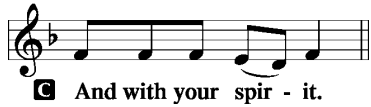


Prayer (p. 233-234)

Kyrie (p. 233)

Lord's Prayer (p. 233) ~ Chanted in Monotone

Collects



Collect of the Day

P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Collect for Purity

P Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



Collect for Peace (p. 233)



Benedicamus and Benediction (p. 234)

Soli Deo Gloria!

Third Wednesday in Advent

Gaudete Midweek

14 December Anno † Domini 2011

Order of Solemn Vespers

Lutheran Service Book, Page 229

Preparatory Prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

The Congregation stands when the Pastor stands to chant the Opening Versicles

Opening Versicles (p. 229 - Advent)

The Psalm

Psalm 50:1-6



The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and sum- | mons the earth*
from the rising of the sun to its | setting.

**Out of Zion, the perfection of | beauty,*
God | shines forth.**

Our God comes; he does not keep | silence;*
before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty | tempest.

**He calls to the heav- | ens above*
and to the earth, that he may judge his | people:**

“Gather to me my | faithful ones,*
who made a covenant with me by | sacrifice!”

**The heavens declare his | righteousness,*
for God him- | self is judge!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Sit

Office Hymn: 351 “Creator of the Stars of Night”

Readings from Holy Scripture (p. 230)

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Responsory - Advent (p. 230)

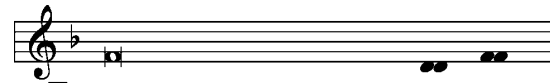
Homily

Offering

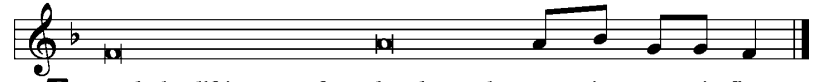
(As the offering is being collected, the pastor lights the incense and censers the altar and the people in preparation for the prayers of the faithful)

Canticle (p. 231-232)

Antiphon



L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Magnificat ~ Holy Is Your Name

(Stanza 1 is sung by soloist; Congregation sings Refrain and Stanzas 2-5)

1. My soul is filled with joy as I sing to God my Savior:
you have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people.

Refrain: *Holy Is Your Name, Scottish Traditional, Adapted by David Hass*



And — ho - ly is your name, through —



all gen - er - a - tions! — Ev - er - last - ing is your



mer - cy — to the peo - ple you have



cho - sen, — and — ho - ly is your name.

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2. I am lowly as a child,
but I know from this day forward
That my name will be remembered,
for all will call me blessed.
(Refrain)

3. I proclaim the pow'r of God,
you do marvels for your servants;
Though you scatter the proud hearted,
and destroy the might of princes.
(Refrain)

4. To the hungry you give food,
send the rich away empty.
In your mercy you are mindful
of the people you have chosen.
(Refrain)

5. In your love you now fulfill
what you promised to your people.
I will praise you Lord, my Savior,
everlasting is your mercy.
(Refrain)