

# Trinity Lutheran Church

A CONGREGATION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
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**Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

**The Second Wednesday in Advent**

Vespers/Evening Prayer (page 229-230, 248-252)

*Please use this worship folder along with the hymns in the hymnal*

## Opening Hymn 364 Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.  
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.  
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the sky — looked down where He lay,  
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

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## Invocation

*Stand*

*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 **T** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## Exhortation

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession of Sins

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

## Absolution

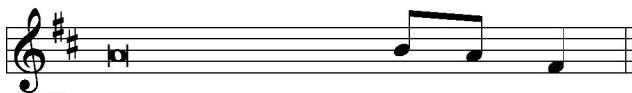
**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **T** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

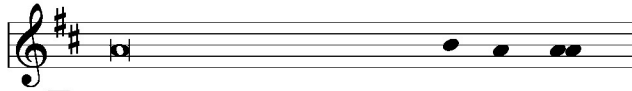
## VESPERS



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



*Advent:* Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

### **Psalm** *Psalm 66:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;\*

<sup>2</sup>sing the glory of his name;

give to him | glorious praise!

<sup>3</sup>**Say to God, "How awesome | are your deeds!\***

**So great is your power that your enemies come cringing | to you.**

<sup>4</sup>All the earth worships you

and sings prais- | es to you;\*

they sing praises | to your name."

<sup>5</sup>**Come and see what | God has done:\***

**he is awesome in his deeds toward the chil- | dren of man.**

<sup>6</sup>He turned the sea into | dry land;\*  
they passed through the riv- | er on foot.

**There did we rejoice in him,  
<sup>7</sup>who rules by his might forever,  
whose eyes keep watch on the | nations—\*  
let not the rebellious ex- | alt themselves.**

<sup>8</sup>Bless our God, O | peoples;\*  
let the sound of his | praise be heard,

**<sup>9</sup>who has kept our soul among the | living\*  
and has not let our | feet slip.**

<sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have | tested us;\*  
you have tried us as sil- | ver is tried.

**<sup>11</sup>You brought us in- | to the net;\*  
you laid a crushing burden | on our backs;**

<sup>12</sup>you let men ride o- | ver our heads;\*  
we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us out to a place of a- | bundance.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading**     *Malachi 3:1–7b*

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Malachi, the third chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup>For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not con-

sumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'

**L** O Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle** *Philippians 1:2–11*

**P** The Epistle is from Philippians, the first chapter.

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**L** O Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Holy Gospel** *Luke 3:1-14*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

**C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup> When he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup>When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" <sup>34</sup>And they said, "The Lord has need of it." <sup>35</sup>And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was drawing near—already on the

way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup>And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” <sup>40</sup>He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy upon us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Nicene Creed**

**C** **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 T of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Sermon - Pastor Wagner

### Responsory

Advent LSB 230



- L** 1 Behold, the days  
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise  
up for David a righ-teous Branch.
- 2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will  
dwell se - cure - ly.
- 3 Glory be to the  
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



**C** This is the name  
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righ-teous-ness.

Sermon Hymn 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest all things  
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's  
5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
might - i - ly; To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law  
tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,  
heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
And teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re - joice!





Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!


6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

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## Sermon - Pastor Wagner

*Stand*  
**Magnificat**



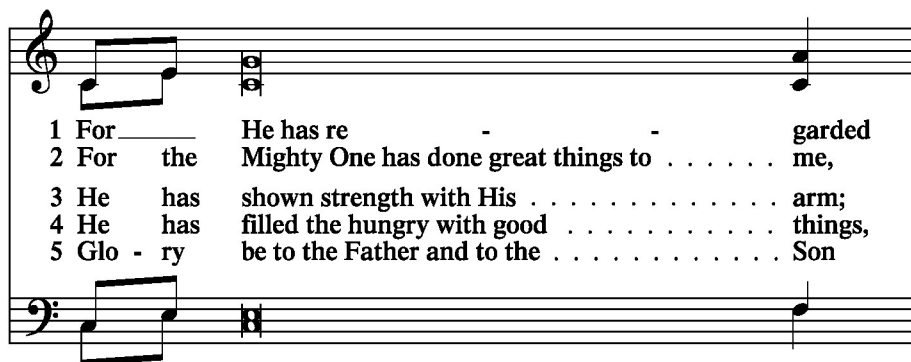
My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



