

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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November 30, 2025      ✠      First Sunday in Advent

*St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.*

**Today** the paraments are blue as we begin Advent in a new church year. During this season, we look both back to Jesus' first advent and forward to His final advent.

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, **please see the pastor prior to the service**).

Sunday, November 23, 2025:

Attendance: 73 (4 livestream)

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF: 14 / 14 / 5

Offerings: \$2205 / \$35.50 / \$170 (electronic)

# Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

**THANKFUL FOR YOU!** – Calvary was blessed with gifts totaling over \$50,000 during our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual “Week of Giving!” These gifts make an immediate impact on the student experience at Calvary. Thank you for your prayerful support. As “Giving Tuesday” is emphasized on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we are very thankful for our supporters who give their time, resources, and talents. How will you give the Gift of Calvary?

- Contribute directly at Calvary or on our website **[calvarylhs.org/support](https://calvarylhs.org/support)** and the *Donate Now* button is at the top of the page.
- Select an item from our **Wishlist** at **[calvarylhs.org/wishlist](https://calvarylhs.org/wishlist)**
- Give a **Gift of Stock** directly to manage/reduce Capital Gains Tax
- Choose Calvary as the recipient of a **Required Minimum Distribution** from an IRA
- Use your **Thrivent Action Teams** to support Calvary activities, *ask us for ideas*
- Designate the Lutheran High School Association of Mid-Missouri for your **Thrivent Choice Dollars**
- Shop or Volunteer at **Calvary's Gift**

**LION BASKETBALL** – Cheer on your Lions as the season begins!

**Dec. 1 V Girls/V Boys vs. Liberty Christian, 6PM**

**Dec. 4 JV Boys/V Girls/V Boys vs. La Monte, 6PM**

*Live stream the games: **[twitch.tv/calvarylhs](https://twitch.tv/calvarylhs)***

*Visit **[calvarylhs.org/calendar/](https://calvarylhs.org/calendar/)** to view the full calendar!*

**CALVARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT** – Join us Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the annual Calvary Christmas concert! Enjoy pieces performed by the Calvary Choirs and Band that are sure to get you ready for the Christmas season!

**SHADOWS WELCOME** – Applications for Calvary's class of 2030 are incoming! 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are welcome to schedule shadow days at Calvary with interest in applying for the 2026-27 school year! If you know an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who would benefit from a Christian high school education, please invite them to visit the school with you. Parents, call us today to set up a shadow day for your child to experience Calvary.

**\$50 EARLY REGISTRATION BONUS** – Registration is OPEN for the 2026-2027 school year! Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders and current 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students can already register for next year! When you apply or re-register for next school year with your \$100 registration fee before January 5, 2026, you will receive a \$50 credit toward your student's 2026-27 tuition. REGISTER TODAY!

## Happening at St. John's:

**Come, Ye Thankful People, Come!** Join us at 9am on Thursday to give Thanks to God for another year, another harvest, another measure of His eternal blessings.

**“As we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ first Advent,** His birth in Bethlehem, we also look forward to the day of His return, His second Advent. On the Last Day, we will see Jesus returning in glory as King and Judge. The Good Shepherd will come again to gather His flock to Himself forever.” *Dr. Carol Geisler, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**SACRED MUSIC FOR THE ADVENT SEASON...** “Savior of the Nations, Come,” “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry,” “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” You can listen to sacred music for the Advent season 24/7 at [lutheranpublicradio.org](http://lutheranpublicradio.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

### **This week:**

Sunday, 11/30	9am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
	10am	Divine Service
		Children’s Christmas Program Practice

Mon, 12/1	6:30pm	Elders’ Meeting
Tues, 12/2	7pm	Lutheran Basics

Sunday, 12/7	9am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
	10am	Divine Service
		Children’s Christmas Program Practice

# Law and Gospel

As Martin Luther taught in the theology department at the University of Wittenberg, he worked with the Bible in its original languages (Hebrew and Greek), preparing lectures for his classes. The more he studied, the more he realized that what he had been taught led to some false ideas about God.

Eventually, Luther realized that God's Word can be divided into two basic ideas: Law and Gospel.

Law is, first and foremost, a reflection of the perfect will of God, resulting in specific expectations for His creation – particularly the humans created in His image. God's Law sets forth what it means to live the life that God created for us. God's Law is not an arbitrary set of rules, but it outlines what is best for all of God's creation. When we follow it, we are simply reflecting God's desire and love for us. Law always describes what God expects of us, as well as our (less than perfect) response.

Gospel is God's undeserved gifts of grace and mercy, of forgiveness and salvation. Gospel is centered on God's actions for us.

When reading the Scriptures, keeping this distinction in mind helped Luther to understand more fully Paul's letters, and Luther's own standing before God.

