

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 Populus Sion

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Thine Only-begotten Son, so that by His coming we may be enabled to serve Thee with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end.

Collect for the Season of 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.

Scripture quotations are from the Revised Version of the Holy Bible (1895) with Apocrypha. This work is in the Public Domain.



Midweek Advent Vespers
December 10th, 2025

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

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“And the angel said unto her, ‘Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name JESUS.’”

St. Luke 1:30-31

The Office of Vespers

The Ringing of the Bell

Silent Prayer

The Hymn *“Awake! Sons of the Kingdom”* INSERT

Stand

The Opening Versicles ASBHP p. 29

The Gloria Patri *(Omit Hallelujah)* ASBHP p. 29-30

The Psalmody Psalm 91 ASBHP p. 238-239

Sit

The Lection Romans 2:1-16

St. Luke 1:26-38

The Response *(After each reading)* ASBHP p. 30

Stand

The Responsory ASBHP p. 31-32

Sit

The Hymn *“Hark, A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”* INSERT

The Sermon *The Lord Is with Thee*
(An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings.)

Stand

The Office Hymn *“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”* ASBH 2

The Versicle ASBHP p. 32

The Canticle *“The Magnificat”* ASBHP p. 33-34

The Litany *(All may kneel)* INSERT

The Lord’s Prayer ASBHP p. 48

The Litany Collect *(Collect #3)* ASBHP p. 49

The Collect for Populus Sion ASBHP p. 60

The Collect for the Season of Advent ASBHP p. 60

Other Collects *(if necessary)*

The Collect for Peace ASBHP p. 37

The Benedicamus ASBHP p. 38

The Benediction ASBHP p. 38

Silent Prayer

The Recitation of the Catechism

The Preface to the Small Catechism (pages 3-8) & Questions 168-170
(Part II. The Creed. The Third Article. Of Sanctification, page 93).

Announcements

ASBHP = The Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: The Psalter.

ASBH = The Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: 2022 Supplement.

TLH = The Lutheran Hymnal

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

Romans 2:1-16

¹Wherefore thou art without excuse, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest dost practise the same things.

²And we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against them that practise such things. ³And reckonest thou this, O man, who judgest them that practise such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or despisest thou the riches of His goodness and forbearance and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? ⁵but after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up for thyself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; ⁶who will render to every man according to his works: ⁷to them that by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and incorruption, eternal life: ⁸but unto them that are factious, and obey not the truth, but obey unrighteousness, shall be wrath and indignation, ⁹tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that worketh evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Greek; ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek: ¹¹for there is no respect of persons with God. ¹²For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without the law: and as many as have sinned under the law shall be judged by the law; ¹³for not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified: ¹⁴(for when Gentiles that have not the law do by nature the things of the law, these, not having the law, are the law unto themselves; ¹⁵in that they show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness therewith, and their thoughts one with

another accusing or else excusing them); ¹⁶in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men, according to my gospel, by Jesus Christ.

St. Luke 1:26-38

²⁶Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸And he came in unto her, and said, “Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee.” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this might be. ³⁰And the angel said unto her, “Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. ³¹And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name JESUS. ³²He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David: ³³and He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end.” ³⁴And Mary said unto the angel, “How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” ³⁵And the angel answered and said unto her, “The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: wherefore also the holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, Elisabeth thy kinswoman, she also hath conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her that was called barren. ³⁷For no word from God shall be void of power.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.” And the angel departed from her.

##. Awake! Sons of the Kingdom

Johann Rist, 1651.

