

*Welcome to*

## **SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**Advent Worship #3**

December 17, 2025

"In Nomine Iesu"

915 - 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Marion, Iowa 52302  
e-mail: [office@stpaulsmarioniowa.org](mailto:office@stpaulsmarioniowa.org)  
[www.mystpauls.org](http://www.mystpauls.org)  
Phone: (319)377-4687

## **Fear Not**

Welcome to Advent at St. Paul's! The command "Fear not!" appears 170 times in the King James Version of the Bible. Ever since the Fall into sin, mankind has had reason to be afraid, as Adam and Eve were in the garden when they realized they were naked. In the same way, our sin is exposed before our Father. But thanks be to God, for in Christ Jesus our sin is washed away, and we have no more reason to be afraid: not of judgment, not of sin, not of death itself! Fear not! Do not be afraid.

Please take a moment to fill out the registration card found in the pew rack. We appreciate you joining us tonight and look forward to seeing you in our next worship.

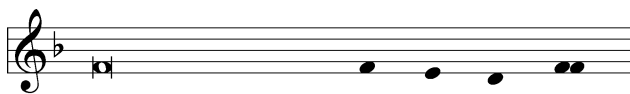
***Thank you to all*** who contributed to our delicious pre-service potluck meals the past few weeks. It was wonderful to meet together in fellowship before we joined our hearts in worship.

**Prelude** *"Prepare the Way, O Zion"* Paul Manz  
**Welcome and Announcements**  
**Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells**

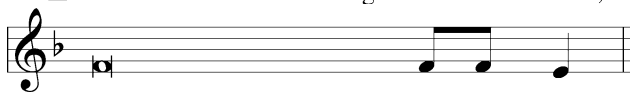
### **The Order of Worship**

Lutheran Service Book – page 243  
Service of Evening Prayer

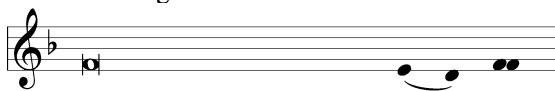
## Service of Light (*please stand*)



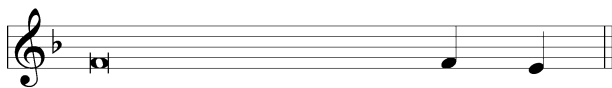
**L** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



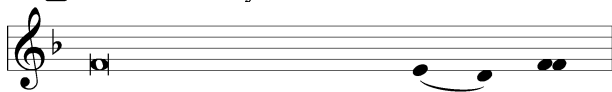
**C** the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



**L** Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



**C** and the day is almost o - ver.



**L** Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



**C** and il - lu - mine Your Church.

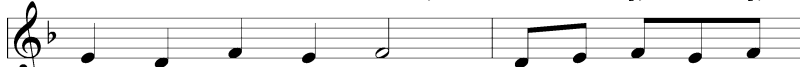
## Phos Hilaron – Hymn of Light



**L** Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



**C** of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



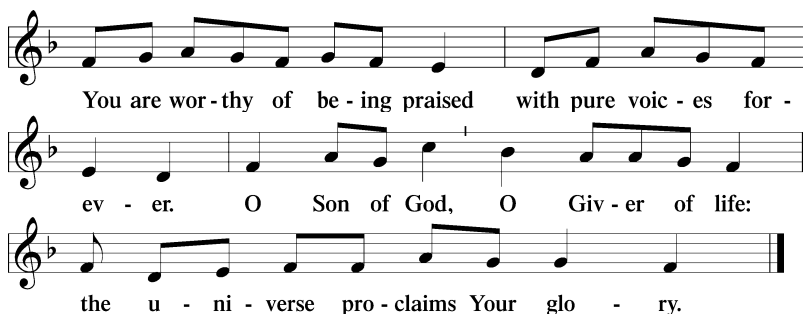
bles - sed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

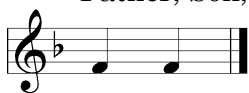


We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



## Thanksgiving for Light

P Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



**C** A - men.

## Psalms 141



II Set a watch be-fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart in-cline to an-y e-vil thing;  
let me not be oc-cu-pied in wick-ed-ness with e-vil-do-ers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.  
Strip me not of my life. C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in  
the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.  
Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,  
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

