



Presentation of Our Lord

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Great Falls, Virginia

February 2, 2025

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

ELW refers to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red hymnal in the pew. *ACS* refers to All Creation Sings. *GS2* refers to Global Songs 2. *HFW* refers to Hymns for Worship compiled by Augsburg Fortress.

A: indicates Assisting Minister; P: indicates Presiding Minister; R: indicates Reader;
C: indicates Congregation.

At places where the ✝ appears, it is customary to make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism. The Congregation responds with the words in **bold type**.

Should you need to use an enlarged print order of service, complete with Bible readings and hymns, you will find several in red binders located on the usher's table at the back of the sanctuary.

A few notes about worship:

- **We are glad to have children in worship.** We also know that children sometimes need to move and express themselves in ways that the service (and the pews) don't accommodate. There is a family break room/nursery available with toys, a rocking chair, changing table, and other items. It is staffed during Sunday School and the 11:00 worship service, but you are free to use it as needed.

To find the family break room, turn left in the foyer and go past the doors leading to the parking lot. It's the first door on the left down the hall.

- The 11:00 worship service is streamed live on Facebook. The camera angles are set so that worshipers' faces are never seen on camera (the camera may occasionally pick up the back of the heads of those sitting in the front rows); only those leading worship from the chancel, lectern, piano, and organ are ever shown fully or face-on.

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office: 703-759-6068
Hours: Mon - Wed, 10:00 - 3:00

10550 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066

King's Kids Preschool: 703-759-6935
Website: gflutheran.org

*Our vision is to be a vibrant community of Jesus' disciples,
empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring God's grace into our world.*



REFLECTIONS ON STEWARDSHIP

Presentation of Our Lord • Luke 2:22-40
Anna and Simeon find themselves unexpectedly
rewarded and blessed for their years of faithful obedience to God.
God's blessings come to us in many unexpected ways!

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

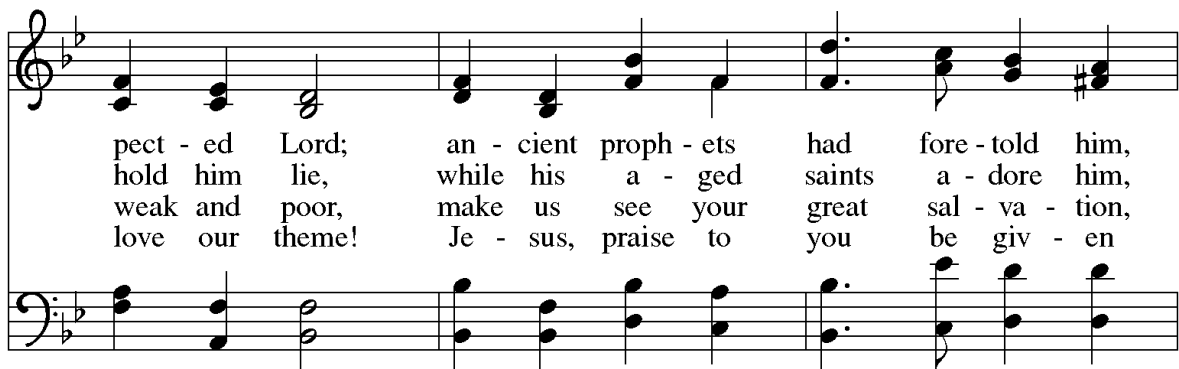
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: **Amen.**
- P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,
- C: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
- C: **Amen.**
- P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
- C: **Amen.**

