

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, O 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.

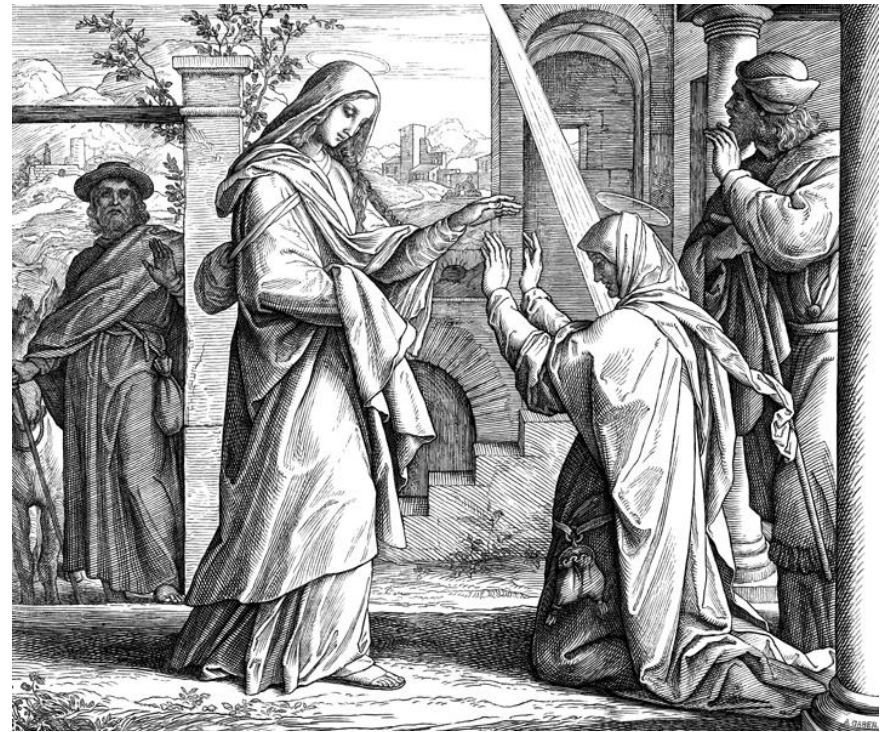
To Thee, O Lord, I commend the service which I, an unworthy sinner, have offered up unto Thee, God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and according to the fulness of Thy love and wisdom fulfill my petitions; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Gaudete

Lord, we beseech Thee, give ear to our prayers and lighten the darkness of our hearts by Thy gracious visitation; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Collect for Advent

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.



Midweek Advent Vespers
December 16th, 2020

Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.

A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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“Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord.” St. Luke 1:45

The Office of Vespers

The Ringing of the Bell

Silent Prayer

The Hymn "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" Δ TLH 63

Stand

The Opening Versicles

TLH p. 41

The Psalmody Psalm 98 The Psalter, p. 130

Sit

The Lection

Romans 1:16-25

St. Luke 1:36-56

The Response (After each reading) TLH p. 42

The Responsory INSERT

The Hymn "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" TLH 72

The Sermon His Mercy Is on Those Who Fear Him

The Recitation of the Catechism How One Should Be Taught to Pray

The Office Hymn "My Soul doth Magnify the Lord" TLH 275

Stand

The Versicle TLH p. 43

The Canticle "The Magnificat" TLH p. 43

The Litany INSERT

Psalm 70 INSERT

The Lord's Prayer

The Salutation TLH p. 45

The Collect for the Day Back Cover

The Collect for Advent 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.

Δ—indicates a hymn ending in a Doxological stanza; please stand.

Romans 1:16-25

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. ²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

St. Luke 1:36-56

³⁶ "Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing will be impossible." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed

from her. ³⁹ Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, ⁴⁰ and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord." ⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. ⁴⁸ For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. ⁴⁹ For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. ⁵⁰ And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. ⁵² He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, ⁵⁵ as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever." ⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her house.

Psalm 98



P: OH, **SING** - || to the | Lord | a | new | song! *

C: For He has done | mar- | ve- | **lous** - | things.

P: || His right hand | and | His | *ho-ly* • | arm *

C: Have gained Him | the | vic- | **to**- | ry.

P: || The Lord has made known | His | sal- | va- | tion; *

C: His righteousness He has revealed in the sight | of | the | **na**- | tions.