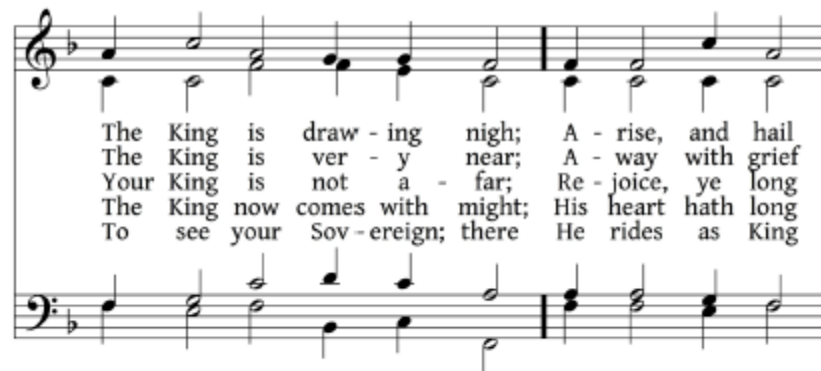
Aus meines Herzens Grunde

Tr. Composite, 1880

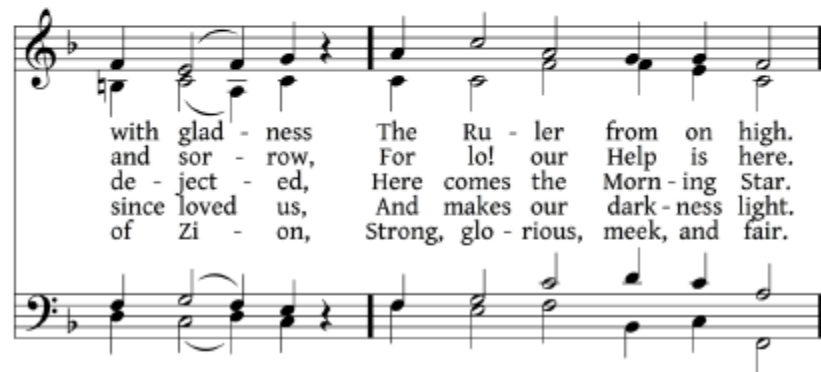
Eisleben G. B., 1598



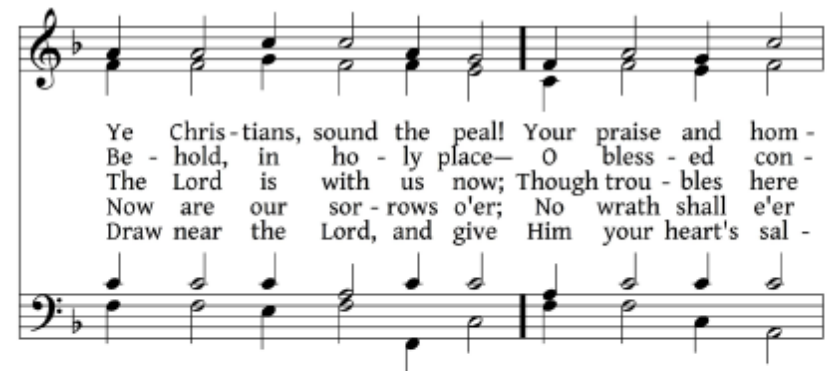
1. A - wake! sons of the king - dom,
 2. Look up! ye droop - ing mourn - ers,
 3. A - rise! ye much af - flict - ed,
 4. Up, up! ye faint and fear - ful,
 5. Haste then, with ea - ger foot - steps,



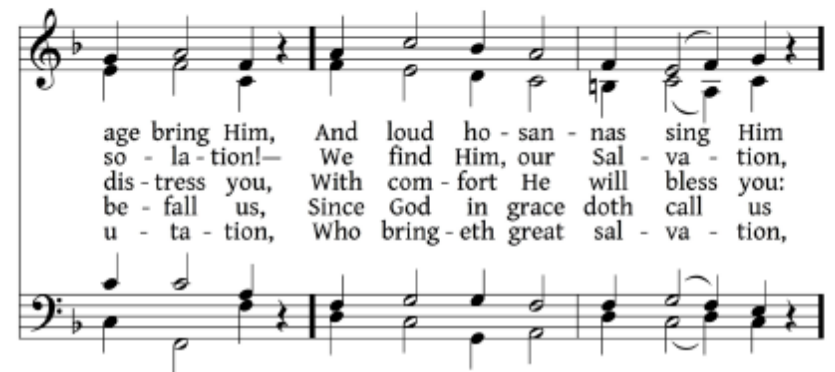
The King is draw - ing nigh; A - rise, and hail
 The King is ver - y near; A - way with grief
 Your King is not a - far; Re - joice, ye long
 The King now comes with might; His heart hath long
 To see your Sov - ereign; there He rides as King




with glad - ness The Ru - ler from on high.
 and sor - row, For lo! our Help is here.
 de - ject - ed, Here comes the Morn - ing Star.
 since loved us, And makes our dark - ness light.
 of Zi - on, Strong, glo - rious, meek, and fair.



