>There is hope for your future,  
declares the LORD,  
and your children shall come back to their own country."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Learn-By-Heart Scripture

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

**Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

## Epistle

*Revelation 14:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. <sup>2</sup>And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, <sup>3</sup>and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. <sup>4</sup>It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, <sup>5</sup>and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

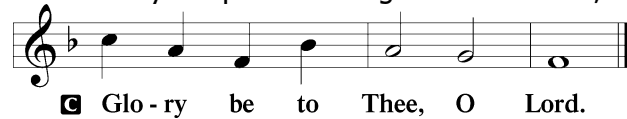
## Alleluia



## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 2:13–18*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



<sup>13</sup>When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

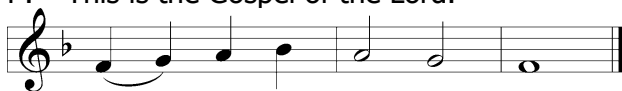
<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

<sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup><sup>a</sup>A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## 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.**

*Sit*

## Hymn of the Day "By All Your Saints in Warfare" No. 517



1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For  
2 All praise for in - fant mar - tyrs, Whom  
△ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And



all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O  
Your mys - te - rious love Called ear - ly from their  
wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the

Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be - blest! For  
war - fare To share Your home a - bove. O  
Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till

You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the  
Ra - chel, cease your weep - ing; They rest from earth - ly  
all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry  
cares! Lord, grant us crowns as bril - liant  
throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed from Your throne.  
And faith as sure as theirs.  
And praise to God a lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823-1913, alt. Tune: English; coll. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958 Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Stand*

**P:** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

## Offertory

**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it





*Sit*

## Offering

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church - After each petition

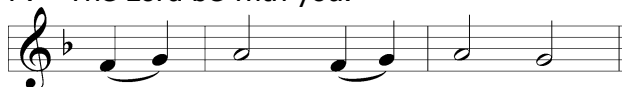
P: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

## Service of the Sacrament

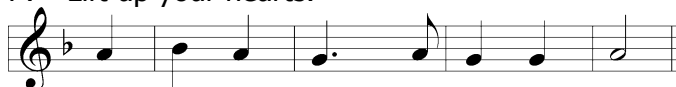
### Preface

P: The Lord be with you.



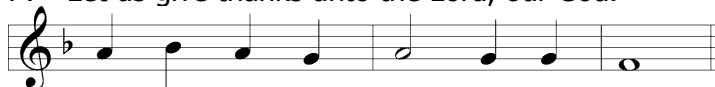
**C** And with thy spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to 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 ... evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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

### Pax Domini

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



**P** A - men.

### Agnus Dei



**P** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

**THE DISTRIBUTION** *As we come to the altar, we come confessing our sins, looking to Christ for forgiveness, asking the Holy Spirit to change our sinful lives, and recognizing Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine.*

*In faithfulness to God's Word, our congregation practices closed communion. We invite to our altar all who have confirmed their faith with us before a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod congregation or who have met with Pastor. Our practice in no way implies that people of other denominations are not Christians but allows us to maintain a clear confession of our faith and affords proper pastoral care of individuals.*

## Distribution Hymns

### "What Wondrous Love Is This"

**No. 543**



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven Text and tune: Public domain

# "Shepherd of Tender Youth"

No. 864



1 Shep - herd of ten - der youth, Guid - ing in  
 2 You are the ho - ly Lord, O all - sub -  
 3 You are the great High Priest; You have pre -  
 4 O ev - er be our guide, Our shep - herd,  
 5 So now, and till we die, Sound we Your



love and truth Through de - vious ways; Christ, our tri -  
 du - ing Word, Heal - er of strife. Your - self You  
 pared the feast Of ho - ly love; And in our  
 and our pride, Our staff and song. Je - sus, O  
 prais - es high And joy - ful sing: In - fants and



um - phant king, We come Your name to sing  
 did a - base That from sin's deep dis - grace  
 mor - tal pain None calls on You in vain;  
 Christ of God, By Your en - dur - ing Word  
 all the throng, Who to the Church be - long,



And here our chil - dren bring To join Your praise.  
 You so might save our race And give us life.  
 Our plea do not dis - dain; Help from a - bove.  
 Lead us where You have trod; Make our faith strong.  
 U - nite to swell the song To Christ, our king!

Text: attr. Clement of Alexandria, c. 170–c. 220; tr. Henry M. Dexter, 1821–90, alt. Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–96 Text and tune: Public domain