## Prayer

P Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

*(be seated)*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 7:10-16*

<sup>10</sup> Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: <sup>11</sup> “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” <sup>13</sup> And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup> For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

*Matthew 1:18-25*

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

- P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people  
of old by the prophets.
- C **But now in these last days,  
He has spoken to us by His Son.**

## Office Hymn

*"Fear not, O Virgin Mild"*

Tune: LSB #798

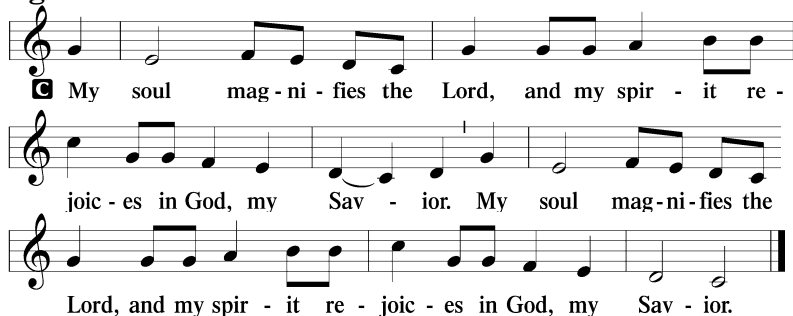
Fear not, King David's son:  
O Joseph, just and true.  
The nurture of the Promised One  
Belongs to you.  
Take Mary as your wife;  
Your righteousness remains.  
This Child shall be the Lord of life  
And bear all sins.

Δ Fear not, O saints. Rejoice!  
The Savior now is here.  
Lift up your head and raise your voice  
For all to hear  
The triumph song begun,  
As saints and angel host  
Sing, "Glory to the Father, Son  
And Holy Ghost."

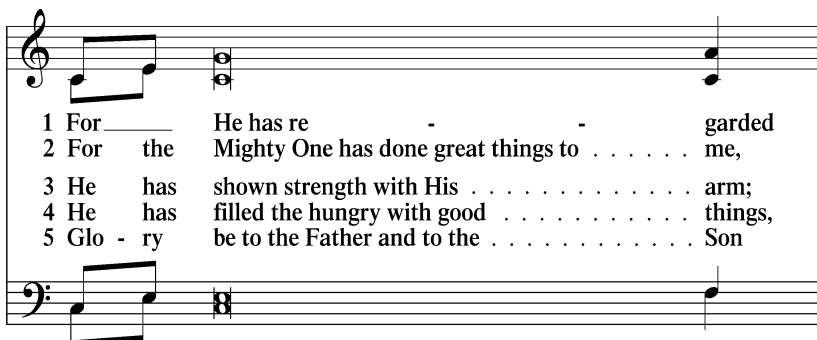
Text: Alan Kornacki, Jr., b.1974  
Tune: YIGDAL (LSB 798)

