

The Order of the Divine Service for the Advent Season

An Opening Hymn is sung.

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.



A - - - - men.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

For baptized and penitent Christians to make confession and receive absolution.

P Beloved in the Lord, having been baptized into the most holy name of the blessed Trinity, it is fitting and right that we should make confession of our sins before our merciful Father in heaven. Therefore, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins, seeking His mercy and forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

V Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Ps. 24:8



R Who made heaven and earth.

V I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

Ps. 32:5



R And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

C O Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to You that I am by nature sinful and unclean, and that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, words, and deeds. For this I deserve nothing but Your wrath and punishment. But I am truly sorry for all my sins, and trusting only in Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P God, our heavenly Father, gave His only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to be the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world, and has promised the forgiveness of sins to all who repent and believe in Jesus. Therefore, to all of you who are truly penitent and believing and intend to order your

life according to God's commandments, I declare, as a called and ordained minister of the Christian Church: Your sins are forgiven you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



THE SALUTATION & THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



R And with your spir - it.

P Let us pray.

The Pastor says the Collect, concluding, "...one God, forever and ever."



R A - - - - men.

Sit

THE EPISTLE

THE GRADUAL & VERSE

The Gradual and Verse are sung as printed in the Service Insert.

Stand

THE GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. _____, chapter ____.



Glo-ry be to You, O Lord!

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to You, O Christ!

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made; who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also

for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven; and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit. A Hymn is sung. The Pastor then preaches:

THE SERMON

Stand after the sermon to sing:

THE OFFERTORY

Ps. 51:10-12

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Your pres-ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir- it
from me. Re-store to me the joy of Your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with a will-ing spir-it. A - men.

THE GENERAL PRAYER

If a Hymn follows, the congregation sits.

All then stand for:

THE PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



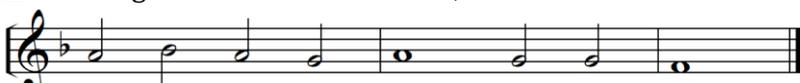
R And with your spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



R We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



R It is good and right so to do.

The Pastor chants the Proper Preface:

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, 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:

THE SANCTUS

Is. 6:3; Mt. 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav-en-ly hosts;



heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -



san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please note our Closed Communion practice, explained on the first page of this booklet. Communicant members of our congregation are invited to come forward to receive the Lord's Supper. During the distribution, the congregation may sing the Distribution Hymn(s), as time permits.

Stand to sing:

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Lk. 2:29-32



Lord, now You let Your servant de - part in peace ac -
cord-ing to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation,
which You have pre - pared be - fore the face of all peoples,
a Light for en - light - en - ing the Gen - tles and for glo - ry to Your
peo - ple Is - - - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spirit; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

THE THANKSGIVING

P Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!



R For His mercy en - dures for - ev - - - er.

The pastor says the Prayer, concluding, "...one God, forever and ever."



R A - - - - men.

THE SALUTATION & THE BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.



R And with your spir - it.

P Let us bless the Lord.



R Thanks be to God.

THE BENEDICTION

Num. 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



R A - men, A - men, A - men.

Sit

A Closing Hymn may be sung.



O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1591-1635

O HEILAND, REISS DIE HIMMEL AUF



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;
2 O Morn - ing Star, O ra - diant Dawn,
3 Sin's dread - ful doom up - on us lies;
4 There shall we all our prais - es bring



Come down, come down with might-y stride;
When will we sing Your morn-ing song?
Grim death looms fierce be - fore our eyes.
And sing to You, our Sav - ior - King;



Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;
Come, Son of God! With - out Your light
Oh, come, lead us with might - y hand
There shall we laud You and a - dore



Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
We grope in dread and gloom of night.
From ex - ile to our prom - ised land.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in dread - ful maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand, thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who once de - spised and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom for Thine own!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ ap - pears on earth to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture, Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Ev - er - last - ing God, come down!

Text: Charles Wesley, 17-7-88, alt.

Tune: Thomas Olivers; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, alt.

HELMSLEY

God's Only Son, Our Savior

Elisabeth Cruciger, 1524
Tr. Paul Rydecki, 2021

HERR CHRIST, DER EINGE GOTTS SOHN

1 God's on - ly Son, our Sav - ior, From God's own bo - som
2 Born of a vir - gin - mo - ther— Pure, chaste, and un - de -
3 May we, in You a - bid - ing, In faith and love in -

came, E - ter - nal - ly be - got - ten, As God's own Word makes
filed— He came in time, our Broth - er, A pre - cious hu - man
crease, That we, in You con - fid - ing, May serve in joy and

plain. True Light from Light pro - ceed - ing, His bright - ness ne'er re -
Child. Grim death for us en - dur - ing, Our heav'n - ly home se -
peace, That e'en here in our weak - ness We yet may taste Your

ce - ding, He is the Mor - ning Star.
cur - ing, He now has life re - stored.
sweet - ness And ev - er thirst for You.

4 O God, of all Creator,
Almighty Lord of all,
With fatherly devotion
You reign o'er great and small.
Oh, turn our hearts to ponder
The heav'nly mansions yonder,
Lest we from You should stray.

5 Lord, slay us with Your kindness,
And raise us by Your grace;
Destroy our Old Man's vigor,
The New Man put in place.
Direct our thoughts and actions
And rid us of distractions,
That we may live for You.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with

near!" we hear it say; "Cast a - way the works of
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, her Sun, all sloth dis -
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of

dark - ness, O you chil - dren of the day!"
 pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n,

4 That, when next He comes with glory
 And the world is wrapped in fear,
 He may shield us with His mercy
 And with words of love draw near.

5 Honor, glory, might, dominion
 To the Father and the Son,
 With the everlasting Spirit,
 While eternal ages run!

Text: *Vox clara ecce in tonat*, c. 900
 Tr. Edward Caswall, 1849, alt.
 Tune: *Michael Weisse*, c. 1480-1534

FREUEN WIR UNS ALL IN EIN