P: || He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the | house | of | *Is-ra-* • | el; *

C: All the ends of the earth have seen the salva- | tion | of | **our** - | God.

P: || Shout joyfully to the | Lord, | all | the | earth; *

C: Break forth in song, rejoice, | and | sing | **prais**- | es.

P: || Sing to the | Lord | with | the | harp, *

C: With the harp and the | sound | of | **a** - | psalm,

P: || With trumpets and the | sound | of | a | horn; *

C: Shout joyfully before | the | Lord, | **the** - | King.

P: || Let the sea roar, and | all | its | full- | ness, *

C: The world and those | who | dwell | **in** - | it;

P: || Let the rivers clap their hands; Let the hills be joyful together | be- | fore | the | Lord, *

C: For He is coming | to | judge | **the** - | earth.

P: || With righteousness He | shall | judge | the | world, *

C: And the peoples | with | e- | **qui**- | ty.

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: || Oh, sing to the | Lord | a | new | song! *

C: For He has done | mar- | ve- | **lous** - | things.

Psalm 70



P: **MAKE HASTE**, - || O God, | to | de- | *liv-er* • | me! *

C: Make haste | to | help | me, | O | Lord!

P: || Let them be ashamed and confounded who | seek | my | life; | - *

C: Let them be turned back and confused | who | de- | sire | my | hurt.

P: || Let them be turned back because of their | shame, | who | say, | - *

C: “A- | — | ha, | a- | — | ha!”

P: || Let all those who seek You rejoice and be | glad | in | You; | - *

C: And let those who love Your salvation say continually, “Let | God | be | mag- | ni- | fied!”

P: || But I am poor and need -y; (+) Make haste to | me, | O | God! | - *

C: You are my help and my deliverer; O | Lord, | do | not | de- | lay.

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: *

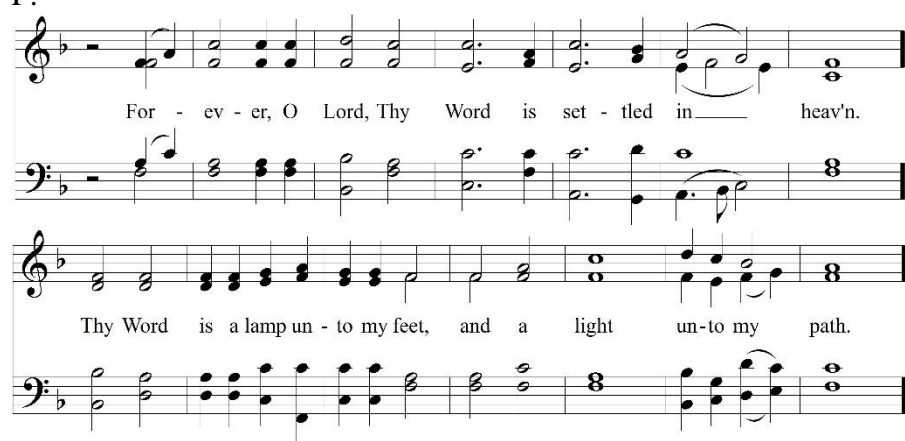
World | with- | out | end. | **A**- | men.

P: || Make haste, O God, | to | de- | *liv-er* • | me! *

C: Make haste | to | help | me, | O | Lord!

The Responary

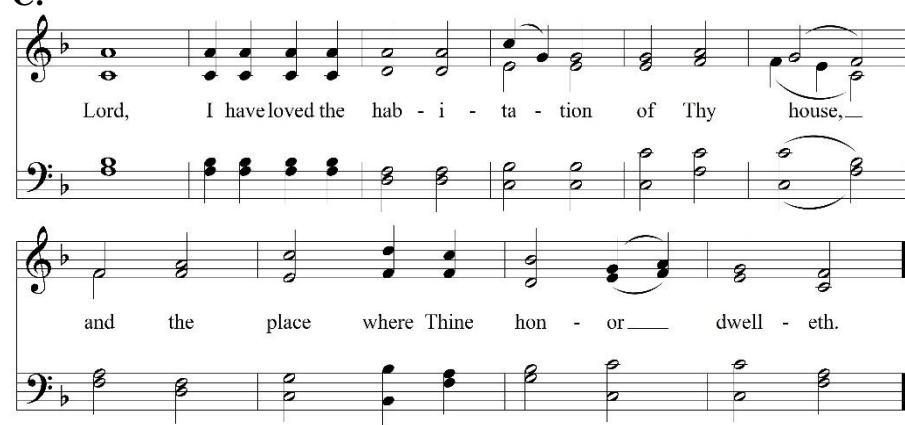
P:



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.