# "What Child Is This"

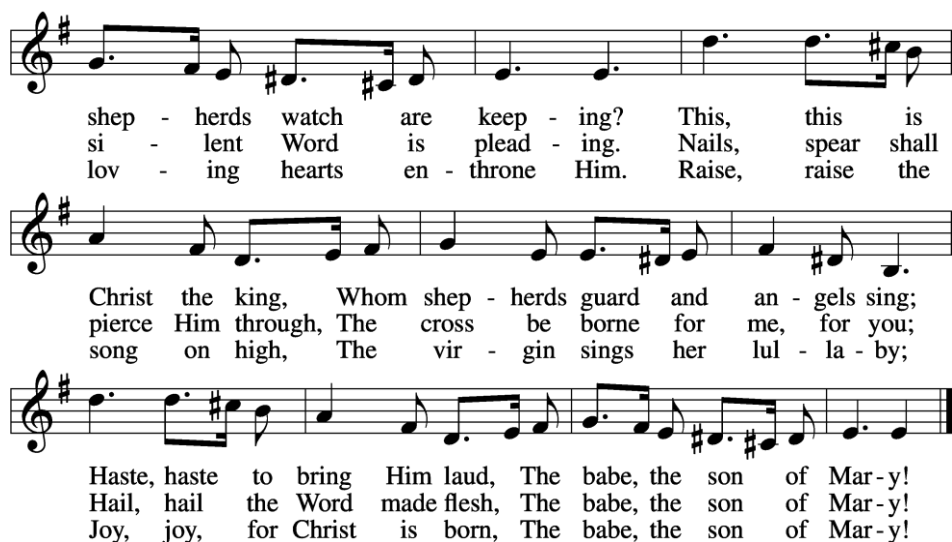
No. 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
 2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the  
 Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;  
 Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98 Tune: English, 16th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

## "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here"

No. 399



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,  
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed  
 3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly  
 4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter  
 △ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,  
 why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly  
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they  
 Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was  
 red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it  
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -  
 birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.  
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.  
 known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.  
 flowed In streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.  
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

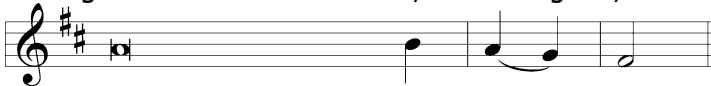
## Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P: Let us pray... one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

P: Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

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.



☩ A-men, a-men, a - men.

*Sit*

## Closing Hymn "Children of the Heavenly Father" No. 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958 Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

† † † † †

† **THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Ray Pool in loving memory of his Mom.

† **IN OUR PRAYERS** we remember all who are ill or under medical care, Cindy Griffith, Barb Sweet, Marty Villers, Diana Trent, Randy Sweet, Sue Krueger, Marcie Wellday, Dana Anderson, Janet Shrewsberry, Tyler Voegele, Deanna Hegedus, Elise Smith, Mark Eckstein, Traci Williams, Vida Rood, Terry Krueger, Alberta Kahle (Duane Oestmann's cousin).



**Check out the Christmas cards on the Christmas Tree and Bulletin Board!**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS SIGN-UP** – There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for teachers for 2026. If you are interested in teaching, please sign up. It can be once, or once a month, or as much as your schedule will allow.

A big thank you to those who have faithfully taught our youth this year.

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Trinity is inviting Redeemer for our New Year's Eve Game night following the service that evening. We are just suggesting snacks and if anyone has a favorite game, they can bring it along.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2025 SPECIAL SERVICES AND OFFERING DESIGNATIONS

\* indicates Holy Communion

\*New Year's Eve      7:00 pm, Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>  
Missions – Heiney

**The Epiphany Service** - 7:00 pm, Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

The offering is designated to go to Fairmount Ministries  
(This will be a joint service at Redeemer)



## More from Trinity

**Youth Ice Skating Party on January 4<sup>th</sup>!** We will leave promptly at 11:30 am. Youth are expected to attend the worship service and Sunday School prior to leaving. Bring coats, gloves and appropriate socks. We have a youth whose parents have generously offered to pay the fee and skate rental for all in attendance, so there is no skating cost for youth to attend! Youth should bring money for a fast-food lunch on the way to Wichita. We will return to the church parking lot at approximately 4:30 pm. Redeemer Ark City is invited. Friends are welcome. Please RSVP to Debbie 620-229-1991 by December 31 so that we can plan for enough transportation.

**Middle School Huddle is April 17-18, 2025.** Pastor Warneke is on the planning committee and Pastor Meyer is the keynote speaker for this event. We want to have good participation from our Trinity and Redeemer youth!

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS –**  
**FIRST READING:** 1 Kings 3:4–15  
**SECOND READING:** Ephesians 1:3–14  
**GOSPEL:** Luke 2:40–52

**THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER**

**TODAY:** 9:00 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Divine Service without Holy Communion

**THURSDAY:** **7:30 pm Trinity New Year's Eve Game Night**

**NEXT SUNDAY:** 9:00 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Divine Service with Holy Communion  
8:00 am Lutheran Hour on 1280 AM  
10:30 am Lutheran Hour on 95.9 FM

**THOSE SERVING AT REDEEMER**

**Officiating Elder:** Eric Snider  
**Altar Committee:** Jody Rahn, Sarah Warneke, Julie Thatcher  
**Greeter:** Jody Rahn

**STEWARDSHIP**

**December 17, 2025 – Worship – 11/23**  
**Lutheran Hour - \$214.00**

**December 21, 2025 – Worship - 63**  
**Budget Needs Weekly - \$3,421.94**  
**Home Budget Offering - \$5,432.00**

Missions – Conrads - \$25.00  
Concordia Academy - \$100.00  
Shekels for a Seminarian - \$35.00

Youth Group Trip - \$25.00  
Lutheran Hour - \$25.00