## Sermon

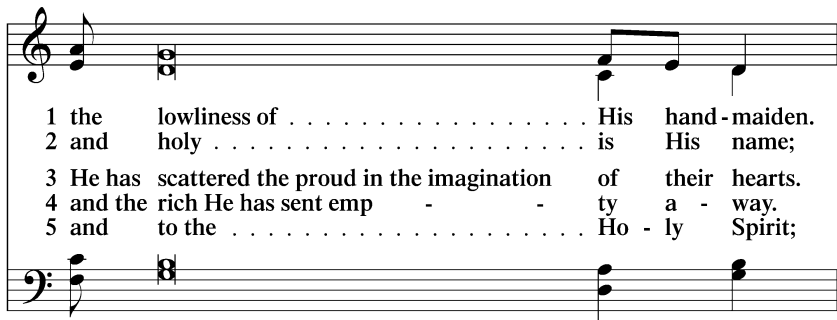
### Magnificat



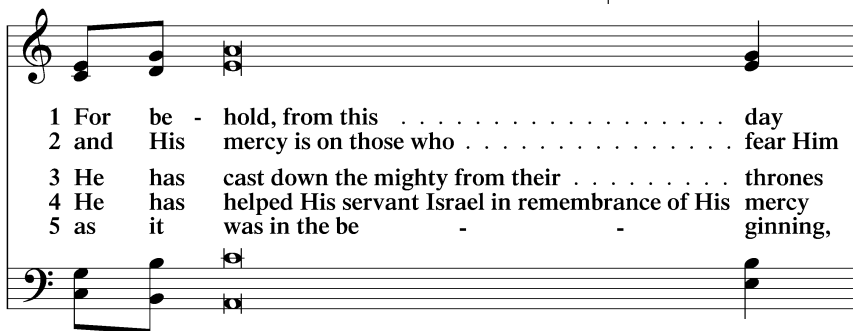
My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir-it re-  
joic-es in God, my Sav-ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the  
Lord, and my spir-it re-joic-es in God, my Sav-ior.



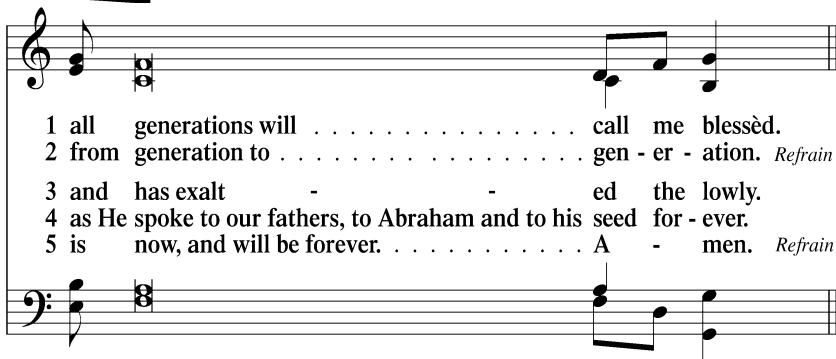
1 For ——— He has re — — — — — garded  
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,  
 3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;  
 4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,  
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son



1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand-maiden.  
 2 and holy . . . . . is His name;  
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.  
 5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
 2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessed.  
 2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.  
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
 5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - men. *Refrain*



## Litany

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the  
Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the  
Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their  
worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our synodical and district presidents, for all pastors in  
Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the  
people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the president, for all public servants, for the  
government and those who protect us, that they may be  
upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray  
to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and  
protection in this and every place,  
let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in  
this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all  
the people here present who await from the Lord great  
and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of  
the earth, and for peaceful times,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

**C Alleluia.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

### **Collect 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.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

### **Benedicamus** (*please stand*)

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

L      The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the (+) Son,  
         and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C      **Amen.**

*(be seated)*

**Closing Hymn**      *"A Great and Mighty Wonder"*      TLH #76

A great and mighty wonder.

A full and holy cure:

The Virgin bears the Infant

With virgin honor pure.

Repeat the hymn again:

"To God on high be glory

And peace on earth to men!"

The Word becomes incarnate

And yet remains on high,

And cherubim sing anthems

To shepherds from the sky.

Repeat the hymn again:

"To God on high be glory

And peace on earth to men!"

While thus they sing your Monarch,

Those bright angelic bands,

Rejoice, ye vales and mountains,

Ye oceans, clap your hands.

Repeat the hymn again:

"To God on high be glory

And peace on earth to men!"

Since all He comes to ransom.

By all be He adored,

The Infant born in Bethl'em,

The Savior and the Lord.

Repeat the hymn again:

"To God on high be glory

And peace on earth to men!"

(continued on next page)

And idol forms shall perish,  
And error shall decay,  
And Christ shall wield His scepter,  
Our Lord and God for aye.  
Repeat the hymn again:  
"To God on high be glory  
And peace on earth to men!"

Text: St. Germanus, 734  
Translator: John Mason Neale, 1862  
Tune: ES IST EINE ROS (LSB 383)  
Taken from The Lutheran Hymnal, Hymn 76

## Silent Prayer

**Postlude** “*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*” Franklin D. Ashdown

“Soli Deo Gloria”

Acknowledgments Service of Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Streaming license through CCLI, Stream License number: 20193242 Copyright License number: 1259603