Luther knew that the Law demanded perfect obedience. Luther recognized that he did not measure up, which terrified him. He knew that God would forgive sins, but Luther struggled to remember all of his sins. And he was afraid that if he forgot any of his sins, it would not be forgiven.

Finally, Luther realized that God is merciful and *wants* to forgive. God's forgiveness did not depend on Luther proving his worth through acts of penance; God's forgiveness was absolute and final! The Gospel does not depend on any person's worth or worthiness, but only on God's own mercy, and the certainty of His promises.

# Confession and Absolution

## 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,  
How welcome You aright?  
Your people long to greet You,  
My hope, my heart's delight!  
O kindle, Lord most holy,  
Your lamp within my breast  
To do in spirit lowly  
All that may please You best.
- 2 Your Zion strews before You  
Green boughs and fairest palms;  
And I too will adore You  
With joyous songs and psalms.  
My heart shall bloom forever  
For You with praises new  
And from Your name shall never  
Withhold the honor due.
- 3 I lay in fetters, groaning;  
You came to set me free.  
I stood, my shame bemoaning;  
You came to honor me.  
A glorious crown You give me,  
A treasure safe on high  
That will not fail or leave me  
As earthly riches fly.
- 4 Love caused Your incarnation;  
Love brought You down to me.  
Your thirst for my salvation  
Procured my liberty.  
Oh, love beyond all telling,  
That led You to embrace  
In love, all love excelling,  
Our lost and fallen race.
- 5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,  
Cannot His love erase;  
Your guilt the Lord will pardon  
And cover by His grace.

He comes, for you procuring  
The peace of sin forgiv'n,  
His children thus securing  
Eternal life in heav'n.

- 6 He comes to judge the nations,  
A terror to His foes,  
A light of consolations  
And blessed hope to those  
Who love the Lord's appearing.  
O glorious Sun, now come,  
Send forth Your beams so cheering,  
And guide us safely home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*Stand*

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

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Exhortation

*LSB 184*

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 184*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of 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.
- C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 118:25–28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.*

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; \*  
righteous and having sal- | vation.  
Save us, we pray, | O LORD! \*  
O LORD, we pray, give | us success!  
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD! \*  
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.  
The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on us. \*  
Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the | altar!  
You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you; \*  
you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son \*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning, \*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; \*  
righteous and having sal- | vation.

### Kyrie

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- 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.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 2:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>It shall come to pass in the latter days  
that the mountain of the house of the LORD  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be lifted up above the hills;  
and all the nations shall flow to it,

<sup>3</sup>and many peoples shall come, and say:  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go the law,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;  
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war anymore.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Romans 13:8–14*

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk



properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 21:1–11*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>“Say to the daughter of Zion,  
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. <sup>7</sup>They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” <sup>10</sup>And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**C** 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 ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

*Sit*

### **332 Savior of the Nations, Come**

- 1 Savior of the nations, come,  
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,  
By the Spirit of our God,  
Was the Word of God made flesh—  
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.
- 3 Here a maid was found with child,  
Yet remained a virgin mild.  
In her womb this truth was shown:  
God was there upon His throne.
- 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all  
From His pure and kingly hall;  
God of God, yet fully man,  
His heroic course began.
- 5 God the Father was His source,

Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down,  
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son  
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty pow'r make whole  
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobrien, 1973

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## Sermon

*Stand*

## Offertory

*LSB 192*

**☞ 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.**

## Presentation of Offering

## Prayer of the Church

**☞** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**☞ Lord, have mercy.**

**☞** For the peace from above, that our Lord's advent might kindle in us a love for His name, let us pray to the Lord:

**☞ Lord, have mercy.**

**P** That the church would be preserved against all her enemies; and that we, as God's people, would walk in His ways and one day welcome with glad hosannas Jesus in His glory, especially for St. John's, and for Faith Lutheran Church in Jefferson City, and for Pastor Rich Steensma and missionaries Jana Inglehart, Barbara Rebentisch, and John Wolf, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For Christian homes, that God would defend the single, husbands and wives, and all children from the temptation to walk in the works of darkness, clothing them instead with the armor of light, and that He would continue to bless August Brautigam (11/30) and all who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries through another year of life, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our president, governor and all in temporal authority, that godly wisdom would guide policy and lead nations into the way of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those in great need, those afflicted with physical and mental ills, those whose hearts are touched by grief, and those in their last days on earth, [*especially Cindy Eggen, Marguerite Young, LeeRoy Wunderlich, Bob Duncan, Beth Depke, and Marilyn Willerton* \_\_\_\_\_,] let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For unity amongst God's people, that we may confess with one voice the truth of the Word and live together in love and anticipation for that day when Christ shall return in triumph and we will enter with all the saints into the marriage feast of the Lamb without end; and that we would here discern the body and blood of Christ in this holy meal, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank, bless and praise You forever that You have sent Your Son to reign over us poor sinners, who for our trespasses deserve rightly to remain in bondage to sin and Satan. You have given us a righteous and humble King who, through His death, has saved us from sin and eternal death. We implore You, enlighten, govern and direct us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may remain faithful to this righteous King and Savior and not be offended by His humble appearance or despised Word, but believe

in Him and obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

*LSB 194*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### Proper Preface

**P** It is truly meet, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in 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

