December 31, 2023 10:00 a.m.

#### WORDS OF WELCOME



## **INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

# CONFESSION AND GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess

our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our

Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: Who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and

ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of

the \(\mathbb{A}\) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

## GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord, be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray . . .

People: Amen.

## CHORAL SELECTION

"Let There Be Peace"

# ₩ WORD ₩

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 30:8–17* (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> And now, go, write it before them on a tablet and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come as a witness forever. <sup>9</sup> For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the Lord; <sup>10</sup> who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions, <sup>11</sup> leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel." <sup>12</sup> Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, "Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them, <sup>13</sup> therefore this iniquity shall be to you

like a breach in a high wall, bulging out and about to collapse, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant; <sup>14</sup> and its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern." <sup>15</sup> For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." But you were unwilling, <sup>16</sup> and you said, "No! We will flee upon horses"; therefore you shall flee away; and, "We will ride upon swift steeds"; therefore your pursuers shall be swift. <sup>17</sup> A thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

#### **HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 12:35–40 (ESV)

<sup>35</sup> "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

<sup>37</sup> Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! <sup>39</sup> But

know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise 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 worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of 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 in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ▶ of the world to come. Amen.

## **HYMN**

# "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

LSB 733



past, Our God, our help in a - ges Thy throne Thy shad - ow Un - der the of stood Or Be - fore the hills or - der in Thy sight Are thou-sand a - ges in

hope for years to come, saints have dwelt se - cure; earth re - ceived her frame, like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home: Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure. From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same. Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,Soon bears us all away;We fly forgotten as a dreamDies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,Our hope for years to come,Be Thou our guard while troubles lastAnd our eternal home!

Text and tune: Public domain

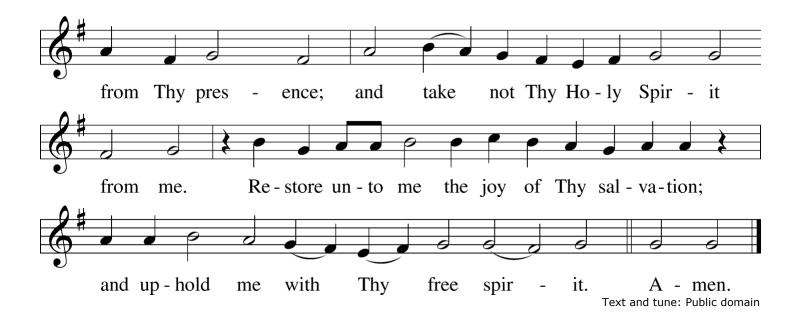
# **SERMON**

"Keep Your Lamps Burning" Luke 12:35-40

# **OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me" LSB 956





## **MINISTRY MINUTE**

Text-to-give: 810-285-7861

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

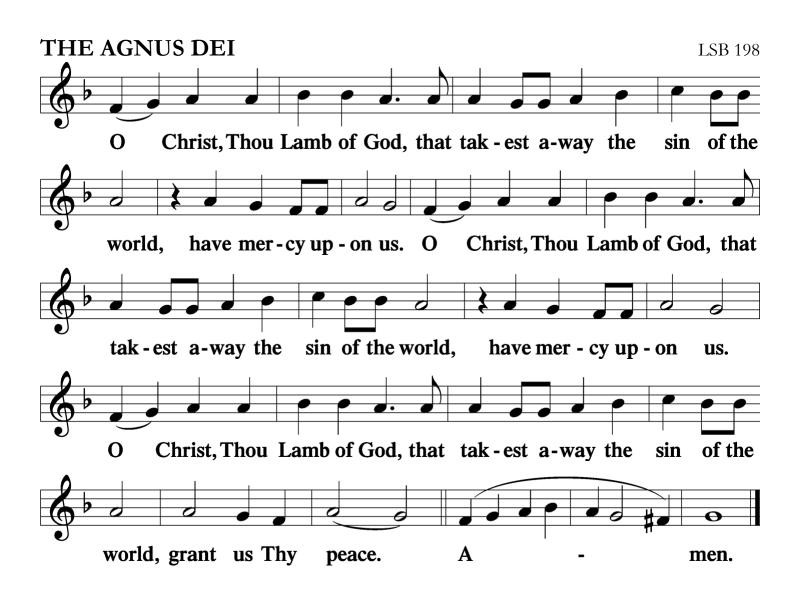
## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE PEACE

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

People: And, also with you.

# RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION





is

born.

The

babe, the

son

for Christ

Joy,

joy,

of Mar-v!

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 363



LSB 379



## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray . . .

People: Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine

upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with

His favor and grant you His peace.

People: Amen.

# **SENDING HYMN**

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

LSB 388



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry-where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si-lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone ly man ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Be - hold, through - out the heav-ens Rang out the an-gel cho - rus And God sent us sal - va - tion

There shone a ho - ly light. That hailed our Sav - ior's birth. That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text and tune: Public domain