

Opening Verses

L O Lord, open my lips,

C **and my mouth will declare Your praise. 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. Alleluia, alleluia.**

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C **O come, let us worship Him.**

The Venite (Ps. 95)

C **O come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods. In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hand formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our maker. For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. 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.**

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C **O come, let us worship Him.**

Scripture Readings

M Philippians 3:4-14

T Matthew 21:33-46

W Psalm 146

Th Isaiah 25:6-9

Fr Philippians 4:4-13

S Matthew 22:1-14

The Benedictus (*the song of Zachariah at the circumcision of his son, John the Baptist*)

C **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; He has come to His people and redeemed them. He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of His servant David. Through His holy prophets He promised of old that He would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember His holy covenant.**

This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship Him without fear, holy and righteous in His sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare His way, to give His people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

Prayers

C **O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Special petitions

C **O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven... For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L The Lord order our days and our deeds in His peace. Amen.

(Now sing or recite one of the following hymns, both of which will be sung next Sunday)

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

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LSB 710



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Abide with Me

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1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Acknowledgments

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