

**Midweek Advent IV**  
**December 21, 6:30 p.m.**

***The Goodly Land I See***

When we consider God's promises about the promised land for Israel and our own inheritance in heaven, we will steward our most important faith with the greatest care and look forward with anticipation to the revealing of Jesus Christ in His final advent.

# Ringling of the Bells

## Welcome and Greeting

### Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

LSB 375



1 Come, your hearts and voices rais - ing, Christ the  
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in  
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with  
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -  
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -  
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -  
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.  
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.  
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

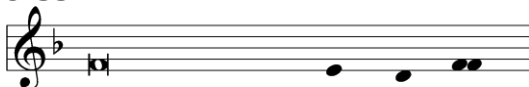
**5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing  
When by faith we grasp this blessing,  
And to You we come confessing  
That Your love has set us free.**

**6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,  
From Your lowly manger cheer us,  
Gently lead us and be near us  
Till we join Your choir above.**

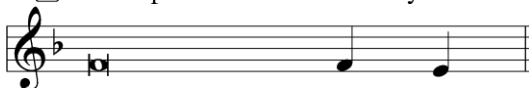
Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: German, 14th cent. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001057 Tune: Public domain

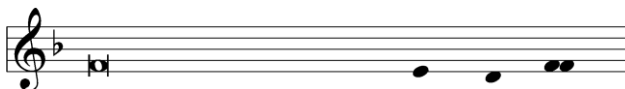
## Versicles



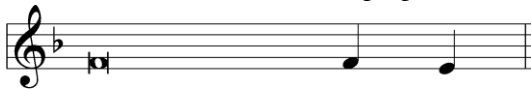
**L** The Spirit and the Church cry out:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



**L** All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



**L** The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.

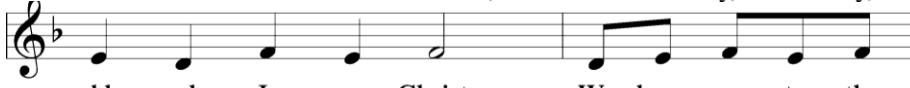
## Phos Hilaron



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



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



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



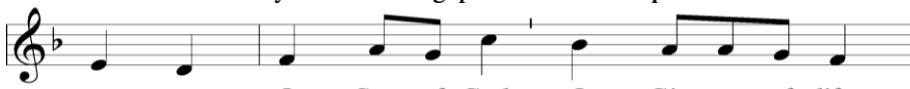
set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



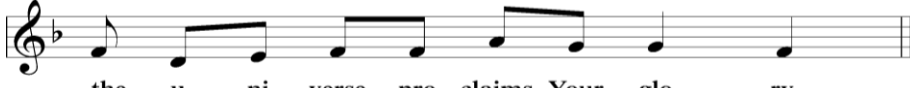
We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -

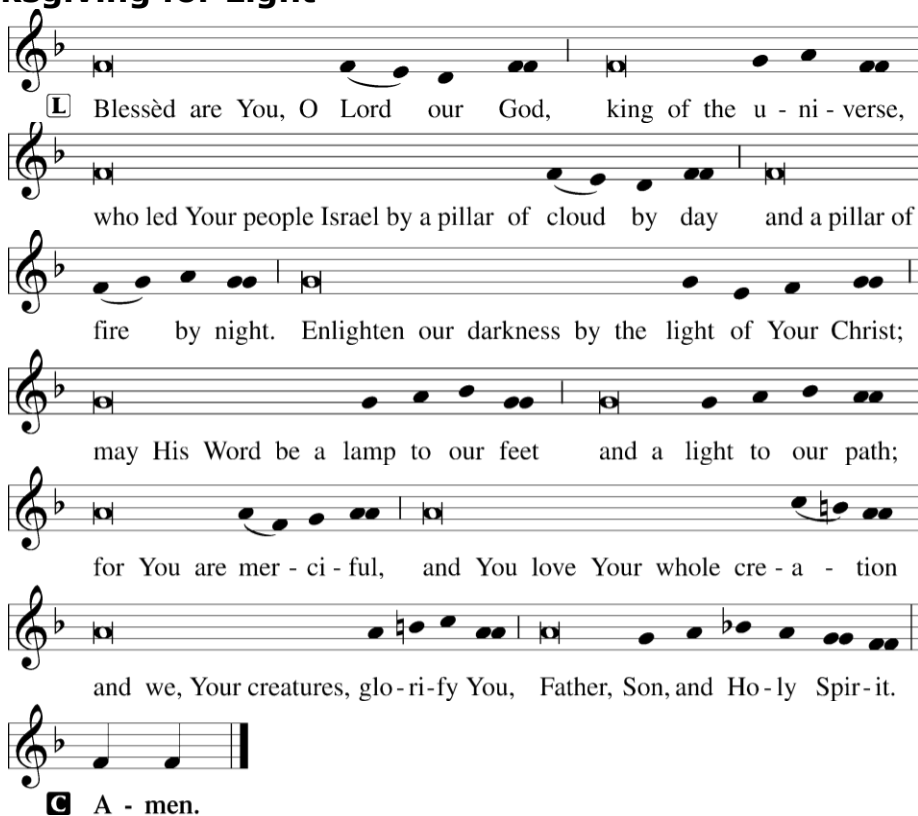


ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

## Thanksgiving for Light



**[L]** Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,  
 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 mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion  
 and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.  
**[C]** A - men.

