

Prayers before Any Office

Grant, O Lord, that what we say with our lips we may believe in our hearts and practice in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Thy holy Name; cleanse my heart from all vain, foolish, wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding; enkindle my affections that I may say this office with attention and devotion and so may be meet to be heard before the presence of Thy divine majesty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers after Any Office

Guide us, O Lord, in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help that in all our work begun, continued, and ended in Thee we may glorify Thy holy Name and finally by Thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

To Thee, O Lord, I commend the service which I, an unworthy sinner, have offered up unto Thee, God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and according to the fulness of Thy love and wisdom fulfill my petitions; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

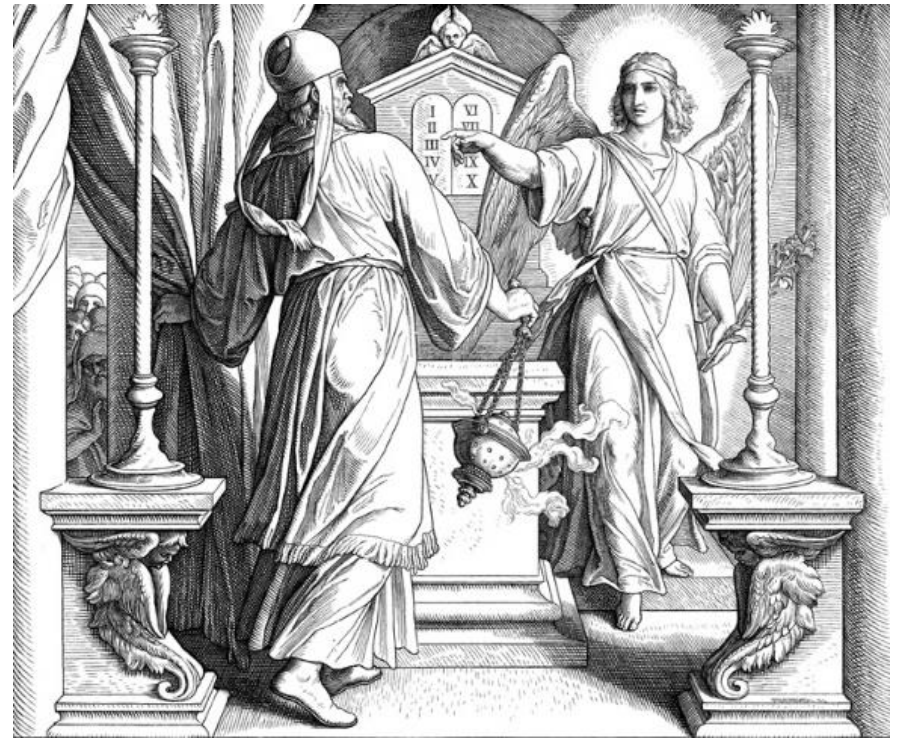
Collect for Ad te levavi

Stir up, we beseech Thee, Thy power, O Lord, and come, that by Thy protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Thy mighty deliverance; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Collect for the Beginning of the Church Year

Almighty Lord God, Who by Thy grace hast this day permitted us to enter into a new Church Year, we beseech Thee to pour upon Thy Church Thy Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Thy Word, as becometh it, may not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edification of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve Thee and in the confession of Thy Name abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Scripture quotations are from the New King James edition, copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982 Thomas Nelson Publishers, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



Midweek Advent Vespers
December 2nd, 2020

Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.
A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

215 N. Main St., Ste. 1-D
Simpsonville, SC 29681
(864) 412-6330

www.spplc.org

Pastor Jerald P Dulas

(864) 832-9005 (home)

pastor@spplc.org

Deacon Floyd P Smithey, Jr.

(865) 232-7109 (cell)

deacon@spplc.org

“Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.”

