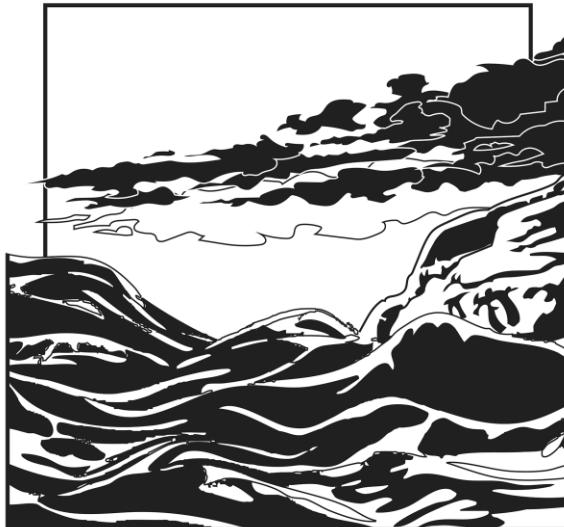


THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

"The Surprising Life-Changing Call: Follow Jesus!" – Matthew 4:12–25

8:30 AM, SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL

8305 NOTTINGHAM PARKWAY
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222

Vacancy Pastors: *Rev. Mark Whitsett, Rev. Ron Richeson*

DCE Intern: *Corrine Burmeister*

Deaconess: *Margy Whitsett*

Principal: *Chip Davidson*

Director of Music: *Scott Kamman*

Today's Organist: *Margy Whitsett*

Church contacts

(502) 426-1130

www.oursaviorlouisville.com

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School contacts

(502) 426-0864

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www.facebook.com/OSLSLouisville

We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!

We are always glad to have you worship with us.

*If you do not have a regular church home,
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children's bulletins, and large print service folders are available -- please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church's Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

Prayer before worship:

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

AS WE GATHER The Epiphany season proclaims and celebrates the salvation of God coming into the world as a light shining in a dark place. Matthew quotes the prophet Isaiah predicting the dawning of that light into the darkness of unbelief, separation from God, sin, and "the shadow of death" (Matthew 4:16). That light was and is Jesus and His message: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (v. 17). It may seem like a minor detail that Matthew says Isaiah's prophetic words were fulfilled when Jesus left His hometown of Nazareth to live "in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali" (v. 13). Yet even this little fact testifies to how real the words of the Old Testament are and how they are fulfilled in Jesus, the Christ.

Likewise, it may at times seem insignificant and even unimportant when the light of the Gospel is preached in our hearing and in our world today. How many of us have heard God's voice directly saying, "Follow me"? Those who were baptized as infants have no memory of ever being apart from God or His church. The life of faith in God may just seem normal or even routine to us—nothing out of the ordinary. Still, our sins remind us of the temptation to ignore God. Like the Christians in Corinth, we have sinful pride that causes divisions and quarreling among us. And while that's no different than anywhere else in our world, to be a disciple of Jesus means to be truly different than the world. Repentance means being transformed by love of God and love of neighbor. Today, Jesus truly is saying to you, "Repent" and "Follow Me," even in the ordinary details of life.

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 3

Confession and Absolution

Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

LSB 839



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now
lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.
in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg, Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand.

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20], Psalm 43:4; Matthew 4:16

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

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: I will go to the altar of God,

People: **to God my exceeding joy.**

Leader: The people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, . . .

People: **on them a light has dawned.**

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 22:22

Leader: Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, "Repent" and "Follow Me." Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.

People: Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, "I will tell of Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise You."

Upon this your confession, I, as an ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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.

People: Amen.

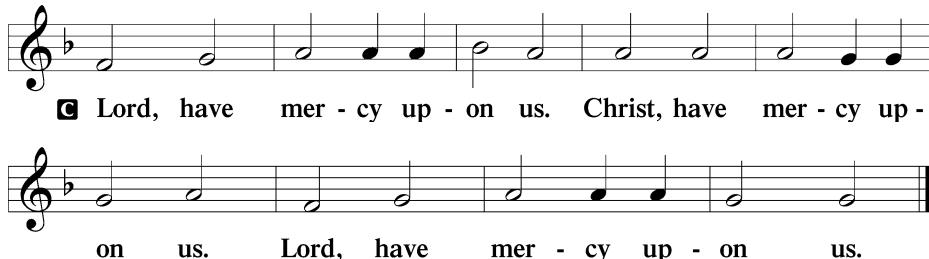
Pastor: Now, let us follow Him!

