

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Hymn

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Text: Public domain

Invocation

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

Opening Verses

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

- C** **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.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.**

Psalmody

Psalm 72

Psalm 72:1–8

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!
- ²**May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!**
- ³Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!
- ⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!**
- ⁵May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- ⁶**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!**
- ⁷In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!
- ⁸**May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!**

Hymn

352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

- 1 Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who has truly kept His word
And at last to us did send
Christ, the sinner's help and friend.

- 2 What the fathers most desired,
What the prophets' heart inspired,

What they longed for many_a year,
Stands fulfilled in glory here.

- 3 Abram's promised great reward,
Zion's helper, Jacob's Lord—
Him of twofold race behold—
Truly came, as long foretold.
- 4 As Your coming was in peace,
Quiet, full of gentleness,
Let the same mind dwell in me
Which is Yours eternally.
- 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.
Text: Public domain

Readings

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:1–7

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 9.

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Galatians 4:1–7

L A reading from Galatians, chapter 4.

¹ I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when 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.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26–38

P A reading from Luke, chapter 1.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name

Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Come Lord Jesus, Part 1”

Luke 1:26–38

Canticle

P Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

The Magnificat

934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

- 1 My soul now magnifies the Lord;
My spirit leaps for joy in Him.
He keeps me in His kind regard,
And I am blest for time to come.
- 2 For He alone who shows such might
Has done amazing things to me.
His mercy flows; His name like light
Remains in time perpetually.
- 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great.
He scatters those of proud intent
And casts them down from high estate,
Then gives the low His nourishment.
- 4 He feeds the hungry as His own;
The wealthy leave with empty hands.
He gives His help to Israel;
His gracious promise always stands.

Text: Luke 1:46–55; adapt. Stephanie K. Frey, 1952

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Offering

Prayer

Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

LSB 233

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.

Prayers

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

Prayer for Peace

P 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.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart

887 Now the Light Has Gone Away

sts. 1–5

- 1 Now the light has gone away;
Father, listen while I pray,
Asking Thee to watch and keep
And to send me quiet sleep.
- 2 Jesus, Savior, wash away
All that has been wrong today;
Help me ev'ry day to be
Good and gentle, more like Thee.
- 3 Let my near and dear ones be
Always near and dear to Thee;
O bring me and all I love
To Thy happy home above.
- 4 Now my evening praise I give;
Thou didst die that I might live.
All my blessings come from Thee;
Oh, how good Thou art to me!
- 5 Thou, my best and kindest Friend,
Thou wilt love me to the end.
Let me love Thee more and more,
Always better than before.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79, alt.

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