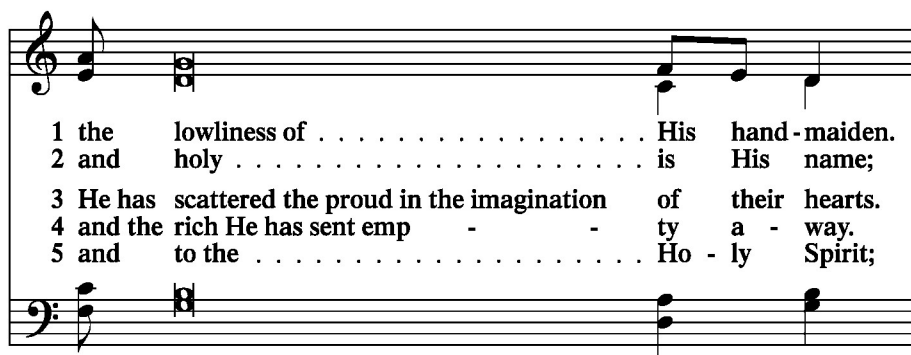
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the



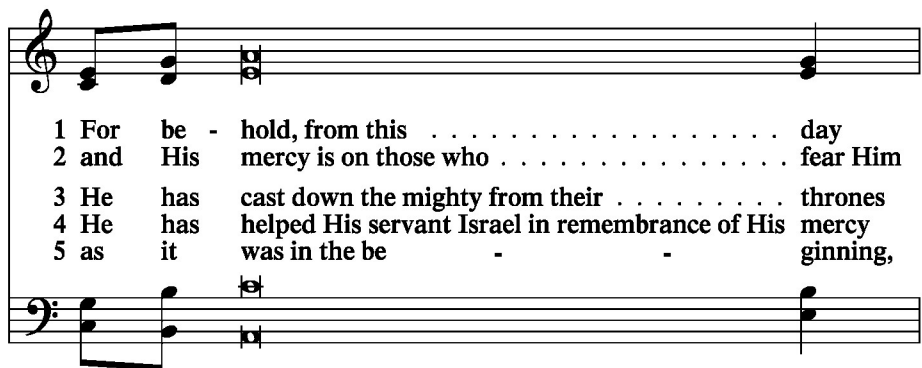
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



1 For — He has re - garded  
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,  
 3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;  
 4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,  
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son



1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand - maiden.  
 2 and holy . . . . . is His name;  
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.  
 5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
 2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
 5 as it was in the be - ginning,

1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessèd.  
 2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.  
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
 5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - men. *Refrain*

**Offering**

**Litany**

*The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.*

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

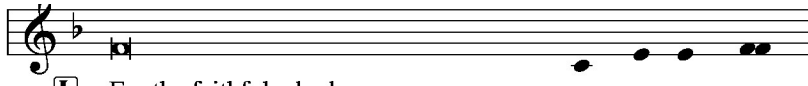
**L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

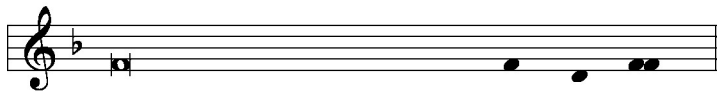
**C Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers then continue:*



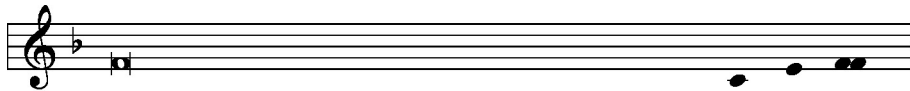
**L** For the faithful who have gone  
before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

*Common:* **C** Al - le - lu - ia.  
*Lent:* **C** Thanks be to God.



**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*



**L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us  
commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

**C** To You, O Lord.

### **Collect of the Day**

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**L** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C 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.**

### **Collect For Peace**

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Benedicamus**

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Benediction**

**P** The grace of our Lord **T** Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



*Sit*

### Dismissal Hymn 331 The Advent of Our King



- 1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
- 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
- 3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.  
Him-self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.  
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.  
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

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