People: Amen.

Service of the Word

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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 to God in the Highest

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

printed music found in LSB on p. 187

Leader: Glory be to God on High,

ALL: and on earth peace, goodwill 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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

2 Timothy 4:22

Leader: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.** *Please be seated.*

Anthem

Offertory

by John Ness Beck

Old Testament Reading *The light of God's reign breaks into the world.*

Isaiah 9:1–4

Reader: There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 27:1–9; antiphon: v. 1

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

People: **When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.**

Leader: Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

People: One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.

Leader: For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

People: And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Leader: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!
You have said, "Seek my face."
My heart says to you,
"Your face, LORD, do I seek."
Hide not your face from me.

People: Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!

Epistle Reading

Divisions in the church.

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Reader: I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Reader: Please stand in reverence to the Gospel.

Alleluia



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Jesus begins calling the first disciples.

Matthew 4:12-25

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Pastor: When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostle's Creed

ALL: 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 \ddagger everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day

O Christ, Who Called the Twelve

LSB 856



1 O Christ, who called the Twelve To rise and fol - low You, For -
2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve The truth for a - ges sealed, Whose
3 O Christ, who led the Twelve A - mong the des - o - late And
4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve On roads they'd nev - er trod To
5 O Christ, th'a - pos - tles' Lord, The mar - tyrs' strength and song, The



sak - ing old, fa - mil - iar ways For ven - tures bold and new:
words and works a - wak - ened faith, The ways of God re - vealed:
broke as bread of life for all Your love com - pas - sion - ate:
serve, to suf - fer, teach, pro - claim The near - er reign of God:
cru - ci - fied and ris - en King To whom the saints be - long:



Grant us to hear Your call To risk se - cu - ri - ty And,
In - struct us now, we pray, By Your em - pow'r - ing Word. True
Lead us a - long the ways Where hope has near - ly died And
Send us on ways where faith Tran - scends ti - mid - i - ty, Where
Though gen - er - a - tions pass, Our trib - ute still we bring, Our



bound in heart and will to You, Find per - fect lib - er - ty.
teach - er, be for all who seek Their light, their life, their Lord.
help us climb the lone - ly hills Where love is cru - ci - fied.
love in - forms and hope sus - tains Both life and min - is - try.
hymns a sac - ri - fice of praise, Our lives an of - fer - ing.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007, Tune: English; adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, Text: © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002236,
Tune: Public domain

Sermon "The Surprising Life-Changing Call: Follow Jesus!" Matthew 4:12-25

Offering *During this time, we invite you to sign and pass the Friendship Book. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.*

We believe that...

- † *Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.*
- † *We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins."*
- † *We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.*

Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.

What does this mean?

Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to participate in communion at Our Savior.

- † *Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (indicated by folded hands), or to remain seated for individual prayer. When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.*

Please stand.

Offertory

Create in Me

printed music found in LSB on p. 192

- ALL: **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.**

Psalm 51:10-12

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

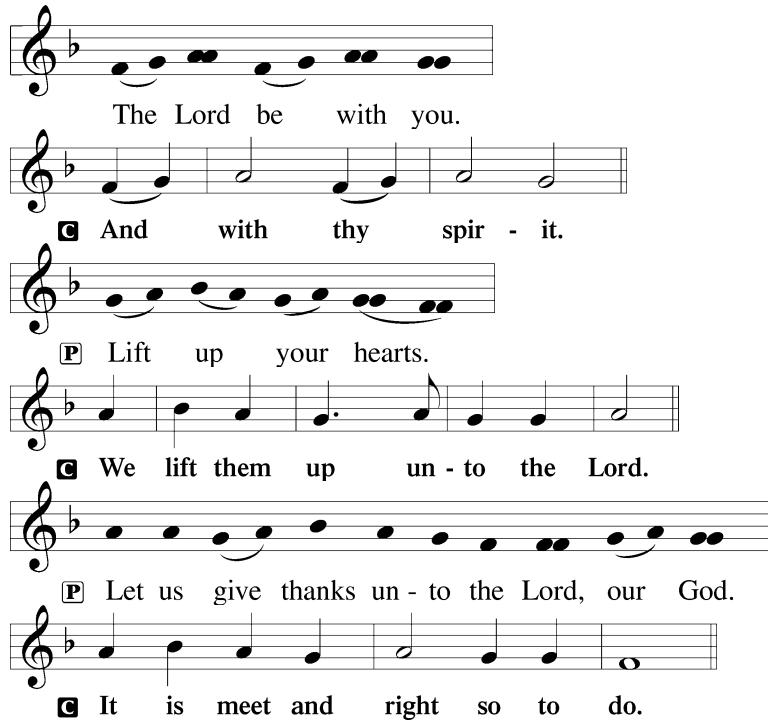
- After each petition:*
Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

