

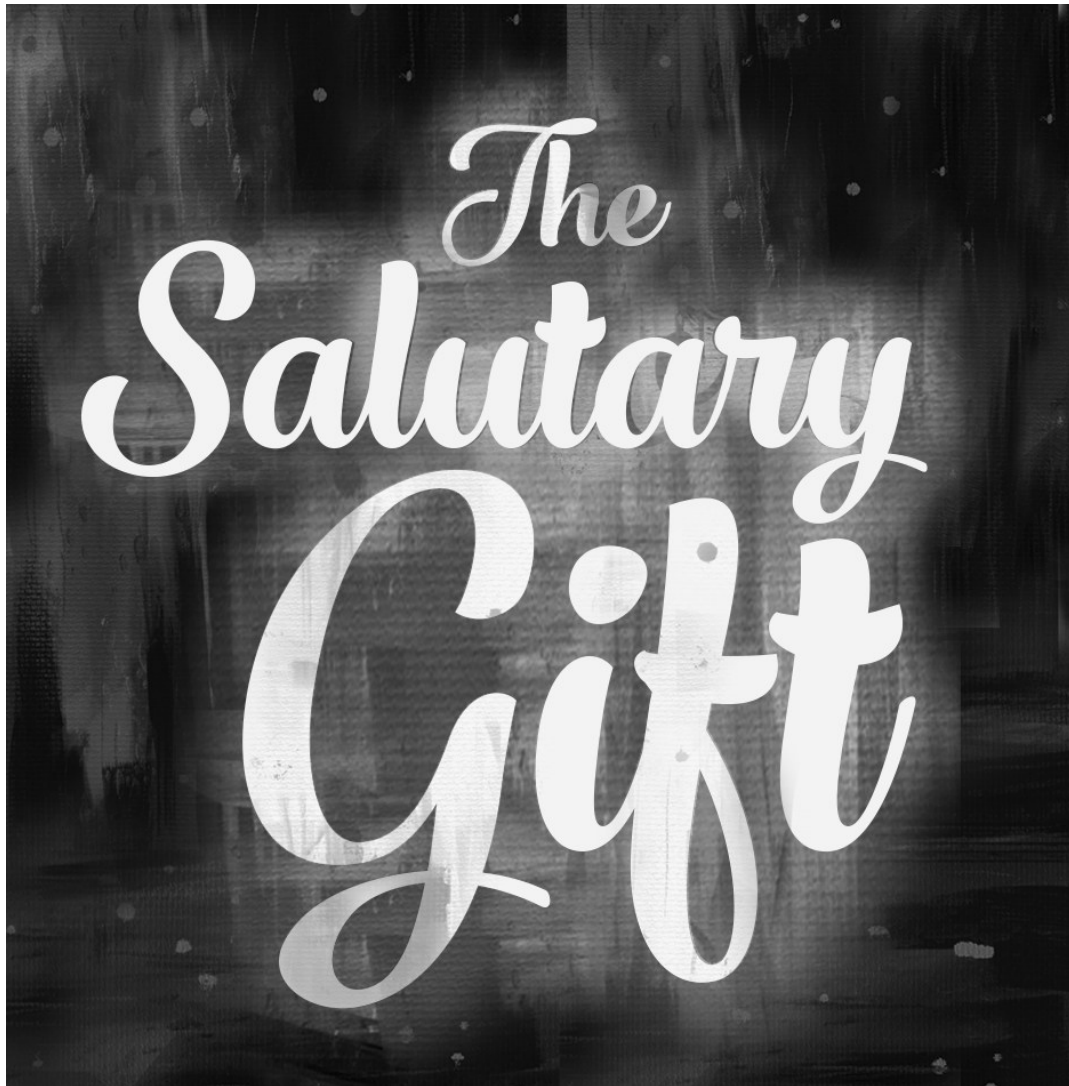
Our Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor Doug Minton