Ye Chris - tians, sound the peal! Your praise and hom -
 Be - hold, in ho - ly place— O bless - ed con -
 The Lord is with us now; Though trou - bles here
 Now are our sor - rows o'er; No wrath shall e'er
 Draw near the Lord, and give Him your heart's sal -



age bring Him, And loud ho - san - nas sing Him
 so - la - tion!— We find Him, our Sal - va - tion,
 dis - tress you, With com - fort He will bless you:
 be - fall us, Since God in grace doth call us
 u - ta - tion, Who bring - eth great sal - va - tion,



With ho - ly fes - tive zeal.
 In His pure means of grace.
 E'en death to Him shall bow.
 His chil - dren ev - er more.
 And bids the sin - ner live. A - men.

6. Our Sovereign still remembers
 His loved ones here below
 With gifts of royal treasures,
 Yea, doth Himself bestow
 Through His blest Word and grace;
 O King, arrayed in splendor,
 To Thee all praise we render,
 Here, and there face to face.

7. Lord, how Thou dost enrich us!
 Thyself made poor and weak;
 O Love beyond expression,
 That can thus sinners seek!
 What can we do for Thee?
 We will love's tribute bring Thee,
 And glad hosannas sing Thee,
 And ever grateful be.

##. Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Vox clara ecce intonat
Latin, c. 900
Tr., Edward Caswall, 1849

O der alles
"Neues geistreiches Gesangbuch"
Halle, 1705

1. Hark, a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing!

"Christ is nigh!" we hear it say;

"Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,

O ye chil - dren of the day!" A - men.

2. Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

3. Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all, to be forgiv'n.

4. That, when next He comes with glor,
And the world is wrapp'd in fear
He may shield us with His mercy
And with words of love draw near.

Δ5. Honor, glory, might, dominion,
To the Father and the Son.
With the everlasting Spirit,
While eternal ages run!

##. The Litany

[text information]

Harry Archer and Luther Reed, 1901
The Choral Service Book
arr. Benjamin Henson and Jacob Henson

Pastor Congregation

Lord, have mercy up - on us. Lord, have mercy up - on us.
Christ, have mercy up - on us. Christ, have mercy up - on us.
Lord, have mercy up - on us. Lord, have mercy up - on us.

Pastor Congregation

O Christ, hear us. O Christ, hear us.

Pastor Congregation

O God the Fa - ther in heaven, Have mercy up - on us.
O God the Son, Re - deem - er of the world, Have mercy up - on us.
O God the Holy Ghost, Have mercy up - on us.

Pastor

Congregation

Be gra-cious un - to us. Spare us, good Lord.
Be gra-cious un - to us. Help us, good Lord.

Pastor

Congregation

From all sin;
From all error;
From all evil; Good Lord, de - liver us.

Pastor

From the crafts and as - saults of the devil;
From sud - den and evil death;
From pesti - lence and famine;
From war and blood - shed;
From se - di - tion and re - bellion;
From light - ning and tempest;
From all calamity by fire and wa - ter;
And from ev - er - lasting death;

Congregation

Good Lord, de - liver us.

Pastor

By the mystery of Thy holy In - car - na - tion;
By Thy ho - ly Na - tivity;
By Thy Baptism, fasting, and temp - ta - tion;
By Thine ag - ony and bloody sweat;
By Thy cross and Pas - sion;
By Thy precious death and burial;
By Thy glorious Resur - rec - tion and As - cen - sion;
And by the coming of the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er;

Congregation

Help us, good Lord.

Pastor

In all time of our trib - u - la - tion;
In all time of our pros - per - i - ty;
In the hour of death;
And in the Day of Judg - ment;

Congregation

Help us, good Lord.

Pastor

Congregation

We poor sinners do be - seech Thee To hear us, O Lord God.