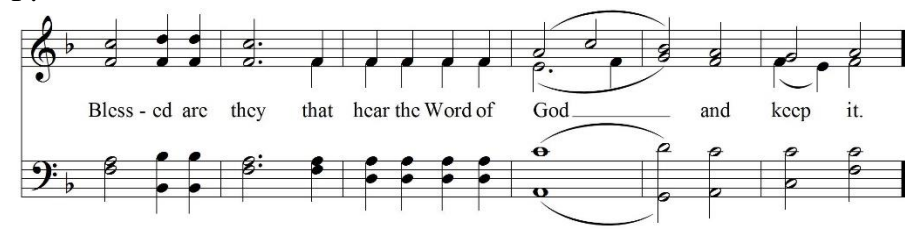
C:



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

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

P:

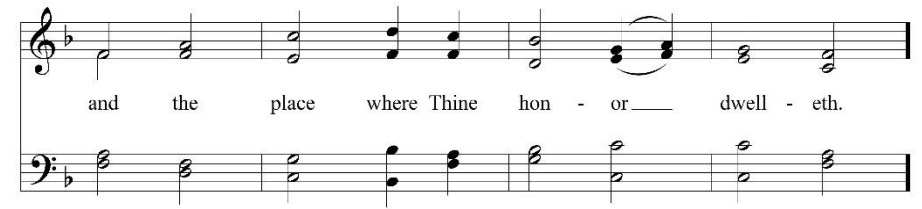


Bless - ed are they that hear the Word of God — and keep it.

C:



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



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

P:

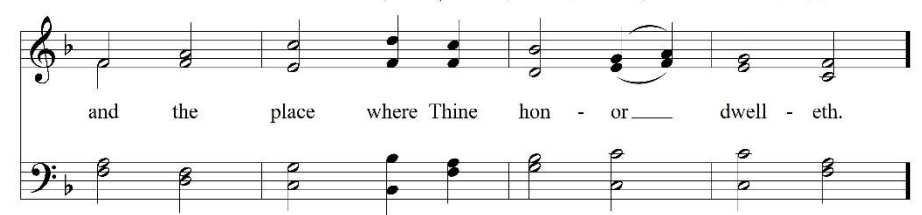


Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost.

C:



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



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

TLH 63 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Charles Coffin, 1736

1. On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come, then, and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed by every Christian breast
And furnished for so great a Guest.
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.
3. For Thou art our Salvation, Lord,
Our Refuge, and our great Reward.
Without Thy grace our souls must fade
And wither like a flow’r decayed.
4. Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in every place.
- Δ 5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Who advent sets Thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore
And Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

TLH 72 “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising,
And soon He draweth nigh;
Up, pray and watch and wrestle!
At midnight comes the cry.
2. The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go meet Him as He cometh,
With hallelujahs clear.
The marriage-feast is waiting,
The gates wide open stand;
Up, up, ye heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand!
3. Ye saints, who here in patience
Your cross and suff’rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever,
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory

The Lamb ye shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Your diadems of gold!

4. Our Hope and Expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, Desire of nations,
O’er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of Earth’s redemption,
That brings us unto Thee! Amen.

TLH 275 “My Soul doth Magnify the Lord”

Unknown, 1535

1. My soul doth magnify the Lord,
My spirit shall in God rejoice;
My low estate He did regard,
Exalting me by gracious choice.
2. Henceforth all men shall call be blest,
For great things He hath done to me.
The mighty God is now my Guest;
The Holy One hath set me free.
3. His mercy is on all who fear,
Who trust in Him from age to age;
His arm of strength to all is near,
The proud He scatt’rETH though they rage.
4. The strong He casteth from their seat
And raiseth men of low degree;
To hungry souls He giveth meat,
The rich depart in poverty.
5. He helped His servant Israel;
Remembering His eternal grace,
As from of old He did foretell
To Abraham and all his race.
6. So praise with me the Holy One,
Who cometh in humility.
Divine Redeemer, God’s own Son,
Eternal glory be to Thee! Amen.