209 West Jones Street, Milford, IL

Email: pastor@oursaviormilford.com

Phone: (815) 889-4121 Cell: (507) 626-0202



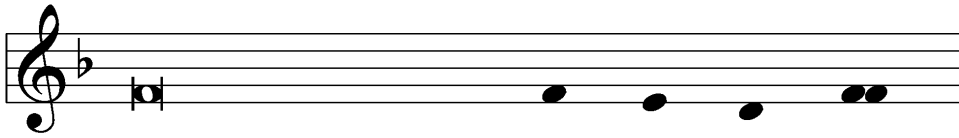
Fourth Wednesday in Lent

April 2, 2025

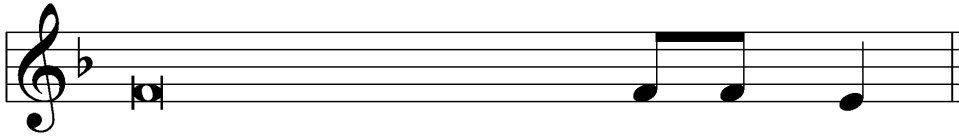
Evening Prayer

Service of Light

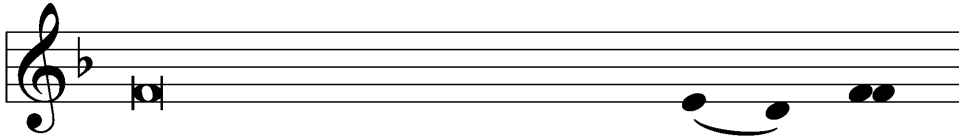
LSB 243



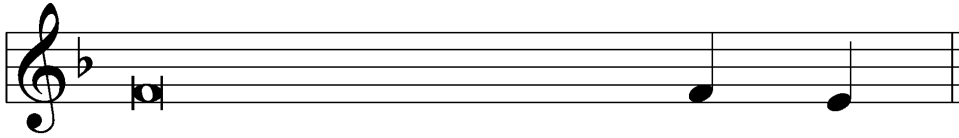
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



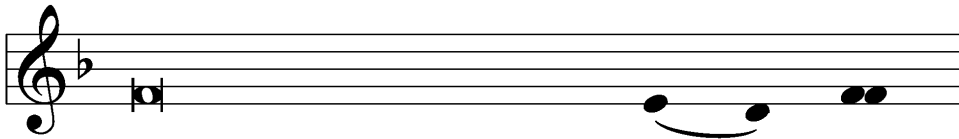
C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.



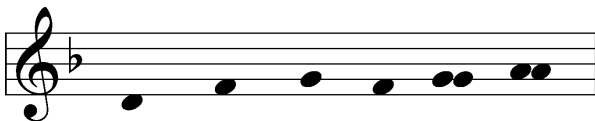
L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron


LSB 244



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the
 set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.
 We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:
 You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -
 ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:
 the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



G A - men.



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



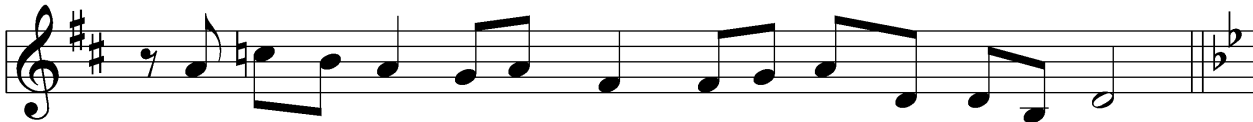
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.



Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



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



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Office Hymn

"Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

LSB 423



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
 2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
 pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
 love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
 thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
 hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
 Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
 From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
 grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
 hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452-98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826-96, alt.

Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel

Text and tune: Public domain

Passion Reading - The Praetorium

When they had bound Jesus, they led Him from Caiaphas to the hall of judgment and gave Him over to Pontius Pilate, the governor. It was early. They themselves did not go into the judgment hall, so that they might not be defiled, but might eat the Passover.

Pilate then went out to them, and said, "What charge do you bring against this man?"

They answered and said to him, "If he were not a criminal, we could not have handed him over to you."

Then Pilate said to them, "Take him, then, and judge him according to your law."

The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death." So the word of Jesus was fulfilled, signifying by what death He should die.

The charges they brought against Him were: "We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding us to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He Himself is Christ, a king."

Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered him, "Do you say this for yourself, or did others say it to you about Me?"

Pilate answered, "Do you take me for a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have given you over to me. What have you done?"

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

*LSB 440
(verses 1-2)*



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-81; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570-1615
Text and tune: Public domain

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world; if My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would have fought that I should not be given over to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not of this world."

Pilate therefore said to him, "Are you a king then?"

Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. I was born and I came into the world that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone that is of the truth hears My voice."

Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them, "I find no fault in this man."

The chief priests kept saying one charge after another against Him, but He answered not a word. Pilate questioned Him again, saying, "Do you answer nothing? See how many charges they lay against you." Jesus answered him not a word. Pilate was utterly amazed. He said to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no case against this man."

They pressed their charges more vehemently: "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place."

When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. When he learned that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him on to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem for those days.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was delighted, for he had long wished to see Him because of what he had heard of Him, and he hoped to see Him do a miracle. He questioned Jesus repeatedly, but He gave him no answer. The chief priests and scribes stood there and vehemently accused Him. Herod and his soldiers mocked Him. They put a splendid robe on Him and sent Him back to Pilate.

Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that same day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You have brought this man before me as one subverting the people. See now, I have examined him before you and have found nothing in this man guilty of any of your charges against him, and neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Mark this, he has done nothing worthy of death. I will have him punished and release him."

Now at the feast it was the governor's custom to release to the crowd any one prisoner whom they asked for. They had then a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. He was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection in the city. Pilate knew that it was out of malice that the chief priests handed Jesus over. Therefore he said to them, "Do you want me to release for you Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?"

The chief priests and elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

Pilate asked them again, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

And they cried out all together, saying, "Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas!"

While Pilate was sitting in the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message: "Do not have anything to do with that man; I have suffered much over him today in a dream."

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB 440
(verses 3-4)



3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

Again Pilate addressed them, for he wished to release Jesus. He said to them, “What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ? What shall I do with him whom you call the King of the Jews?”

They all cried out, “Crucify him!”

Pilate said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found no guilt worthy of death in him; I will therefore punish him and let him go.”

They cried out all the louder, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged. The soldiers of the governor led Him away into the Praetorium. They gathered the whole band of soldiers around Him. They stripped Him and put a purple robe on Him. When they had woven a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and a reed in His right hand, and they knelt before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. They knelt down and did Him homage.

Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I bring him out to you that you may know I find him not guilty.” So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!”

When the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him., for I do not find him guilty.”

The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”

When Pilate heard this, he was more afraid and went again into the judgment hall and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” Jesus gave him no answer. The Pilate said to Him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to crucify you, and I have power to release you?”

Jesus answered, “You would have no power at all over Me, unless it had been give to you from above. For that reason he who handed Me over to you has the greater sin.”

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB 440
(verses 5-6)



5 If my sins give me a-larm And my con-science grieve me,
6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,



Let Your cross my fear dis - arm; Peace of con-science give me.
Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.



Help me see for - give - ness won By Your ho - ly pas - sion.
May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



If for me He slays His Son, God must have com - pas - sion!
That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain

This prompted Pilate to go on trying to release Him, but the Jews cried out, “If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king sets himself against Caesar.”

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, or, in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*. It was the Preparation for the Passover, about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your king!”

They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!”

Pilate said unto them, “Shall I crucify your king?”

The chief priest answered, “We have no king but Caesar.”

When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but rather a riot was under way, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this man; see to it yourselves.”

Then all the people responded, “His blood be on us and on our children.”

Then Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, gave sentence that it should be as they demanded. He released to them Barabbas for whom they asked, the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder. He had Jesus flogged and then gave Him over to their will to be crucified. The soldiers mocked Him, stripped Him of the purple robe, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him.