St. Luke 1:13

The Office of Vespers

The Ringing of the Bell

Silent Prayer

The Hymn *“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”* TLH 56

Stand

The Opening Versicles TLH p. 41

The Psalmody Psalm 143 INSERT

Sit

The Lection Colossians 1:12-23

St. Luke 1:1-25

The Response *(After each reading)* TLH p. 42

The Responsory INSERT

The Hymn *“Jesus, Thy Church with Longing Eyes”* TLH 64

The Sermon *You Will Have Joy and Gladness*

The Recitation of the Catechism The Lord’s Prayer

The Office Hymn *“Hosanna to the Living Lord”* TLH 70

Stand

The Versicle TLH p. 43

The Canticle *“The Magnificat”* TLH p. 43

The Litany INSERT

The Salutation TLH p. 45

The Collect for the Day Back Cover

Other Collects *(if necessary)*

The Collect for Peace TLH p. 45

The Litany Collect INSERT

The Benedicamus TLH p. 45

The Benediction TLH p. 45

Silent Prayer

*—An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings.

Colossians 1:12-23

¹² Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. ¹⁹ For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, ²⁰ and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

St. Luke 1:1-25

¹ Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, ² just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed. ⁵ There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the command-

ments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years. ⁸ So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵ For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb. ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” ¹⁸ And Zacharias said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years.” ¹⁹ And the angel answered and said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. ²⁰ But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time.” ²¹ And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. ²² But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless. ²³ And so it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. ²⁴ Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, ²⁵ “Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.”

Psalm 143



P: HEAR MY - || prayer, O Lord, give ear to my sup- | pli- | ca- | tions! *

C: In Your faithfulness answer me, and in | Your | **right-** - | eous- | ness.

P: || Do not enter into judgment with | Your | ser- | vant, *

C: For in Your sight no one liv- | ing | **is** - | right- | eous.

P: || For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life | to | the | ground; *

C: He has made me dwell in darkness, like those who | have | **long** - | been | dead.

P: || Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed | with- | in | me; *

C: My heart within | me | **is** - | dis- | tressed.

P: || I remember the days of old; I meditate on | all | Your | works; *

C: I muse on the | work | **of** - | Your | hands.

P: || I spread out my | hands | to | You; *

C: My soul longs for You like | a | **thirst-** - | y | land.

Selah

P: || Answer me speedily, O Lord; My | spi- | rit | fails! *

C: Do not hide Your face from me, lest I be like those who go down | in- | **to** - | the | pit.

P: || Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morn -*ing*, (+) for in You | do | I | trust; *

C: Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up | my | **soul** - | to | You.

P: || Deliver me, O Lord, from | my | en- | *e-mies*; • *

C: In You | I | **take** - | shel- | ter.

P: || Teach me to do Your will, for You | are | my | God; *

C: Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land | of | **up-** - | right- | ness.

P: || Revive me, O Lord, for | Your | name's | sake! *

C: For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul | out | **of** - | trou- | ble.

P: || In Your mercy cut off | my | en- | *e-mies*, • *

C: And destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I | am | **Your** - | ser- | vant.

ALL: GLO- **RY** - || be to the Father, and | to | the | Son, *

And to | the | **Ho-** - | ly | Ghost;

AS IT - || was in the begin -*ning*, (+) is now, and ev- | er | shall | be *

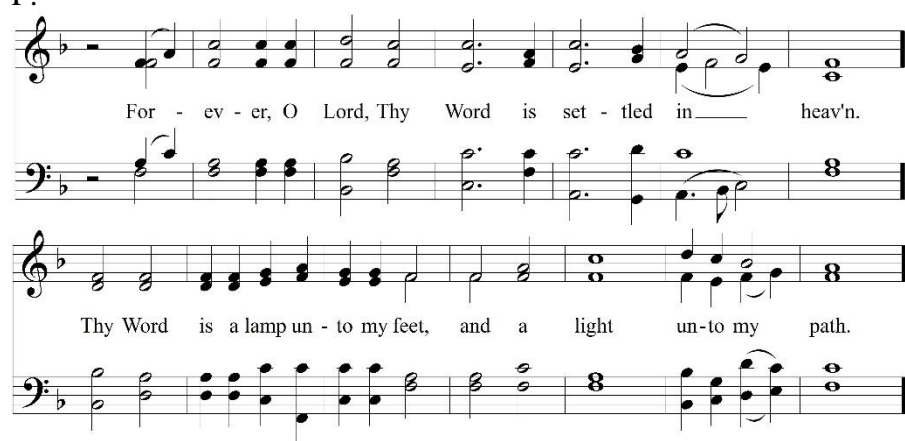
World with- | out | **end.** - | A- | men.

