

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

Tune: ANGEL'S STORY



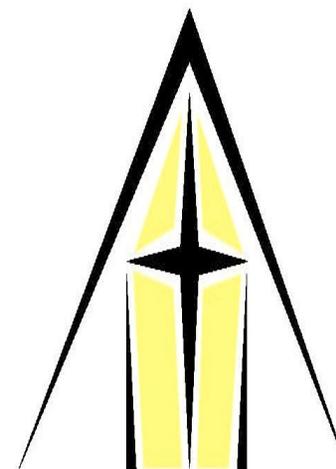
1 O Lord, now let your serv - ant De - part in peace,
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to

as - sured: For I have seen your prom - ised In -
the Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For -

car - nate, sav - ing Word— A Light that will en -
ev - er three in one; For as in the be -

light - en All gloom where Gen - tiles dwell; The bril - liant,
gin - ning, Is now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une

crown - ing glo - ry Of those in Is - ra - el!
name re - sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.



St. Mark

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reach, Teach, Rejoice!

INSTRUCTION FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, God created us to know joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. By our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment but to turn to him and live. Therefore, God in his mercy has sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take our place under the law, to suffer for us, and to die the death we deserve. God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us so that in him, we might become the righteousness of God.

During the 40 days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor.

I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle. Let us be silent. Let us be still. Let us pause now for a time of reflection and self-examination.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Most holy and merciful Father,
C: We confess to you and to one another that we have sinned by our own fault, by our own grievous fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

M: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved the Holy Spirit.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: 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." In the same way, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them and said, "Drink from it, all of you. This is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymns:	100	A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth
	103	Glory Be to Jesus

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. 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.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord God, King of the universe. Before the creation of the world, you chose to redeem us with the precious blood of your Son,

C: a Lamb without blemish or defect.

M: We give you humble and heartfelt thanks that by the mystery of Christ's holy incarnation,

C: you have made him our brother and helper forever.

M: By his birth, circumcision, and perfect obedience,

C: you have purified us from all sin.

M: By his baptism, fasting, and temptation,

C: you have become our righteousness, holiness, and redemption.

M: By his agony, bloody sweat, and cruel scourging,

C: you have crushed the head of our ancient enemy.

M: By his precious cross, death, and burial,

C: you have turned the gloomy portal of death into the bright gateway to the everlasting Eden.

M: Remembering your Son's death and resurrection, we receive in repentance and joy his body and blood. Strengthen us through this gift for our pilgrimage on earth until, together at last, we shall eat and drink with our Savior anew in the kingdom of God.

C: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our manipulation of other people

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our anger when our selfish aims are denied and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Our negligence in worship and prayer and our failure to show the faith that is in us

C: We confess to you, O Lord.

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others, and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

M: By the cross and suffering of your Son, O Lord,

C: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

ABSOLUTION

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Beneath the Cross

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I find a place to stand,
And wonder at such mercy
That calls me as I am;
For hands that should discard me
Hold wounds which tell me, "Come."
Beneath the cross of Jesus
My unworthy soul is won.

Beneath the cross of Jesus
His family is my own—
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams,
Now one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor
The ones that You have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus
See the children called by God.

Beneath the cross of Jesus—
The path before the crown—
We follow in His footsteps
Where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us
To be His perfect bride;
Beneath the cross of Jesus
We will gladly live our lives.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 59:12-20

SECOND LESSON

Revelation 3:14-22

HYMN: CW 124(vs. 1-3)

Savior, When in Dust to You

SERMON

Luke 18:9-14

Offering

Prayer of the Church

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

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

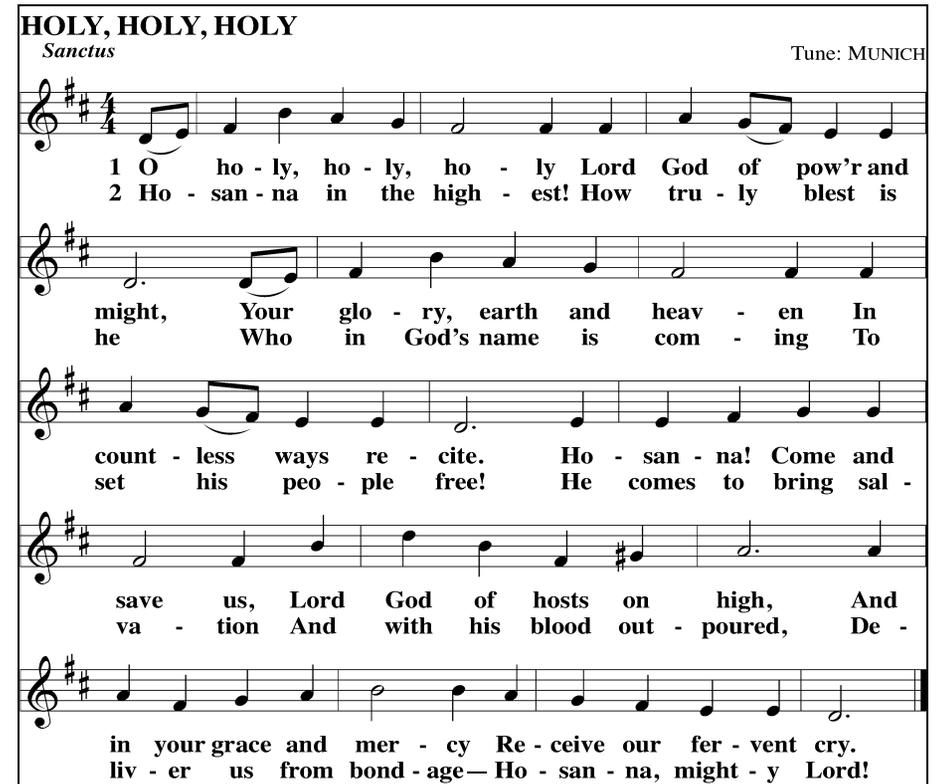
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: 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, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Brief organ introduction...

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
Sanctus Tune: MUNICH



1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is
might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
he Who in God's name is com - ing To
count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -
save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -
in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
liv - er us from bond - age— Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!