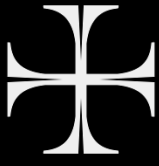


St. Paul Lutheran Church

The Festival of the Epiphany — January 1, 2023





ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

31 North Park St
Clintonville, WI 54929
www.stpaulclintonville.com

Pastor Caleb Rothfuss
Cell: (989) 220-8833
Church Office: (715) 460-3143

Welcome Guests...

We are honored to have you with us here at St. Paul in Clintonville!

- **Guest Book:** Please sign our guest book near the doors to the worship area.
- **Restrooms:** If you need them, there are bathrooms just to the sides of the main entrance doors.
- **Children:** We are grateful and glad that they are here! If you feel the need to, you can take them to the parent's room or to the back gathering area. Let us know if there are other ways we can help you focus on the Word.
- **Changing Table:** If needed these are in the parent's room and downstairs restrooms.
- **Communion:** guests, please talk with our pastor before coming up for communion so that we can talk about what we believe about it first.

This church is part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. wels.net



A SAVIOR IS BORN TO BE THE TRUE SON

Christmas holidays mean family time. Extended family travel and visits. Meals are prepared, gifts given, memories are made. The memories might not all be good. Sometimes, Christmas dinners end in fights. Sometimes, hurt feelings keep family from coming together during the holidays. The painful reality is that we sinners fail our families, and our families fail us.

God knows what that's like. He, too, wanted his children to be everything he hoped for them to be. But he was sorely disappointed. That's why he made a plan. God the Father sent Jesus to be the son that he always wanted—reciprocal in love, perfect in obedience, unwavering in devotion. Jesus came to be everything that God wanted from us.

By coming to be the true Son of the Father, Jesus gives us rights to be redeemed sons and daughters—sons just like Jesus with the rights, the relationship, and the privileges of heirs.

Vision

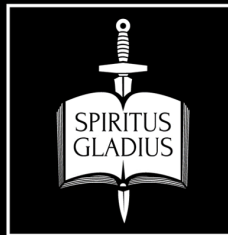
Our passion for the Gospel will make us the chosen place of worship in our community.

Mission

We will share the life giving and inerrant Word of God as written in the Bible.

Core Values

We will proclaim the law and the gospel so that all may have eternal life.



Artwork by Ian M. Welch. Copyright 2015 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. www.paramentics.com

The Bible translation used in today's service is NIV 11.

The service music and liturgy are used, reprinted, and livestreamed with permission through our onelicense.net license A-720507.

—Service Setting One—

the full order of service with music parts can be found in the hymnal starting on page 154

Hymn 344

What Child Is This



1 What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox - en now are
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing, whom an - gels greet with an - them's sweet while
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the
own him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne him. Raise, raise the



Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



Invocation *Call to Worship*

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

Group: **Amen**

Confession of sins

If we claim to be without sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

**I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you
in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.**

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Declaration of Grace *through Christ*

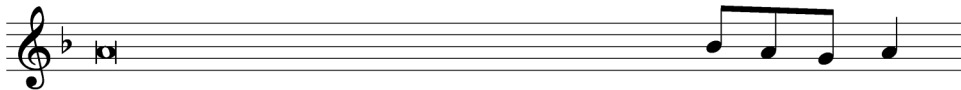
Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord Have Mercy *Kyrie Eleison*



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



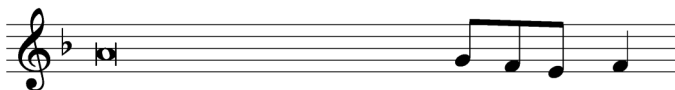
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



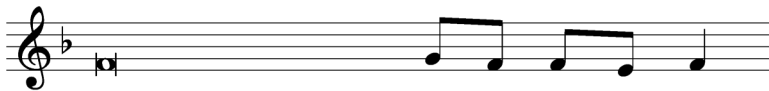
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Glory Be to God *hymn 351*



1 He whose praise the shep - herds sound-ed— told, by
2 Wise men— pre - cious gifts pre - par - ing, myrrh and
3 Join in Mar - y's ju - bi - la - tion! An - gels,
4 Sing through - out the sanc - tu - ar - y: Christ the



an - gel hosts sur - round-ed, that their fears were all un -
gold and in - cense bear - ing, in true faith, their love de -
in their heav'n - ly sta - tion, hail the birth that brings sal -
King is born of Mar - y, God and man, our sins to



found-ed— now is born our glo - rious King!
clar - ing— to the con - qu'ring Li - on cling.
va - tion. Oh, how sweet their ho - ly song!
car - ry. Thanks and praise to him be - long!

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

First Reading *Isaiah 60:1-6*

¹“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

²See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

³Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴“Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.

⁵Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.

⁶Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Psalm 72 hymn 384



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 Kings shall bow down be - fore him and gold and in - cense bring;
4 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y and bid the weak be strong,
all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.
from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light
To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend,
The tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are pre - cious in his sight.
his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
his name shall stand for - ev - er—that name to us is Love.

Second Reading *Ephesians 3:2-12*

²Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

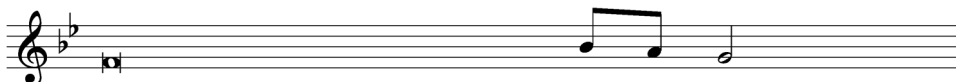
Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 2:2*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

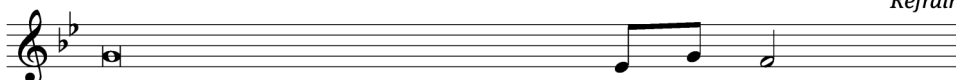
The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first two measures of the acclamation. The second staff contains the remaining three measures, with a slur over the first two notes of the final measure.

Tone



Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?

The tone is a single melodic line on a five-line staff in G major. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, and a half note B.



We saw his star when it rose and have come to wor - ship him.

Refrain

The refrain is a single melodic line on a five-line staff in G major. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, and a half note B.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 2:1-12*

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

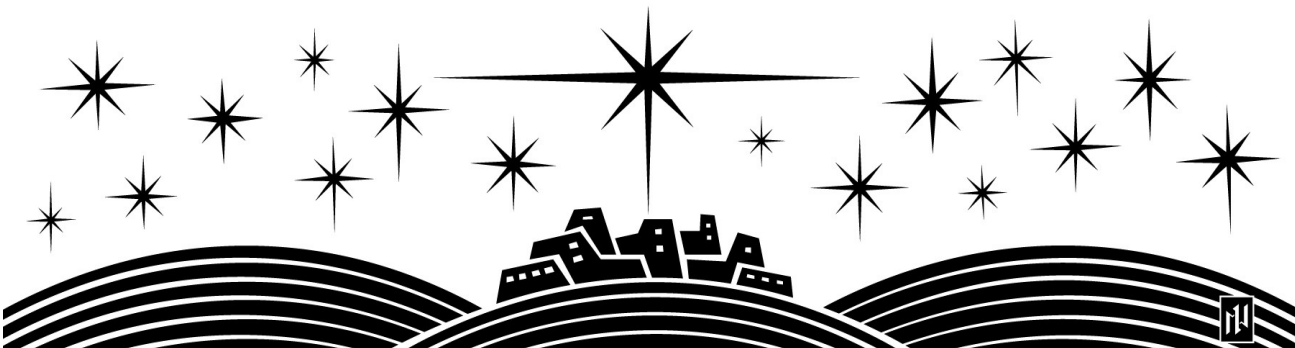
³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶“ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!



Hymn 370

How Lovely Shines the Morning Star



1 How love - ly shines the Morn - ing Star! The na - tions see
 2 O high - est joy by mor - tals won, true Son of God
 3 O might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved me ere
 4 Oh, joy to know that you, my friend, are Lord, be - gin -
 5 Lift up the voice and strike the string, let all glad sounds



and hail a - far the light in Ju - dah shin - ing.
 and Mar - y's son, the high - born King of a - ges!
 you had be - gun this an - cient world's foun - da - tion.
 ning with - out end, the first and last, e - ter - nal!
 of mu - sic ring in God's high prais - es blend - ed.