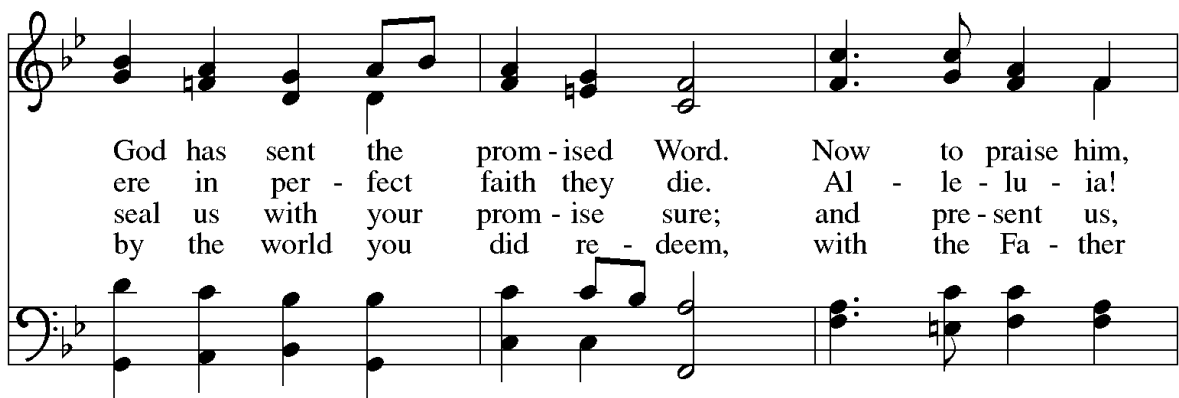
GATHERING HYMN: ELW 417 In His Temple Now Behold Him



1 In his tem - ple now be - hold him, see the long - ex -
 2 In the arms of her who bore him, vir - gin pure, be -
 3 Je - sus, by your pre - sen - ta - tion, when they blessed you,
 4 Prince and au - thor of sal - va - tion, be your bound - less



pect - ed Lord; an - cient proph - ets had fore - told him,
 hold him lie, while his a - ged saints a - dore him,
 weak and poor, make us see your great sal - va - tion,
 love our theme! Je - sus, praise to you be giv - en



God has sent the prom - ised Word. Now to praise him,
 ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 seal us with your prom - ise sure; and pre - sent us,
 by the world you did re - deem, with the Fa - ther

