

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Theme for Our Service:

This service is not a celebration of Christmas, but a review in Scripture and music of God's promise of salvation through Christ Jesus for all humankind. The theme of this year's Festival is "The Savior We Seek."

The first Festival of Lessons and Carols was held on Christmas Eve in 1918 at King's College, Cambridge. It was conceived by Eric Milner-White, Dean of the College, whose experiences as an army chaplain led him to believe that more imaginative worship was needed by the Church of England.

We would also like to thank Mr. Frederick Schmidt for his generosity for serving as our Music Patron this morning.

Our Worship Service This Week:

Lessons of Festival and Carols

Words of Welcome

At this time, Pastor Iovine will outline some parish news and information. For further information on these announcements, please look in the "Saint Matthew's Matters" insert in your bulletin AND on our church's website, www.smelcnewmilford.org and click the "Saint Matthew's Matters" under the "About Us" tab.

Prelude - Pre-Service Prayer & Meditation

"

↑ Opening Carol

"Of the Father's Love Begotten," Lutheran Worship #36

Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed, When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's redeemer, First revealed his sacred face.
Evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers of old time Chanted of with one accord,

Whom the voices of the prophets Promised in their faithful word;
Now he shines, the long expected; Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

Let the heights of heav'n adore him; Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

Christ, to you, with God the Father And the Spirit, there shall be
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And the shout of jubilee;
Honor, glory, and dominion And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore!

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c.413; tr. Composite

Tune: plainsong, mode V, 13th century

Invocation and Opening Sentences

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

(Silence for reflection)

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
C: **I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins. I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. I have not honored my Lord's name as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin. I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace that I may amend my sinful life.**


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.**

The Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

The third Advent candle is lit. We sing the third verse of the hymn "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is-ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Kyrie

We cry out, as God's people, "Lord, have mercy!"



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *LSB*

C: **Amen.**

↓ First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-8, 13-15

L: The First Lesson is taken from Genesis, Chapter 3:

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden...

Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.
And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol

"Savior of the Nations. Come." Lutheran Worship #13

Savior of the Nations, come, Show yourself the virgin's son.
Marvel, heaven, wonder, earth That our God chose such a birth.

No man's pow'r of mind of blood But the Spirit of our God
Made the Word of God be flesh, Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

Here a maid was found with child, Virgin pure and undefiled.
In her virtues it was known god had made her heart his throne.

Then stepped forth the Lord of all From his pure and kingly hall;
God of God, becoming man, His heroic course began.

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.

Father's equal, you will win Vict'ries for us over sin.
Might eternal, make us whole; Heal our ills of flesh and soul.

From the manger newborn light Sends a glory through the night.
Night cannot this light subdue, Faith keeps springing ever new.

Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our King,
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

Text: St. Ambrose, 340-97; German version, Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. F. Samuel Janzow, b. 1913, alt.

Tune: Johann Walter, Geylitche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524

Second Lesson

Genesis 15:1, 5-8

L: The First Lesson is taken from Genesis, Chapter 15:

After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward...”

He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

He also said to him, “I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.” But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol

O How Beautiful the Sky," arr. Marie Pooler (Choir)

Third Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:2, 6-7

L: The First Lesson is taken from Isaiah, Chapters 7 and 9:

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel...

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol

"Prepare the Way, O Zion," Mary Kay Beall (Choir)

Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-33, 38

L: The First Lesson is taken from Saint Luke, Chapter 1:

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end..."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

“Magnificant,” David Schack (Choir)

Fifth Lesson

Matthew 1:18-23

L: The First Lesson is taken from Saint Matthew, Chapter 1:

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

“Angels We Have Heard on High,” Lutheran Worship #55

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav’nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Text: French carol; tr. H.J. Hemy, Crown of Jesus Music, Part II, 1862, alt.

Tune: French carol

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-16

L: The First Lesson is taken from Saint Luke, Chapter 2:

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

"As with Gladness Men of Old," Lutheran Worship #75

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed.
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So, may we with willing feet Ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare At thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Though its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sin Alleluias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

Seventh Lesson

Galatians 4:4-7; 5:13, 14

L: The First Lesson is taken from Galatians, Chapters 4 and 5:

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir...

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol

"Good Christian Friend, Rejoice and Sing," Lutheran Worship #129

Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord of Life is ris'n this day; Bring flow'rs of song to strew his way;
Let all the world rejoice and say: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Praise we in songs of victory That love, that life which cannot die,
And sing with hearts uplifted high: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord, And sing today with one accord

The life laid down, the life restored: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.
Tune: Mechoir Vulpius, c. 1570-1615

Homily

Offering

Voluntary

“

↑ Prayer of the Church

Our weekly prayers are responsive in nature. At the end of each petition, “Lord, in Your mercy,” is spoken, to which the congregation responds, “Hear our prayer.”

