

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

LSB 345

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a
true heart and confess our sins unto God our
Father, beseeching Him in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto
the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
**C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto
You all my sins and iniquities with which I
have ever offended You and justly deserved
Your temporal and eternal punishment.
But I am heartily sorry for them and
sincerely repent of them, and I pray You
of Your boundless mercy and for the sake
of the holy innocent, bitter sufferings and
death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor,**

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be
gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T
give you peace.
- C **Amen.**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

LSB 380

sinful being.

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my
office, as a called and ordained servant of the
Word, announce the grace of God unto all of
you, and in the stead and by the command of
my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your
sins in the name of the Father and of the T
Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

Sit

Introit (Advent)

- The voice of one crying in the wilderness:*
- “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”**
- Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!*
- O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.*
Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.
“But my people did not listen | to my voice;*”
Israel would not sub- | mit to me.
Oh, that my people would lis- | ten to me,*
that Israel would walk | in my ways!
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.
The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:”
“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight.”

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty

**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 T everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

Stand

We Give Thee But Thine Own

LSB 781 st. 1

Sermon From the General to the Specific

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**

deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Verse

**Alleluia. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in. Alleluia.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-15

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,^[a]

make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?⁸ Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics^[b] is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.”¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Sit