Readings

Exodus 31:12-18

Hebrews 4:1-11

Matthew 11:27-12:8

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

“Rest for the Weary”

Matthew 11:27-12:8

Magnificat

Refrain



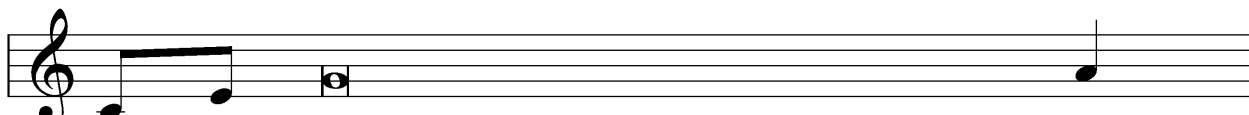
My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



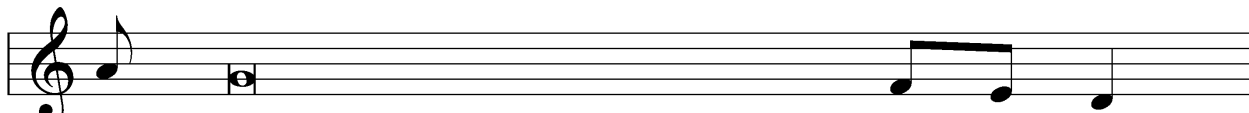
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the



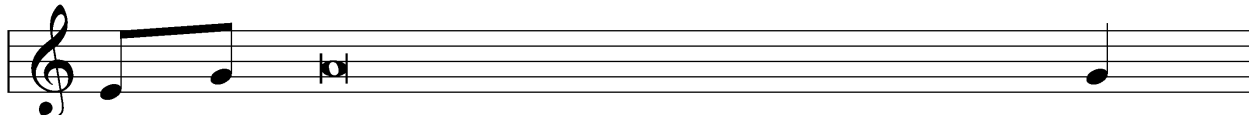
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



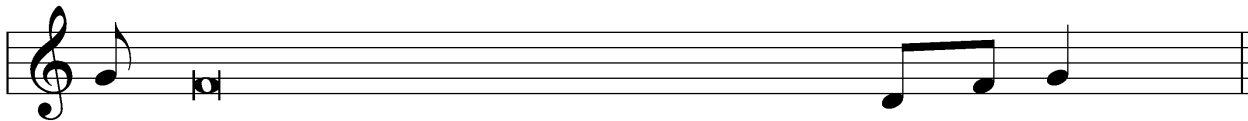
- 1 For _____ He has re - - - - - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



- 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 blessed.
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*

Litany

LSB 249

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- 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 ... 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 ... 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.
- L** For . . . 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:

C **Thanks be to God.**

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious 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 for Peace

L O God, . . . one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

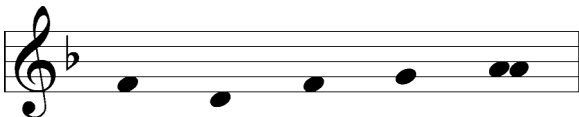
Lord's Prayer

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.**

Benedicamus

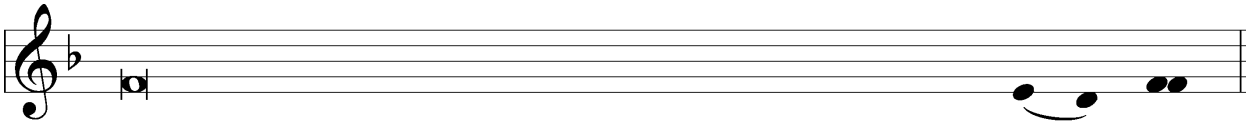
LSB 252



L Let us bless the Lord.



C **Thanks be to God.**



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



G A - men.

Closing Hymn

“I Come, O Savior, to They Table”

LSB 618



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
2 Thy heart is filled with fer - vent yearn - ing That sin - ners
3 Un - wor - thy though I am, O Sav - ior, Be - cause I
4 Wea - ry am I and heav - y lad - en; With sin my
5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's



wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
may sal - va - tion see Who, Lord, to Thee in
have a sin - ful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
soul is sore op - pressed; Re - ceive me gra - cious -
bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of



lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
faith are turn - ing; So I, a sin - ner, come to Thee.
ban - ish nev - er, For Thou my faith - ful shep - herd art:
ly and glad - den My heart, for I am now Thy guest.
heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

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
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001355
Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.