*LSB 195*

**C** 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.

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB 162*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us 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.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

*LSB 197*

- P** 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  $\text{✠}$  body, which is 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  $\text{✠}$  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**

*LSB 197*

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

## **Agnus Dei**

*LSB 198*

- C** 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.

*Sit*

## **Distribution**

### **636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness**

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,  
 Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,

Come into the daylight's splendor,  
There with joy your praises render.  
Bless the One whose grace unbounded  
This amazing banquet founded;  
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy,  
Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him,  
And with loving rev'rence greet Him.  
For with words of life immortal  
He is knocking at your portal.  
Open wide the gates before Him,  
Saying, as you there adore Him:  
Grant, Lord, that I now receive You,  
That I nevermore will leave You.
- 3 He who craves a precious treasure  
Neither cost nor pain will measure;  
But the priceless gifts of heaven  
God to us has freely given.  
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,  
None could buy the gifts here offered:  
Christ's true body, for you riven,  
And His blood, for you once given.
- 4 Now in faith I humbly ponder  
Over this surpassing wonder  
That the bread of life is boundless  
Though the souls it feeds are countless:  
With the choicest wine of heaven  
Christ's own blood to us is given.  
Oh, most glorious consolation,  
Pledge and seal of my salvation!
- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,  
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
Peace beyond all understanding,  
Joy into all life expanding:  
Humbly now, I bow before You;  
Love incarnate, I adore You;  
Worthily let me receive You  
And, so favored, never leave You.
- 6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,

Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,  
Jesus, joy of my desiring,  
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
At Your feet I cry, my maker,  
Let me be a fit partaker  
Of this blessed food from heaven,  
For our good, Your glory, given.

- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,  
You once left Your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish  
And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness  
And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living,  
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,  
Let me gladly here obey You.  
By Your love I am invited,  
Be Your love with love requited;  
By this Supper let me measure,  
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gift of grace You give me  
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; (sts. 1, 4-5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2-3, 6-8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

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Text (sts. 2-3, 6-8): Public domain

### 331 The Advent of Our King

- 1 The advent of our King  
Our prayers must now employ,  
And we must hymns of welcome sing  
In strains of holy joy.
- 2 The everlasting Son  
Incarnate deigns to be,  
Himself a servant's form puts on  
To set His servants free.
- 3 O Zion's daughter, rise  
To meet your lowly King,  
Nor let your faithless heart despise  
The peace He comes to bring.



4 As judge, on clouds of light,  
He soon will come again  
And His true members all unite  
With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## 515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
And let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing,  
And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising  
And soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain  
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;  
Go forth as He approaches  
With alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
The gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience  
Their cross and suff' rings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever  
When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
The Lamb they shall behold;  
In triumph cast before Him  
Their diadems of gold.

- 4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, O Sun so longed for,  
O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption  
That sets Your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### 348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills  
And life to joy awakes.
- 2 Not as of old a little child,  
To bear and fight and die,  
But crowned with glory like the sun  
That lights the morning sky.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn  
When Christ, victorious, rose  
And left the lonesome place of death  
Despite the rage of foes.
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn  
Shall dawn upon our race  
The day when Christ in splendor comes  
And we shall see His face.
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light and beauty brings.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:  
Come quickly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

### The Dismissal

*LSB 199*

- [P]** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis

*LSB 199*

**C** 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.

## Thanksgiving

*LSB 200*

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.  
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** Amen.

## Salutation

*LSB 201*

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.

## Benedicamus

*LSB 202*

**A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

*LSB 202*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.  
**C** Amen, amen, amen.

## 343 Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Prepare the royal highway;  
The King of kings is near!

Let ev'ry hill and valley  
A level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory  
Foretold in sacred story: Refrain

ref Hosanna to the Lord,  
For He fulfills God's Word!

2 God's people, see Him coming:  
Your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before Him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain

3 Then fling the gates wide open  
To greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
Its tribute too should bring.  
All lands, bow down before Him!  
All nations, now adore Him! Refrain

4 His is no earthly kingdom;  
It comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
And justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
For kindness so abounding: Refrain

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

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