

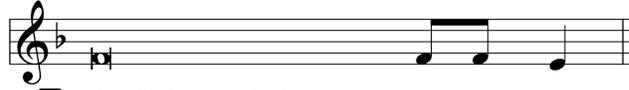
Service of Light

Stand

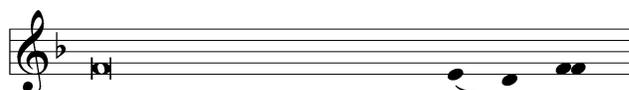
LSB 243



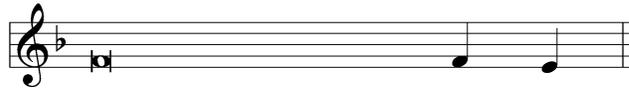
**L** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



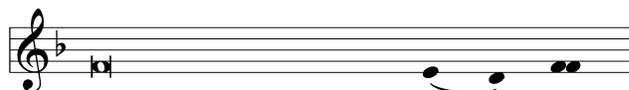
**C** the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



**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 u - ni - verse,  
 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 mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion  
 and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.  
**C** A - men.

*Sit*

# Psalmody

## Psalm 141

LSB 245

**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.

**L** Let us pray.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.



**C** A - men.

### Additional Psalms

*Psalm 135:1-7, 19-21; antiphon: vv.5-6*



- <sup>5</sup>For I know that the | LORD is great,\*  
and that our Lord is a- | bove all gods.
- <sup>6</sup>Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven | and on earth,\*  
in the seas and | all deeps
- <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! Praise the name | of the LORD,\*  
give praise, O servants | of the LORD,  
<sup>2</sup>who stand in the house | of the LORD,\*  
in the courts of the house | of our God!
- <sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, for the | LORD is good;\*  
sing to his name, for it is | pleasant!
- <sup>4</sup>For the LORD has chosen Jacob | for himself,\*  
Israel as his own pos- | session.
- <sup>5</sup>For I know that the | LORD is great,\*  
and that our Lord is a- | bove all gods.
- <sup>6</sup>Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven | and on earth,\*  
in the seas and | all deeps.
- <sup>7</sup>He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end | of the earth,\*  
who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his | storehouses.
- <sup>19</sup>O house of Israel, | bless the LORD!\*
- O house of Aaron, | bless the LORD!
- <sup>20</sup>O house of Levi, | bless the LORD!\*
- You who fear the LORD, | bless the LORD!
- <sup>21</sup>Blessed be the LORD from | Zion,\*  
he who dwells in Jerusalem! | Praise the LORD!

**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.**

- <sup>5</sup>For I know that the | LORD is great,\*  
and that our Lord is a- | bove all gods.

<sup>6</sup>Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven | and on earth,\*  
in the seas and | all deeps.

**L** Let us pray.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

*A Psalm Collect is prayed here, and, after its final inflection, the congregation responds as follows*



**G** A - men.

## Office Hymn

## “Stars of the Morning, So Gloriously Bright”

LSB 520



1 Stars of the morn - ing, so glo - rious - ly bright,  
2 These are Your min - is - ters, these are Your own,  
3 Then, when the earth was first poised in mid - space,  
4 Still let them aid us and still let them fight,



An - gels in heav - en, re - splen - dent in light,  
Lord God of Sab - a - oth, near - est Your throne;  
Then, when the plan - ets first sped on their race,  
Lord of an - gel - ic hosts, bat - tling for right,



These, where no dark - ness the glo - ry can dim,  
These are Your mes - sen - gers, these whom You send,  
Then, when were end - ed the six days' em - ploy,  
Till, where their an - thems they cease - less - ly pour,



Praise the Thrice Ho - ly One, serv - ing but Him.  
Help - ing Your help - less ones, Help - er and Friend.  
Then all the sons of God shout - ed for joy.  
We with the an - gels may bow and a - dore.

Text: Joseph the Hymnographer, c. 810–886; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.; Public domain.  
Tune: Antiphoner, 1681, Paris; Public domain.