Pastor

And to rule and govern Thy holy Chris - tian Church;
 To preserve all bishops, pastors, and deacons of
 Thy Church in the true knowledge and
 understanding of Thy Word, and in holiness of life;
 To put an end to all schisms and causes of of - fense;
 To bring into the way of truth all such as have
 erred, and are de - ceived;
 To beat down Satan under our feet;
 To send faithful laborers into Thy har - vest;
 To accompany Thy Word with Thy Spirit and grace;
 To raise up them that fall, and to strengthen such as do stand;
 And to comfort and help the weak-hearted and the dis - tressed;

Congregation

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor

To give to all nations peace and con - cord;
 To preserve our country from discord and con - ten - tion;
 To give to our nation perpetual victory over all its ene - mies;
 To direct and defend our President and all in au - thor - ity;
 And to bless and keep our magistrates, and all our peo - ple;

Congregation

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.


Pastor

To behold and succor all who are in danger,
 necessity, and tribu - la - tion;
 To protect all who travel by land or wa - ter;
 To preserve all women in the perils of child - birth;
 To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young chil - dren;
 To set free all who are innocently im - pris - oned;
 To defend and provide for all fatherless children and wid - ows;
 And to have mercy upon all men;

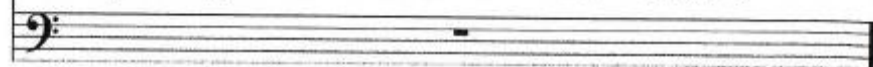
Congregation

We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor



To forgive our enemies, persecutors,
and slanderers, and to turn their hearts;
To give and preserve to our use the fruits of the earth;
And graciously to hear our prayers;



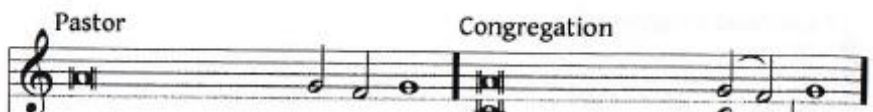
Congregation




We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.



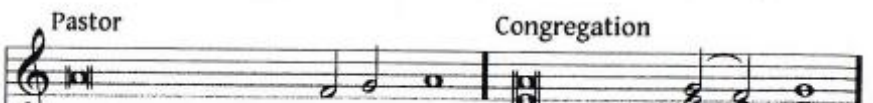
Pastor




O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, We beseech Thee to hear us.



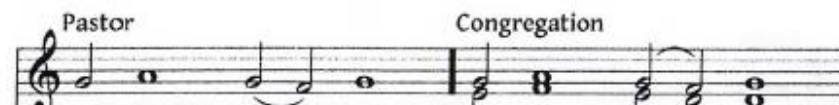
Pastor




O Lamb of God, that
takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy up-on us.
O Lamb of God, that
takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy up-on us.
O Lamb of God, that
takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace.



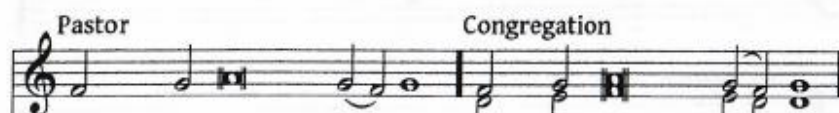
Pastor



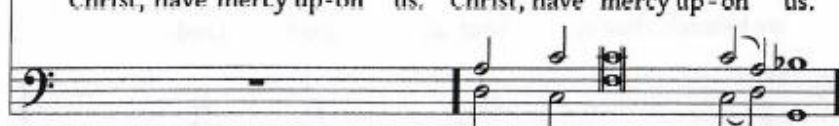
O Christ, hear us. O Christ, hear us.




Pastor



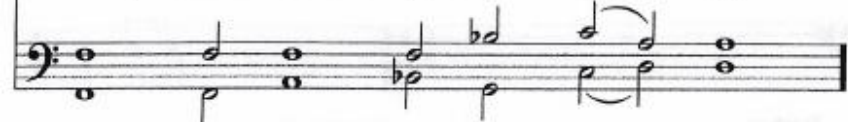
Lord, have mercy up-on us. Lord, have mercy up-on us.
Christ, have mercy up-on us. Christ, have mercy up-on us.



Pastor and Congregation



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Pastor and Congregation



A - - - men.