## Psalms 141

*Psalms 141:1-4, 8*



**[C]** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,  
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.  
**[I]** O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice  
 when I cry to You. **[C]** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in-cense,



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

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-u-ge.

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 us pray.  
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.

*Please be seated*

## Old Testament

### *Joshua 1:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, <sup>2</sup>"Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. <sup>3</sup>Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. <sup>4</sup>From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. <sup>5</sup>No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. <sup>6</sup>Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

### *Hebrews 4:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. <sup>2</sup>For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. <sup>3</sup>For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

"As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest,'"

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. <sup>4</sup>For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works." <sup>5</sup>And again in this passage he said,

"They shall not enter my rest."

<sup>6</sup>Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, <sup>7</sup>again he appoints a certain day, "Today," saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

<sup>8</sup>For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. <sup>9</sup>So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, <sup>10</sup>for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

<sup>11</sup>Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## **O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide** (Tune: From Heaven Above) *LSB 355*

- 1 O Savior, rend the heavens wide;  
Come down, come down with mighty stride;  
Unlock the gates, the doors break down;  
Unbar the way to heaven's crown.**
- 2 O Father, light from heaven send;  
As morning dew, O Son, descend.  
Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring:  
To Jacob's line rain down the King.**
- 3 O earth, in flow'ring bud be seen;  
Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.  
Bring forth, O earth, a blossom rare,  
Our Savior, sprung from meadow fair.**
- 4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?  
When will You come with comfort strong?  
O come, O come, Your throne forego;  
Console us in our vale of woe.**
- 5 O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,  
When will our hearts behold Your dawn?  
O Sun, arise; without Your light  
We grope in gloom and dark of night.**
- 6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;  
Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.  
O come, lead us with mighty hand  
From exile to our promised land.**
- 7 There shall we all our praises bring  
And sing to You, our Savior King;  
There shall we laud You and adore  
Forever and forevermore.**

Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1591–1635; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909–67, alt.

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*Please stand*

## **Holy Gospel**

***John 14:1–6***

<sup>1</sup>Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.  
<sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that

where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**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.

*Please be seated*

## The God of Abraham Praise

LSB 798

1 The God of A-br'ham praise, Who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
 2 The God of A-br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com-mand  
 3 The God of A-br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace  
 4 He by Him - self has sworn; I on His oath de - pend.

An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.  
 From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.  
 Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.  
 I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend.

Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
 I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,  
 He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.  
 I shall be - hold His face; I shall His pow'r a - dore

I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.  
 And Him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.  
 And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.  
 And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.

**5** Though nature's strength decay, And earth and hell withstand,  
 To Canaan's bounds I urge my way At His command.  
 The wat'ry deep I pass, With Jesus in my view,  
 And through the howling wilderness My way pursue.



- Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99, alt.  
Tune: Hebrew  
Text and tune: Public domain

## This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

*Please stand*

## The Magnificat:

### Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

LSB 935



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!  
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His name!  
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of His might!  
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of His Word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings, give my spir - it voice;  
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;  
Pow'rs and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
Firm is His prom - ise, and His mer - cy sure.



Ten - der to me the prom - ise of His Word;  
His mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord



In God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - joice.  
His ho - ly name, the Lord, the Might - y One.  
The hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
To chil - dren's chil - dren and for - ev - er - more!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949

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## 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 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 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.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*

**P** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

**C To You, O Lord.**

**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 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

[Psalm 103:1]

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Now the Light Has Gone Away

LSB 887



1 Now the light has gone a - way; Fa - ther, lis - ten while I pray,  
2 Je - sus, Sav - ior, wash a - way All that has been wrong to - day;  
3 Let my near and dear ones be Al - ways near and dear to Thee;  
4 Now my eve - ning praise I give; Thou didst die that I might live.  
5 Thou, my best and kind - est Friend, Thou wilt love me to the end.



Ask - ing Thee to watch and keep And to send me qui - et sleep.  
Help me ev - 'ry day to be Good and gen - tle, more like Thee.  
O bring me and all I love To Thy hap - py home a - bove.  
All my bless - ings come from Thee; Oh, how good Thou art to me!  
Let me love Thee more and more, Al - ways bet - ter than be - fore.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79, alt.  
Tune: Liederbuch für Kleinkinder-Schulen, 1842, Kaiserswerth  
Text and tune: Public domain

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Elder on Duty:	Tim Tappendorf
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Acolytes:	Nolan Knop, Sarah Poenitske

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