

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
The First Sunday after Christmas
December 28, 2025
Rev. Patrick Pooch



The Lord Jesus Undergoes a New Exodus in Order to Save His People from Their Sins

Herod's efforts to destroy the little Lord Jesus anticipate the cross for which He was born. In response to Herod's edict, Joseph must "take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt" (Matt. 2:13). But the Lord does not abandon the Holy Family there. He brings about salvation for all people, just as He "had spoken by the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I called my son'" (Matt. 2:15). With might and strength, God accompanies His people, causing "his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses" (Is. 63:12). Now through Jesus, even our afflictions are borne by Christ on the cross. "He redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them" (Is. 63:9). All of this is accomplished by God's might so that we, too, are claimed as members of His family. For we "receive adoption as sons" in the only begotten Son, Christ Jesus, even as He became like us by His conception and birth of the woman. Thus redeemed by Christ, no longer slaves of sin and death but beloved children and heirs of God, we pray in Jesus' name: "Abba! Father!" (Gal. 4:4-6).

THE DIVINE SERVICE is celebrated each **Sunday** at **8:00 am** and **10:30 am** and **Wednesday** at **5:00 pm**. **Bible Class** is held on **Sunday** at **9:15 am** and **Wednesday** at **3:30 pm** and **6:30 pm**.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH is a Christological, Scriptural, Confessional and Liturgical member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. We believe that God has called us to believe, teach and confess that Christ was crucified for our sins and we receive salvation by faith, which is a gift of God through His grace given to us in our baptism, as is revealed in the Holy Bible which is the inspired and inerrant Word of God. In response to His gift of salvation we eagerly desire to do good works out of thanksgiving and praise to the Triune God.

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Because we take the Word of God seriously and we love our visitors, **we ask that if you are not a member of Faith Lutheran or another LCMS church, please refrain from taking communion until you have talked with Pastor Poock.** In the meantime, we would love to have you participate by coming forward and receiving a blessing.

Communion offers the immense blessing of forgiveness of our sins. However, it can be taken to one's judgment if not properly understood. 1 Cor 11:27,29 says, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the LORD in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the LORD...For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."

We teach that a person receives the real Body and the real Blood of Jesus Christ "in, with and under the bread and wine." It is not symbolic or merely a spiritual presence.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

We rejoice to have you with us today. The liturgy is found in the Lutheran Service Book in the rack in front of you. You may place this bulletin in the back of your hymnal to help you follow along with the order of service. The Propers for the day are printed within the bulletin. Please read the message in this bulletin concerning reception of Holy Communion at our church.

The fourth quarter of 2025 is designated by Pastor and the Elders for the **Hope Children's Home**

They care for neglected, abandoned and abused children in a residential setting with a Christian school by providing them with a loving family environment, meeting their physical needs, providing them with an excellent Christian education and pointing them to Jesus Christ.

Weekly Memory Verse

Luke 2:10-11

And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'

387 JOY TO THE WORLD



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

+ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ 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.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 151

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

LSB 151

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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Jeremiah 31:15–17; antiphon: Hosea 11:1

Pastor: When Israel was a child, I loved him,

Cong: and out of Egypt I called my son.

Pastor: Thus says the LORD: “A voice is heard in Ramah,

Cong: lamentation and bitter weeping.

Pastor: Rachel is weeping for her children;

Cong: she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.”

Pastor: Thus says the LORD: “Keep your voice from weeping,

Cong: and your eyes from tears,

Pastor: for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD,

Cong: and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

Pastor: There is hope for your future, declares the LORD,

Cong: and your children shall come back to their own country.”

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: When Israel was a child, I loved him,

Cong: **and out of Egypt I called my son.**

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P 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.



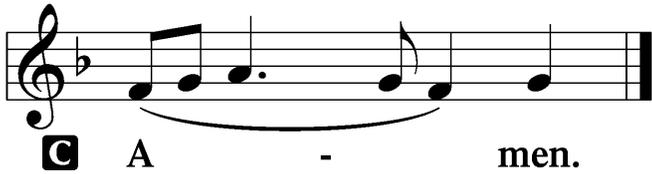
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