O Da - vid's son of Ja - cob's race, my Bride-groom and
 In your blest bod - y let me be, e'en as the branch
 Your Son has made a friend of me, and when in spir -
 And you at length— O glo - rious grace— will take me to
 Christ will be with me all the way, to - day, to - mor -



my King of grace, for you my heart is pin - ing.
 is in the tree, your life my life sup - ply - ing.
 it him I see, I joy in trib - u - la - tion.
 that ho - ly place, the home of joys su - per - nal.
 row, ev - 'ry day till trav - 'ling days are end - ed.



Low - ly, ho - ly, great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious
 Sigh - ing, cry - ing for the sa - vor of your fa - vor,
 What bliss is this! He is liv - ing, to me giv - ing
 A - men, a - men! Come and meet me, quick - ly greet me!
 Sing out, ring out tri - umph glo - rious, O vic - to - rious



Prince of grac - es, fill - ing all the heav'n - ly plac - es.
 rest - ing nev - er till I rest in you for - ev - er.
 life for - ev - er; noth - ing me from him can sev - er.
 With deep yearn - ing, Lord, I look for your re - turn - ing.
 cho - sen na - tion; praise the God of your sal - va - tion.



Confession of Faith *Nicene Creed*

The Nicene Creed was written around A.D. 325 in defense of the true Christian faith. This creed was created to fight false teachings some were teaching. The Nicene Creed can be found on page 162 of the hymnal.

Prayer of the Church *Epiphany*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

**You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness,
and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

**Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world
with the light of your gospel.**

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. [We pray especially for...]

Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

**Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love
in everything we say and do.**



Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

Amen.

Offering

Our offering is our reaction to God's Word. Do not feel obligated to give here, we are just thankful you are here. Your offerings here support the ministry here at this church, along with the mission work of our larger synod.

The Sacrament



The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *music for this song is on page 167 of the hymnal*

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,
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *the prayer our Savior taught us*

Words of Institution

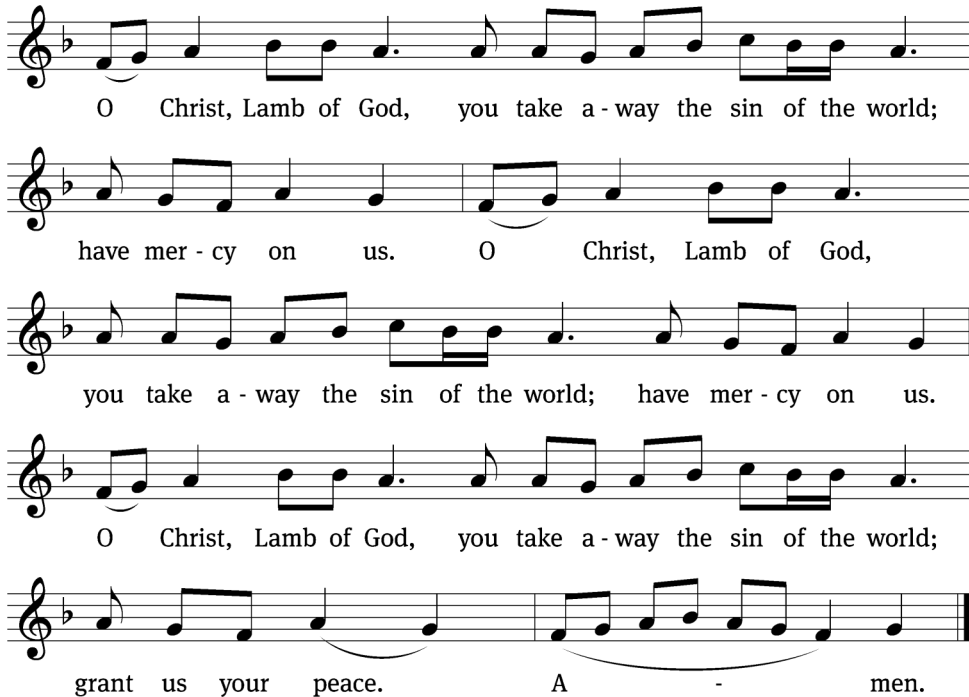
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God *music for this song is on page 169 of the hymnal*



