

C ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

✠ THE OFFERING

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

C In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Num. 6:23-27

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 His peace.

C Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: Tune of TLH #85 "We Magnify the Holy One"

1. We magnify the Holy One, The blessed virgin Mary's Son, With life and voice we praise His Name, and all His won'drous works proclaim:
2. He who Himself all things did make, a servant's form on earth did take That He as man mankind might win, redeeming all the world from sin.
3. Upon a manger filled with hay, in poverty content He lay; With milk was fed the Lord of all, who feeds God's creatures great and small.
4. To Calv'ry's cross He bore our sin, and freed us from all guilt therein, His death became the life of all, who on His name in faith shall call.
5. He rose triumphant from the grave; He conquered death the lost to save, And rules all things from God's right hand, to lead His own to heav'n's fair land.
6. All honor unto Christ be paid, pure Offspring of the favored maid, With Father and with Holy Ghost, till time in endless time be lost! Amen.

Hymn: TLH #95

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

P In the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P O Lord, open my lips.

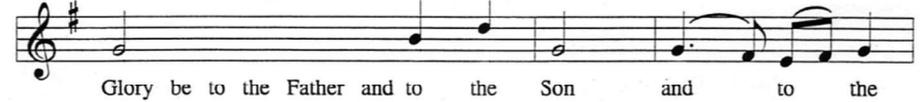


C: And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

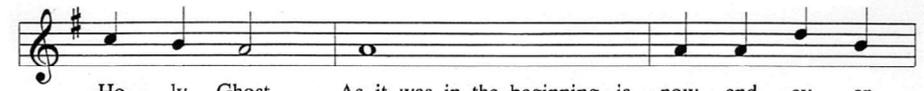
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me.



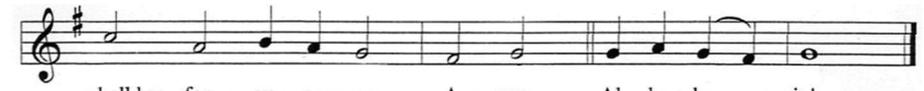
C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the



Ho - ly Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er



shall be: for - ev - er-more. A - men. Al - le - lu - ia!

CONFESSION OF SINS & ABSOLUTION

P God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but desires that sinners repent, turn from their wicked ways, and live.

C "Teach me, and I will be silent; make me understand how I have gone astray."
Job 6:24

P "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one."
Rom. 3:10-12

C "I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight."
Ps. 51:3-4

P Jesus declared: "I am the resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
John 11:25-26

C “Yes, we believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

John 11: 27

P “The Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die.” “In Jesus we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”

2 Sam. 12:13; Eph. 1:7

C Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE

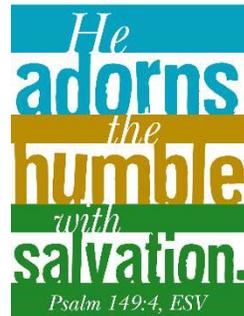
Tune of WS #761

C ♪ My soul rejoices, My spirit voices— Sing the greatness of the Lord! For God my Savior Has shown me favor— Sing the greatness of the Lord! With praise and blessing, Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy— O sing the greatness of God the Lord! His mercy surely Shall rest securely On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him— O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

His arm now baring, His strength declaring— Sing the greatness of the Lord! The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters— Sing the greatness of the Lord! Oppression halted; The meek exalted. Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy— O sing the greatness of God the Lord! Here is the token All that was spoken, To Abr’ham’s offspring God is fulfilling— O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 66:1-2 Thus says the LORD: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest? ² All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the LORD. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

EPISTLE READING – James 4:6-10 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.



CONFESSION OF FAITH *Luther’s Explanation to the Second Article*

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood, and with His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn: Below

“The Quempas Carol”

C Sing with Mary, virgin mother;
Praise her Son, our newborn brother;
Angel ranks, lead one another,
Hailing Him in holy joy!

P Then sang the angels this refrain:

“To God on high alone give praise and glory,
And peace on earth again shall reign.

Let all on earth with gladness heed this story

And rejoice in His goodwill.” The Savior came in meekness
For you, for you, to bear your flesh in weakness.

C God’s own Son is born a child, is born a child;
God the Father is reconciled, is reconciled!

SERMON TEXT - Luke 1:46-55 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

Behold the Child: For You, to Bear Your Flesh in Weakness