P: || Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my sup- | pli- | ca- | tions! *

C: In Your faithfulness answer me, and in | Your | **right-** - | eous- | ness.

The Responary

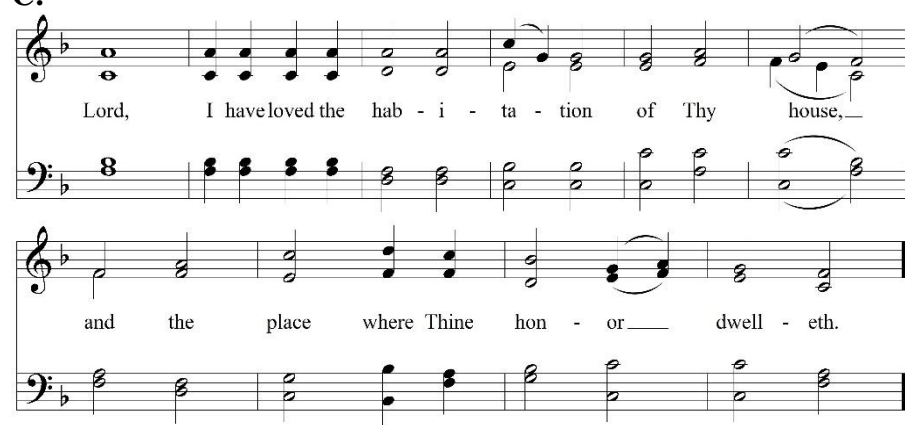
P:



For - ev - er, O Lord, Thy Word is set - tled in heav'n.

Thy Word is a lamp un - to my feet, and a light un-to my path.

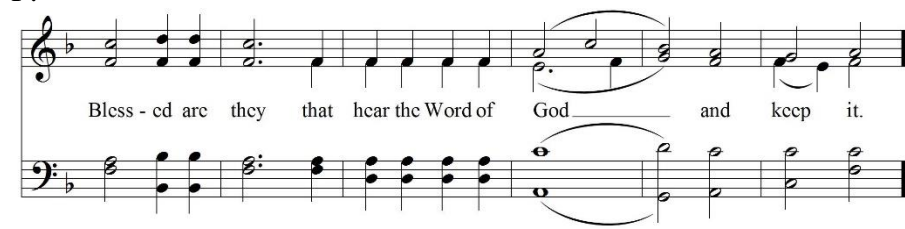
C:



Lord, I have loved the hab - i - ta - tion of Thy house, —

and the place where Thine hon - or — dwell - eth.

P:

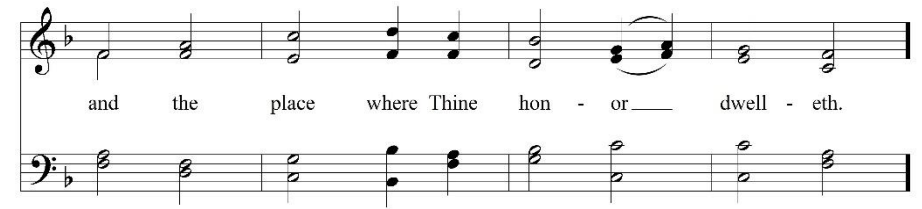


Bless - ed are they that hear the Word of God — and keep it.