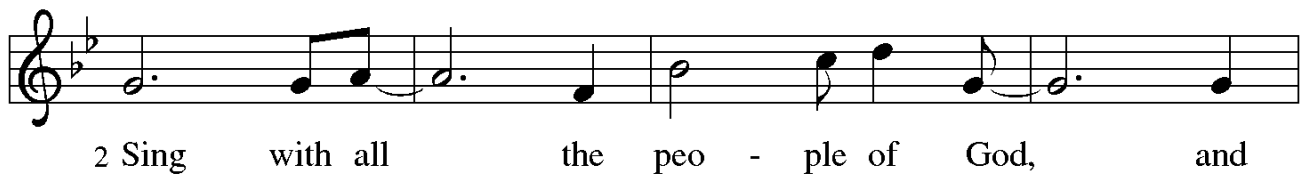
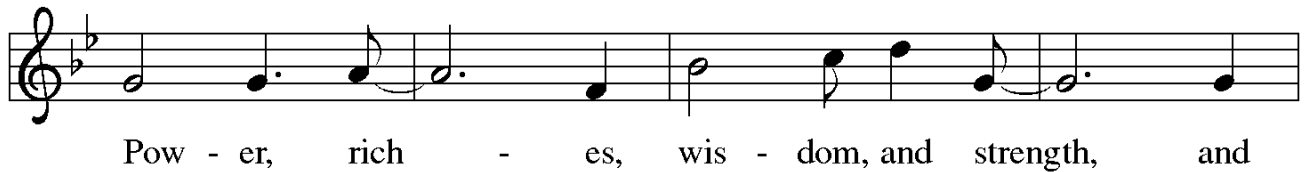
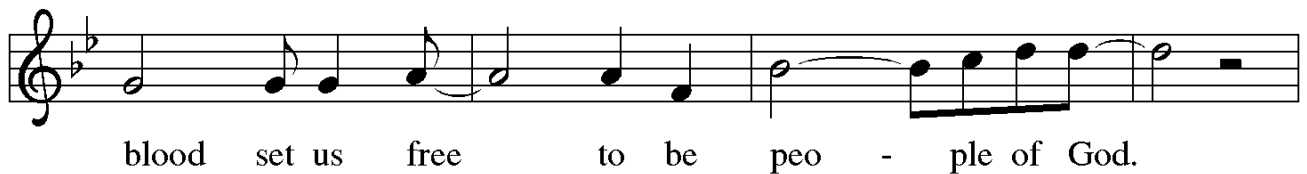
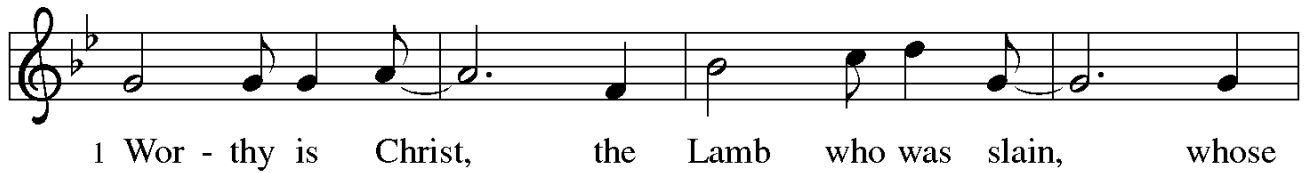
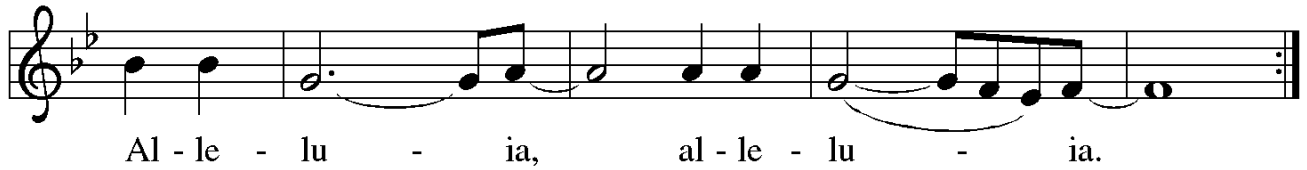
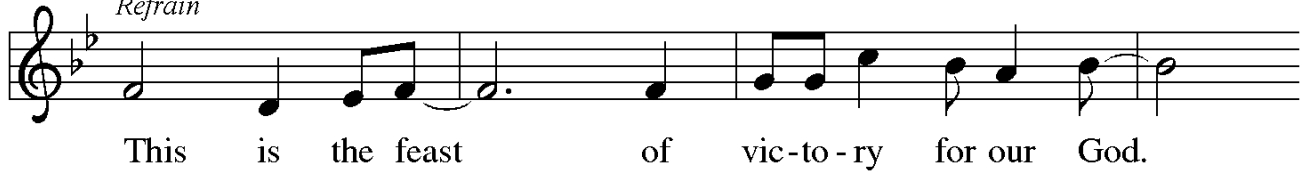


his re - deem - ed shall break forth with one ac - cord.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
 in your glo - ry, to your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.
 and the Spir - it God of maj - es - ty su - preme!

GREETING

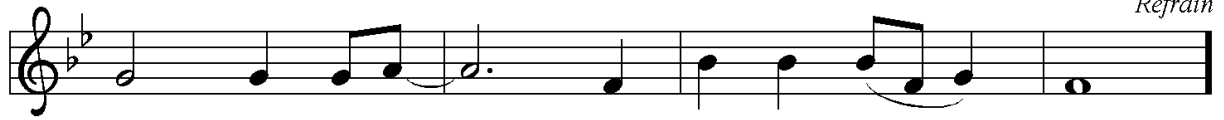
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Refrain



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



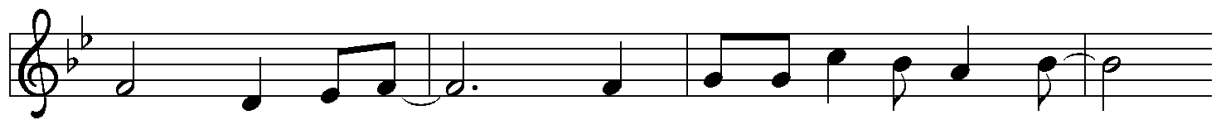
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AGENCY TEMPLE TALK: Shepherd's Center

R: 7 They will climb from | height to height,
* and the God of gods will be | seen in Zion.