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Distribution of the Sacrament

Our Practice of Close Communion

Based on the words of Scripture, we believe that partaking in the Sacrament of Holy Communion is one of the highest forms of fellowship we have this side of heaven—both with our Risen Savior and with our fellow believers. By partaking in the sacrament, we confess that we believe what this congregation teaches and confesses. Because we don't want to put anyone in the uncomfortable position of having to state their full agreement with us before we've had an opportunity to explain it to them, we respectfully ask that only those who are communicant members of this congregation or another WELS or ELS congregation come forward to receive the Sacrament. If you would like further explanation of our practice, Pastor Rothfuss would be more than willing to explain after the worship service.

Hymn 373

Brightest and Best



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
 3 Shall we not yield him in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,
 5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



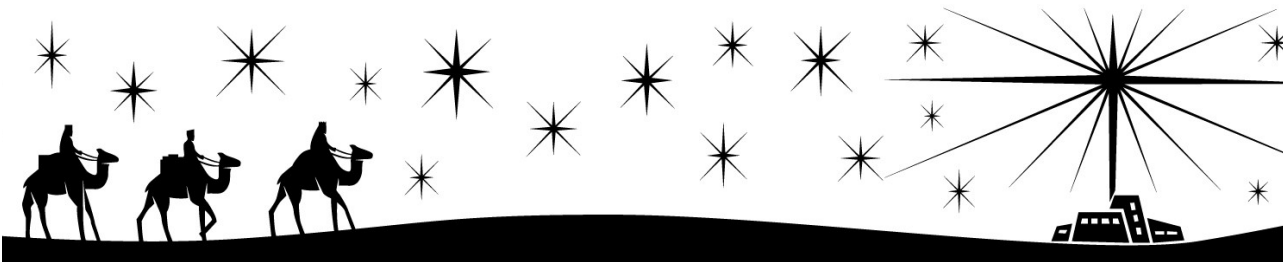
dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.
 rar - est of fra - granc - es, trib - ute di - vine,
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure.
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
 An - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
 Rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,

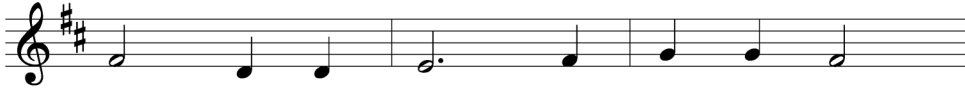


guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
 mak - er and mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.
 myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
 guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.



Hymn 342

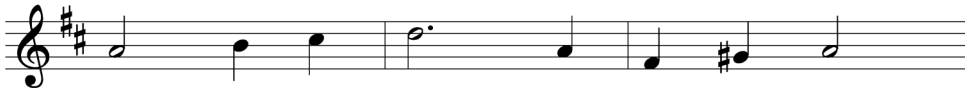
O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is



1 O Je - sus Christ, your man - ger is
 2 He whom the sea and wind o - bey
 3 Dear Chris - tian friend, on him de - pend;
 4 Pon - der a - gain what glo - ry then
 5 The world may hold her wealth and gold;



my par - a - dise at which I am re - clin - ing.
 comes down to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
 be of good cheer and let no sor - row move you.
 the Lord will give you for your earth - ly sad - ness.
 but you, my heart, keep Christ as your true trea - sure.



For there, O Lord, we find the Word
 Now God's own Son with us is one
 For God's own Child in mer - cy mild
 The an - gel host can nev - er boast
 To him hold fast un - til at last



made flesh for us— your grace is bright - ly shin - ing.
 and joins us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
 joins you to him— how great - ly God must love you!
 of great - er glo - ry, great - er bliss or glad - ness.
 a crown is yours and hon - or in full mea - sure.

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing *the Benediction*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

Amen.

Hymn 372

As with Gladness Men of Old



- 1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold,
- 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
- 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
- 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
- 5 In the heav'n-ly coun - try bright need they no cre - at - ed light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam-ing bright,
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore,
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and, when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down.



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly King.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
There for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King!