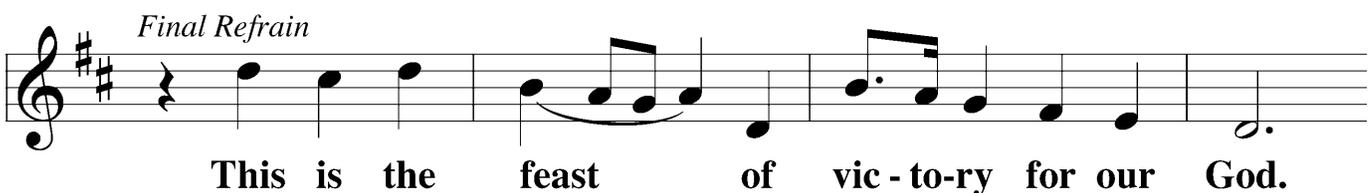
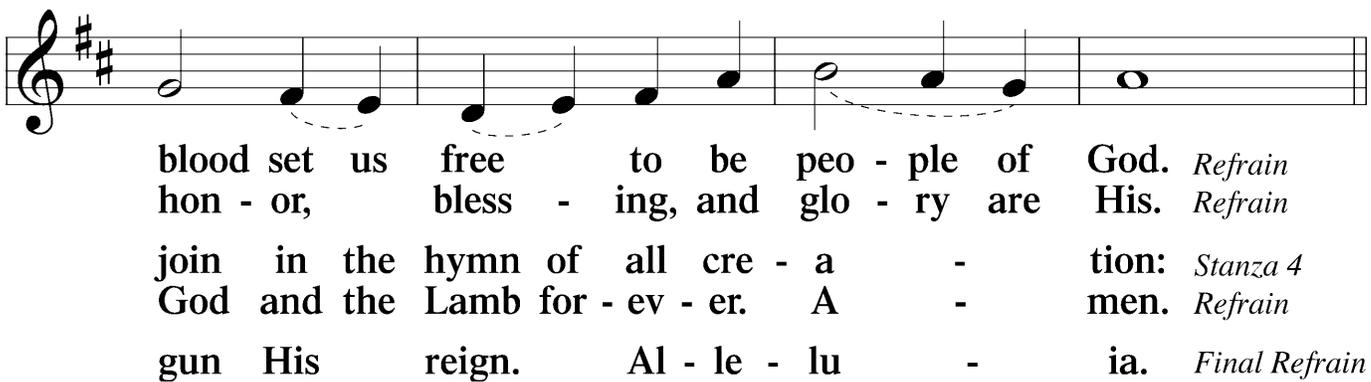
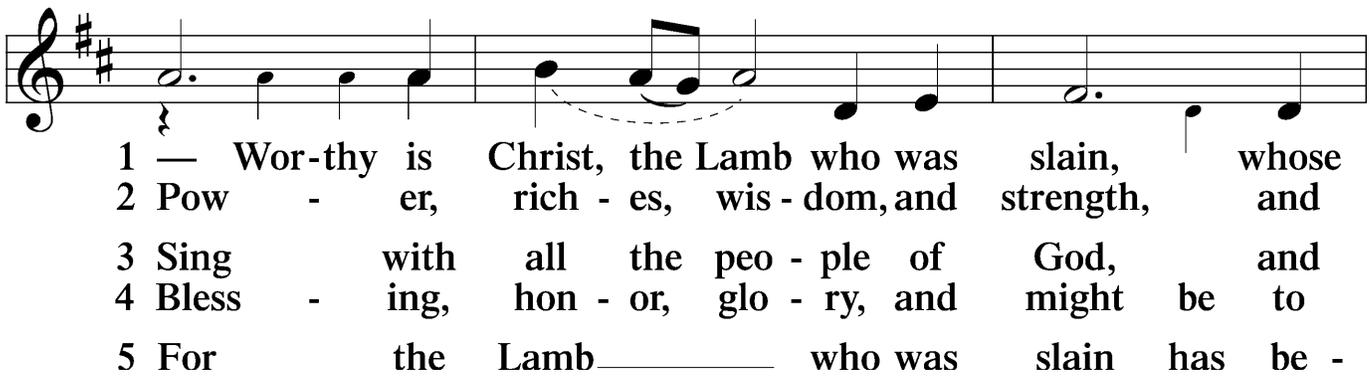
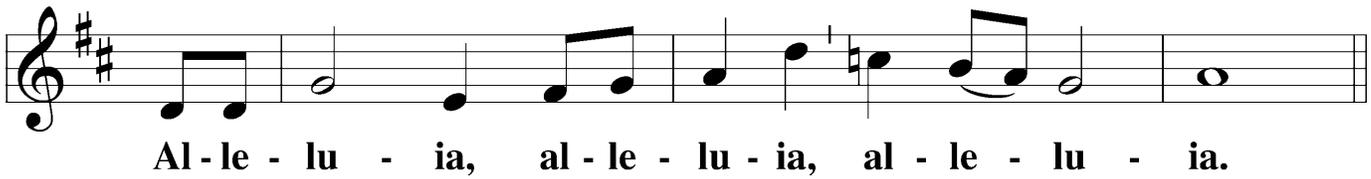
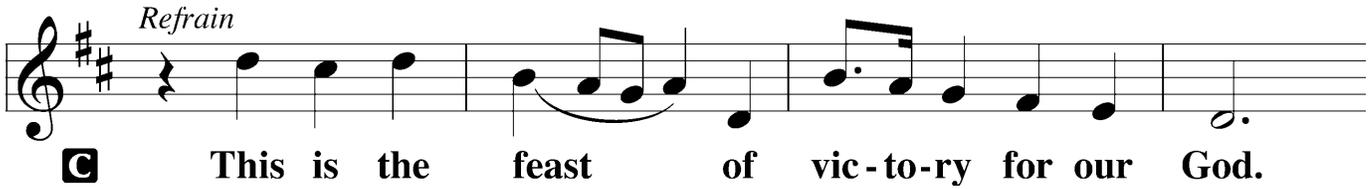


C Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



THIS IS THE FEAST





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 63:7–14

⁷I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD,
the praises of the LORD,
according to all that the LORD has granted us,
and the great goodness to the house of Israel
that he has granted them according to his compassion,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, “Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely.”

And he became their Savior.

⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted,
and the angel of his presence saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

¹⁰But they rebelled
and grieved his Holy Spirit;
therefore he turned to be their enemy,
and himself fought against them.

¹¹Then he remembered the days of old,
of Moses and his people.
Where is he who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?

Where is he who put in the midst of them
his Holy Spirit,
¹²who caused his glorious arm
to go at the right hand of Moses,
who divided the waters before them
to make for himself an everlasting name,

¹³who led them through the depths?
Like a horse in the desert,
they did not stumble.

¹⁴Like livestock that go down into the valley,
the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest.
So you led your people,
to make for yourself a glorious name.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹³When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land

of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

389 *LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD*



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:
 How great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He,
 No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
To blessed paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.

△ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

Text (sts. 1, 3–7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000820

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

**☩ 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

+ OFFERING +

956 CREATE IN ME



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12

Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583–1651, adapt.

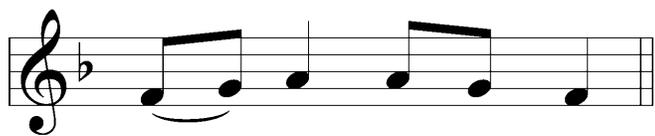
Text and tune: Public domain

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE (ABBREVIATED)

LSB 161

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



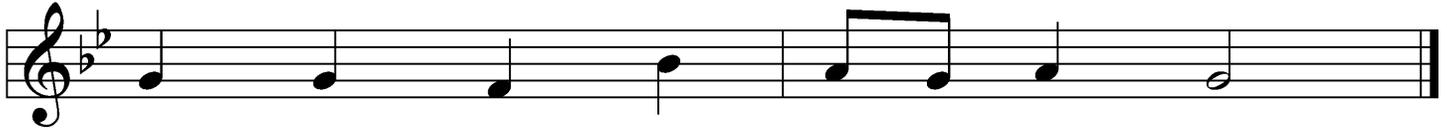
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
 That, set free from doubt and dread,
 I may cling to You in faith,
 Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again
 As the glorious king to reign,
 I with joy will see Your face,
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text and tune: Public domain

619 *THY BODY, GIVEN FOR ME, O SAVIOR*



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
 3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
 4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
 5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain



Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.

Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig

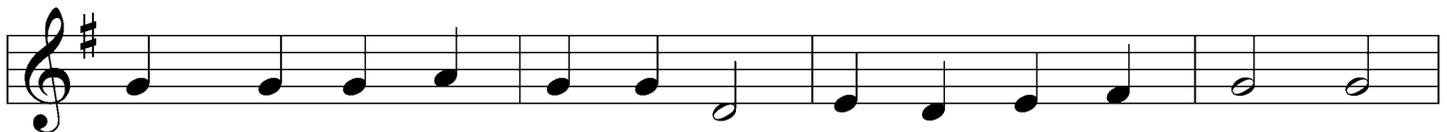
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Tune: Public domain

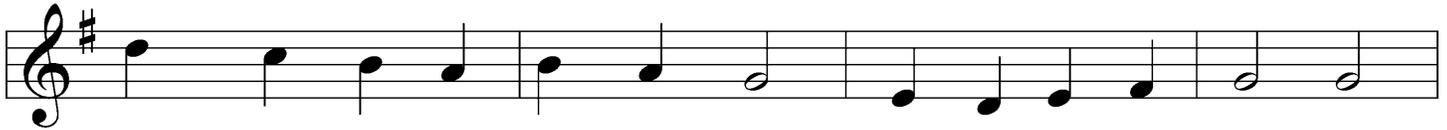
374 GENTLE MARY LAID HER CHILD



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
 Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