## Readings

### First Reading

Isaiah 7:1-25

**L** A reading from Isaiah, the seventh chapter.

<sup>1</sup>In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could not yet mount an attack against it. <sup>2</sup>When the house of David was told, “Syria is in league with Ephraim,” the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind.

<sup>3</sup>And the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Washer’s Field. <sup>4</sup>And say to him, ‘Be careful, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint because of these two smoldering stumps of firebrands, at the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria and the son of Remaliah. <sup>5</sup>Because Syria, with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah, has devised evil against you, saying, <sup>6</sup>“Let us go up against Judah and terrify it, and let us conquer it for ourselves, and set up the son of Tabeel as king in the midst of it,” <sup>7</sup>thus says the Lord GOD:

“It shall not stand,  
and it shall not come to pass.

<sup>8</sup>For the head of Syria is Damascus,  
and the head of Damascus is Rezin.

(Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be broken to pieces so that it will no longer be a people.)

<sup>9</sup>“And the head of Ephraim is Samaria,  
and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah.  
If you are not firm in faith,  
you will not be firm at all.”

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

In that day the Lord will whistle for the fly that is at the end of the streams of Egypt, and for the bee that is in the land of Assyria. And they will all come and settle in the steep ravines, and in the clefts of the rocks, and on all the thornbushes, and on all the pastures.

In that day the Lord will shave with a razor that is hired beyond the River—with the king of Assyria—the head and the hair of the feet, and it will sweep away the beard also.

In that day a man will keep alive a young cow and two sheep, and because of the abundance of milk that they give, he will eat curds, for everyone who is left in the land will eat curds and honey.

In that day every place where there used to be a thousand vines, worth a thousand shekels of silver, will become briers and thorns. With bow and arrows a man will come there, for all the land will be briers and thorns. And as for all the hills that used to be hoed with a hoe, you will not come there for fear of briers and thorns, but they will become a place where cattle are let loose and where sheep tread.

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

LSB 247

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

**L** A reading from Matthew, the first chapter.

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

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

LSB 247

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word may follow each reading. After the final reading:*

**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.

# Canticle

Stand

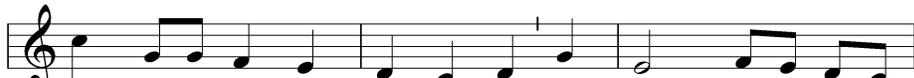
## Magnificat

LSB 248

*Refrain*



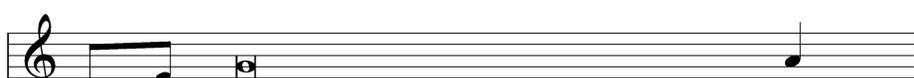
My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



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.



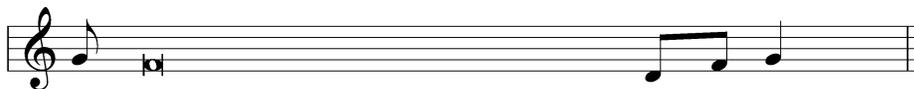
- 1 For \_\_\_\_\_ He has re - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son



- 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 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*

Sit

## Offering

LSB 249

*Offerings placed in the Box in the Narthex before the Service are brought forward here.*

# Prayer

*Kneel/Stand*

## Litany

LSB 249

*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.**
- L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . 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** Al - le - lu - ia.

**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:

**G** To You, O Lord.

### Additional Collects

*The Collect for the past Sunday and an additional Collect for Advent are prayed here.*

*The Congregation responds to each Collect with the Amen given below for the Collect for Peace.*

### Collect for Peace

LSB 251

**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.

**G** A - men.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 957

Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,  
 Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as  
 it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly  
 bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give  
 those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -

to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -

ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Text: Traditional; Public domain.  
Tune: Plainsong, mode VII; Public domain.

*Stand*

**Benedicamus**

*LSB 252*

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

*LSB 252*

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

**C** A - men.

**Acknowledgments**

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