

### 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the  
2 A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot  
3 How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the  
4 Flung wide the portals of your heart; Make it a  
5 Redeemer, come and open wide My heart to



King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing  
is humility, His kingly crown is holy  
ruler is confessed! O peaceful hearts and happy  
temple set apart From earthly use for heaven's em-  
Thee; here, Lord, abide! O enter with Thy grace di-



near; The Savior of the world is here. Life and sal-  
vance, His scepter, pity in distress. The end of  
homes To whom this King in triumph comes! The cloudless  
joy, Adorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your  
vine; Thy face of mercy on me shine. Thy Holy



vation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.  
all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.  
sun of joy is He Who comes to set His people free.  
Sovereign enter in And new and nobler life begin.  
Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.



To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.  
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.  
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.  
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!  
Enter - nal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

Tune and text: Public domain

### Opening Versicles

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
  
- P** Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.
- C** Our God shall come; He does not keep silence.
- P** Prepare the way of the Lord.
- C** Make His paths straight.
- P** Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.
- C** Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.

- P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261

*Refrain*



**C** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
 He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
 With joy will you draw wa - ter from the  
 wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that  
 day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,  
 make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -  
 claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
 He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
 Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done  
 glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the  
 earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -

hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the  
Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.  
*Refrain*  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
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.  
*Refrain*  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

## Readings From Holy Scripture

### Malachi 4

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

**P** A reading from Isaiah, the sixty-first chapter.

<sup>1</sup>The 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 brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;  
<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn; →

<sup>3</sup>to 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.

<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
 they shall raise up the former devastations;  
 they shall repair the ruined cities,  
 the devastations of many generations. . . .

<sup>8</sup>For 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.

<sup>9</sup>Their 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.

<sup>10</sup>I 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.

<sup>11</sup>For 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** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Reading***Psalm 85, antiphon v.9*

<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
you covered all their sin.

<sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath;  
you turned from your hot anger.

<sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
and put away your indignation toward us!

<sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever?  
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

<sup>6</sup>Will you not revive us again,  
that your people may rejoice in you?

<sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
and grant us your salvation.

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.

<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.

<sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.

## Reading

*1 Thessalonians 5:16–24*

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

<sup>23</sup>Now 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. <sup>24</sup>He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

## Reading

*Matthew 11:2–11*

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

## Responsory

**P** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

## Ten Commandments

- ☐ You shall have no other gods.**
- You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**
- Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**
- Honor your father and your mother.**
- You shall not murder.**
- You shall not commit adultery.**
- You shall not steal.**
- You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

## Apostles' Creed

- ☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**
- And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**
- I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

## 349 Hark the Glad Sound



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Tune and text: Public domain

## Sermon

### Prayer

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.  
**P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** Lord, have mercy.



- P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### 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.
- C** **Amen.**

### Collect for the Word

- P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### Evening Prayer

- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen**

## New Testament Canticle

*Refrain*



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.



Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.



Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He



lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to



sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

*Refrain*



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Blessing

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C** Amen.

## 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

*alt tune 621*



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly  
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,  
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send  
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,  
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—  
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
 That, set free from doubt and dread,  
 I may cling to You in faith,  
 Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again  
 As the glorious king to reign,  
 I with joy will see Your face,  
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Tune and text: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.