- The prayers conclude:*
Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22, [Colossians 3:1], [Psalm 136]



The Lord be with you.
And with thy spir - it.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up un - to the Lord.
Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

Pastor: It is truly good, 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your 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

ALL:

Holy, Holy, Holy *printed music found in LSB on p. 195*
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.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Sabaoth (SAH-bay-oath) is Hebrew for "heavenly hosts."
Hosanna is a Hebrew word of praise meaning "save us now."

Lord's Prayer *The first section is spoken by the pastor.*

Matthew 6:9-13

Pastor: 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 for ever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25

Pastor: 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 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

John 20:19

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

A men.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

printed music found in LSB on p. 198

ALL: 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.

John 1:29

Distribution *Please be seated. If you are communing, please come forward at the bidding of the ushers.*

Anthem

I Come with Joy

by K. Marrolli

Distribution Hymn

Savior, Bring Us to Your Light

[tune: DIX]

1 Sav - ior, bring us to Your light From the deep and
2 All who stood the earth - ly test Find a nev - er -
3 Fleet - ing shad - ows will be gone With the Sav - ior's

dark-en ed night. Shine in us Your love and joy,
end-ing rest. Kept with-in the Fa-ther's care,
com-ing dawn. All that Sa-tan's fog con-cealed—

All de-spair and gloom de-stroy. Let our dim-mer
Hope-filled glim-mers glad-ly share. Je-sus, set our
In the beam of truth re-vealed. Has-ten, then; pre-

lights yet guide Oth-ers to Your glo-rious side.
hearts a-flame With the bright-ness of Your name!
pare the way For the ad-vent of the Day!

Text: Lisa M. Clark, Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

Music: © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110002236, Tune: Public domain

Please stand.

Nunc Dimitis

Song of Simeon

printed music found in LSB on p. 199

ALL: 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.

Luke 2:29-32

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - - er.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Pastor: 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 A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

2 Timothy 4:22



A Bless we the Lord.

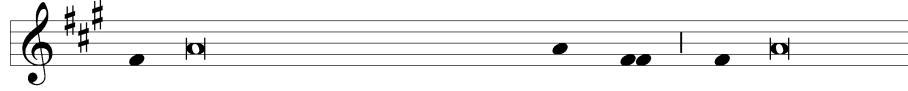


C Thanks be to God.

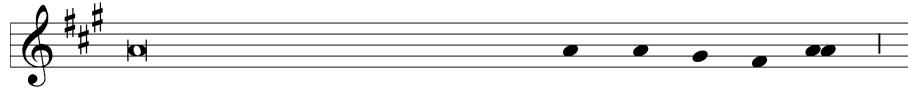
[Psalm 103:1]

Benediction

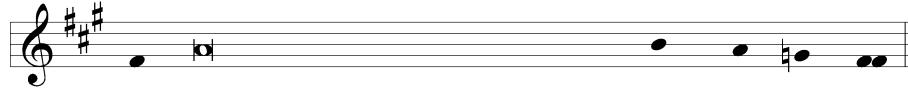
Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

The People That in Darkness Sat

LSB 412

1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath -'ring
3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -

light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In
na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The

shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.

△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt.
Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, Text and tune: Public domain

Silent Prayer/Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Our mission is to teach, love, and connect...teach all ages about Jesus, love one another as God loves us, and connect with others in a hurting world.

Readings for next Sunday, 2/1: Micah 6:1–8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18–31, Matthew 5:1–12