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P For all the baptized, that they may greatly rejoice in the gifts that God has given them through the sacred washing of water and the Spirit. For all servants of the church, for pastors and missionaries, for teachers, DCEs, and deaconesses, for congregational leaders and all who volunteer their service, that God would grant His favor in their vocations and grant them energy and zeal to carry out their responsibilities with diligence and faithfulness; Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P For those seeking employment, that God would grant them suitable and fulfilling employment and that He would lead them to see their employment as a gift from Him, by which He takes care of their bodies and lives. For the hungry and the need, that our Lord would grant them those things that would sustain their bodies and lives. For those struggling with their faith, that our God in heaven would send down His Holy Spirit to fill their hearts and minds with the hope and joy of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

P Almighty Lord, in this Advent season we are reminded You always keep Your promises, grant us faith to trust in the promises made to us in our baptism, renew in us a desire to grow in faith through the preaching and teaching of Your Word and to contribute to the growth of Your kingdom through the same. We pray for your blessings upon our New Jersey District’s Mission Summit on Feb 11th. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For those sick and suffering in any way, remembering this evening/day all of those on our church prayer list, most especially laying before our Great Physician this day _____, and asking Him that in the midst of their afflictions, the good news of salvation from sin and death may lead them to rejoice in Him and trust Him for deliverance and healing, Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For the members of our military who are far away from home, serving our nation in dangerous, war torn areas, that our Lord would send peace and tranquility to the Middle East. For the families of our service men and women who long for their loved ones to be with them in these Advent and Christmas seasons. For our enemies who endlessly plot evil and vileness against the innocent, that they would turn from their acts of turmoil to one of peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For those who receive the true body and blood of the Lord Jesus in the fellowship of this altar, that they may remember Christ's once-for-all sacrificial death on their behalf and receive its benefits as they eat and drink His Holy Supper, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

“Advent Prayer”

James Clemens (Choir and Congregation)

Come, Lord Je - sus, come and dwell,
dwell in our hearts, Im - man - u - el.

- 1 We are waiting on this day; Jesus will take our fears away.
We will keep our vigil here, as his Advent draws us near.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
- 2 We are longing on this day; Jesus will take our sins away.
As a shepherd, he will lead; gently tend our ev'ry need.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
- 3 We are reaching on this day; Jesus will lead us, light our way.
He will show the way of peace, from our darkness bring release.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
- 4 We will expect him on that day; we prepare our hearts and pray.
He will bless us with his grace, saving all the human race.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
- 5 Jesus is coming on this night, sent from God to be our light.
Let us praise our humble king, and with adoration sing,
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.
Dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

Copyright © 1999 Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO

Permission is given to reproduce this page only in congregational worship folders. The above notice must appear in the worship folder.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also 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

P: It is truly good, 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

"The God of Abraham Praise," Lutheran Worship #450, stanzas 8-9

**The God who reigns on high The great archangels sing,
And "Holy, holy, holy!" cry, "Almighty King!
Who was, and is the same And evermore shall be:
Jehovah, Father, great I AM! We worship Thee!"**

**The whole triumphant host Give thanks to God on high.
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" They ever cry.
Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine! I join the heavn'ly lays:
All might and majesty are Thine And endless praise!**

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-99, alt.

Tune: YIGDAL, Hebrew.

Text and Tune: Public domain

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

P: Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him

should not perish but have eternal life. In Your boundless mercy You send Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ, the kingdom of heaven has drawn near. With thankful hearts we pray then:

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night 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 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 blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Matthew 26: 26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

P: In His body and blood, given us to eat and drink in this most holy Supper, we here receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in His glory. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A: 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.

Sharing of the Peace

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Agnus Dei

"The Lamb, The Lamb," Lutheran Service Book, #547, stanzas 1, 4, 5

**The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes, God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb, whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

He sighs, He dies, He take my sin and wretchedness.

**He lives, forgives, He give me His own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb, whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song, prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb, whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953
Music: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953
Text and tune: (c) 1987 Morningstar Music Publishers
Setting (c) 1997 Morningstar Music Publishers

↓ Communion Distribution

“

The Lord's Supper will be distributed from the floor of the sanctuary this morning.

↑ Post-Communion Collect

E: Let us pray. O Lord, we rejoice in the gift of Your Son and in the promise of all that is to come when He returns in glory. Reach into the moments of our great despair and plant within us the joy of our Lord Jesus Christ that we may be sustained in all our trials and possess the peace that passes all understanding all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Benediction

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. *Numbers 6:24-26*

Closing Carol

“Let All Together Praise our God,” Lutheran Worship #44

Let all together praise our God Before his glorious throne;
Today he opens heav'n again To give us his own Son, To give us His own Son.

The Father sends him from his throne To be an infant small
And lie here poorly manged now In this cold, dismal stall, In this cold, dismal stall.

Within an earth-born form he hides His all creating light;
To serve us all he humbly cloaks The splendor of his might, The splendor of his might

He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us his realm, His glory and His name, His glory and His name.

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

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.

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

Text: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561; tr. F. Samuel Janzow, b. 1913
Tune: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

Musical Benediction

“

Dismissal

Postlude

“

Copyright Notice: Scripture quotations and readings are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Copyright Notice: Liturgy (or appropriate portion thereof) from Lutheran Service Book (c) 2006 Concordia Publishing House, Saint Louis. Used by permission. License #00010073.

Copyright Notice: Portions of our liturgy today are used by permission from Creative Worship (c) 2010 Concordia Publishing House, Saint Louis.