C:



Lord, I have loved the hab - i - ta - tion of Thy house, —



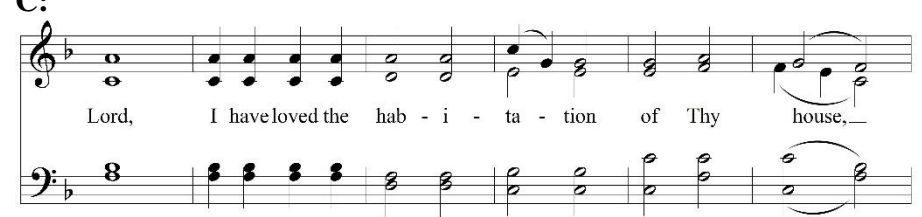
and the place where Thine hon - or — dwell - eth.

P:

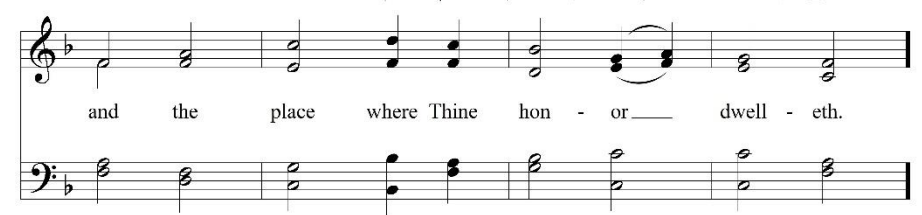


Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost.

C:



Lord, I have loved the hab - i - ta - tion of Thy house, —



and the place where Thine hon - or — dwell - eth.

TLH 56 “Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”

Godfrey Thring, 1864

1. Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring,
Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came for man's redemption,
Lowly came on Earth to die;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Came in deep humility.

2. Jesus comes again in mercy
When our hearts are bowed 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 in sounds of gladness,
Leading souls redeemed to Heaven.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Now the gate of death is riv'n.

4. Jesus comes in joy and sorrow,
Shares alike our hopes and fears;
Jesus comes, whate'er befalls us,
Glads our hearts, and dries our tears;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Cheering e'en our failing years.

5. Jesus comes on clouds triumphant
When the heavens shall pass away;
Jesus comes again in glory.
Let us, then, our homage pay,
Alleluia! ever singing
Till the dawn of endless day. Amen.

**TLH 64 “Jesus, Thy Church with Longing
Eyes”**

William H. Bathurst, 1831

1. Jesus, Thy Church with longing eyes
For Thine expected coming waits.
When will the promised light arise
And glory beam from Zion's gates?

2. E'en now, when tempests round us fall
And wintry clouds o'er cast the sky,
Thy words with pleasure we recall
And deem that our redemption's nigh.

3. Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew,
Our foes repel, our wrongs redress,

Man's rooted enmity subdued,
And crown Thy Gospel with success.

4. Oh, come and reign o'er every land;
Let Satan from his throne be hurled,
All nations bow to Thy command,
And grace revive a dying world.

5. Teach us in watchfulness and prayer
To wait for the appointed hour
And fit us by Thy grace to share
The triumphs of Thy conquering power. Amen.

TLH 70 “Hosanna to the Living Lord”

Reginald Heber, 1811

1. Hosanna to the living Lord!
Hosanna to th' Incarnate Word!
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King,
Let Earth, let Heav'n, hosanna sing.

2. O Savior, with protecting care
Abide in this Thy house of prayer,
Where we Thy parting promise claim,
Assembled in Thy sacred Name.

3. But, chiefest, in our cleansed breast,
Eternal, bid Thy Spirit rest
And make our secret soul to be
A temple pure and worthy Thee.

4. So in the last and dreadful Day,
When Earth and Heaven shall melt away,
Thy flock, redeemed from sinful stain,
Shall swell the sound of praise again. Amen.