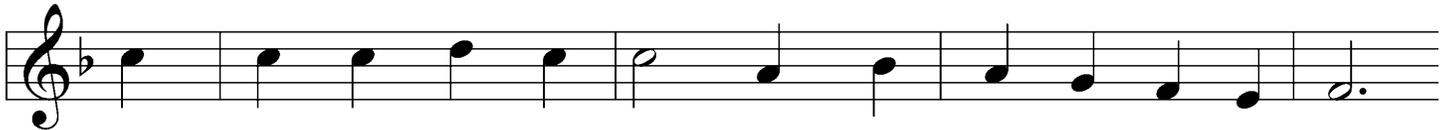
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859–1933

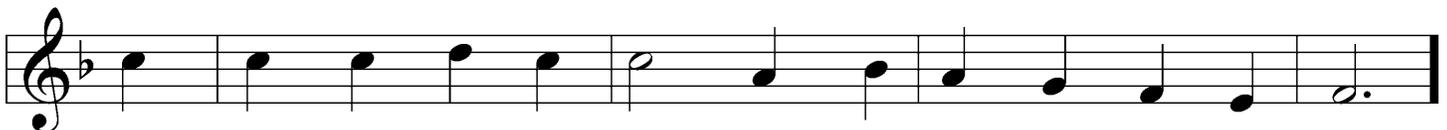
Tune: Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae, 1582, Griefswald

Text and tune: Public domain

383 A GREAT AND MIGHTY WONDER

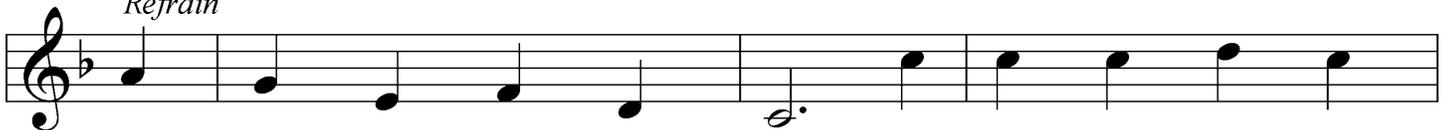


1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain



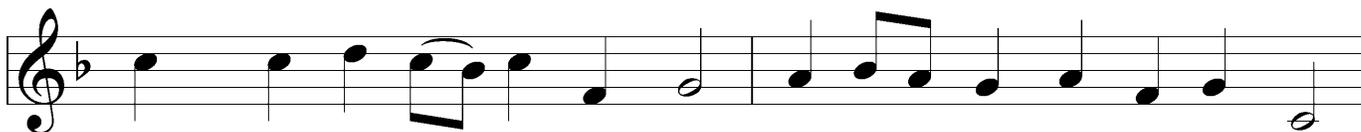
Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

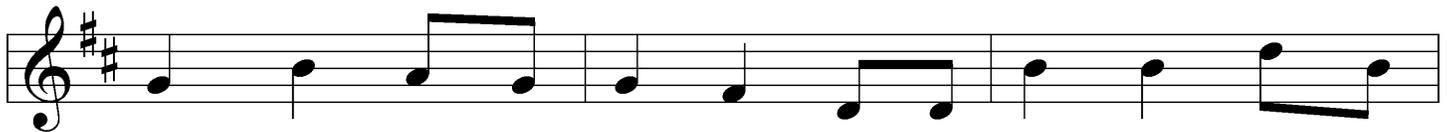


C A - men.

725 CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Rev. Patrick Poock
Organist: Lillian Boettcher

Happy Birthday

Ken Spirduso 28th
Rev. Patrick Poock 29th
Alex Boettcher 29th
Carol Eichert 29th
Frances Kurlinski 30th
David DuChane 31st
Jonathan Koehler 3rd
Marjorie Weiss 3rd

Happy Anniversary

Jason & Alexandra Laser 29th (22 yrs)

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AT FAITH:

Sunday, December 28th

8:00 am Divine Service
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Divine Service
11:30 am Coffee Bites

Sunday, January 4th

8:00 am Divine Service
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Divine Service
11:30 am Coffee Bites

Looking Ahead

Tuesday, January 6th Elders Meeting 9:15 am
Wednesday, January 7th Bible Study 3:30 pm
Wednesday, January 7th Divine Service 5:00 pm
Wednesday, January 7th Book of Concord 6:30 pm
Friday, January 9th LWML Meeting 9:30 am
Saturday, December 10th 9:00 am Christmas Decoration Removal
Saturday, December 10th Soul Spa 10:00 am