C: 8 **Lord God of hosts, | hear my prayer;**
* **give ear, O | God of Jacob. R**

R: 9 Behold our defend- | er, O God;
* and look upon the face of | your anointed.

C: 10 **For one day in your courts is better than a | thousand elsewhere.**
* **I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents | of the wicked.**

R: 11 For the Lord God is both sun and shield, bestowing | grace and glory;
* no good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk | with integrity.

C: 12 **O | Lord of hosts,**
* **happy are they who put their | trust in you! R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

R: A reading from Hebrews.

14 Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16 For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The word of the LORD.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

ELW page 171



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O LORD.**

P: 22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), 24 and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The gospel of the LORD.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Henry Langknecht

HYMN OF THE DAY: LBW 391 And Have the Bright Immensities



1 And have the bright im - men - si - ties re - ceived our ris - en Lord,
2 The heav'n that hides him from our sight knows nei - ther near nor far;



where light - years frame the Ple - ia - des and point O - ri - on's sword?
an al - tar can - dle sheds its light as sure - ly as a star.



Do flam - ing suns his foot - steps trace through cor - ri - dors sub - lime,
And where his lov - ing peo - ple meet to share the gift di - vine,



the Lord of in - ter - stel - lar space and con - quer - or of time?
there stands he with un - hur - ry - ing feet; there heav'n - ly splen - dors shine.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.
God of generations, you instilled in Anna and Simeon faith, dreams, and the welcome of a child. Bless elders who embody faith and hope; bless the newly baptized. Energize us to share faith from generation to generation. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- A: God of creation, in you the sparrow finds a home and we find lush valleys and living water. Bless the birds of the air, the animals of the valley, and renew our stewardship of this bountiful creation. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- A: God of the nations, strengthen our resolve to care for all children and strive for peace among nations. Refine our nation where we have failed to root out discrimination, prejudice, and bigotry and guide us into the truth that can lead to reconciliation. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- A: God of hope, many long to see your presence revealed amid challenging circumstances. We hold in prayer all longing for sustainable housing, secure employment, access to medical care, and health and wellness. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- A: God of the people, you are made known in caring ministries. Bless those who serve as communion servers, homebound visitors, baptismal sponsors, confirmation mentors, and as prayer support. Reveal yourself in the neighborly care we give and receive. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- A: God of life, we thank you for Jesus' life and for his death that has destroyed death. We remember the dearly departed, as they dwell with you in your holy courts now and forever. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- A: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
- C: **Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying Peace be with you as you shake hands or embrace.

Please be seated following the sharing of the peace.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING AND MUSICAL OFFERING

During the offering, plates will be passed along the pews in which to place your offering. Make checks payable to "Christ the King Lutheran Church". Contributions go toward the ministries and programs of Christ the King Lutheran Church.

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

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

DISTRIBUTION WITH MUSICAL OFFERING

Instructions for communion distribution will be given at this time.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Those who have not received instruction or who wish not to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

The service concludes on the following page.

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And Have the Bright Immensities. Public domain.

In His Temple Now Behold Him. Public domain.

Now, Lord. Music © 1986 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Cover art. The Presentation of the Christ Child in the Temple by Ludovico Carracci. <https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q21711875>. Public domain.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 200 Now, Lord



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in



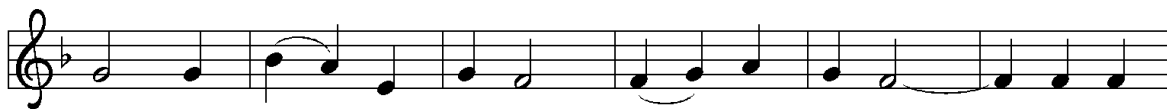
peace: your word has been ful - filled. My



own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of all peo-ple: a light to re -



veal you to the na-tions and the glo - ry of your



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry 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.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE