Advent Midweek 3
December 18, 2024
Evening Prayer, p. 243

Prelude *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People* anonymous

"Comfort, comfort ye My people, speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
"Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover and her warfare now is over."

Make ye straight what long was crooked; make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token that His Word is never broken.

Versicles for Advent (*stand*) p. 243

L The Spirit and the Church cry out:
C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

L All those who await His appearance pray:
C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

L The whole creation pleads:
C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Phos Hilaron p. 244

Thanksgiving for Light p. 245

Psalm 141 (*sit*) *I: Higher voices (women and children)*
II: Lower voices (men)

Psalmody Prayer p. 247

Reading *The Ministry of Apostles* 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

1 This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of
God. 2 Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. 3 But with me it is a very small
thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. 4 I am not
aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. 5 Therefore
do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things
now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his
commendation from God.

L O Lord, have mercy upon us.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading Response p. 247

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
C **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

Office Hymn "'As Surely as I Live,' God Said" tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR

All **"As surely as I live," God said,**
"I would not see the sinner dead.
I want him turned from error's ways,
Repentant, living endless days."

Choir And so our Lord gave this command:
"Go forth and preach in ev'ry land;
Bestow on all My pard'ning grace
Who will repent and mend their ways.

"All those whose sins you thus remit
I truly pardon and acquit,
And those whose sins you will retain
Condemned and guilty shall remain.

"What you will bind, that bound shall be;
What you will loose, that shall be free;
To My dear Church the keys are giv'n
To open, close the gates of heav'n."

All **The words which absolution give**
Are His who died that we might live;
The minister whom Christ has sent
Is but His humble instrument.

When ministers lay on their hands,
Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
He who by grace the Word believes
The purchase of His blood receives.

All praise to You, O Christ, shall be
For absolution full and free,
In which You show Your richest grace;
From false indulgence guard our race.

Praise God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be
World without end, eternally!

Sermon "Judgement!" 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Magnificat (*stand*) p. 248

Collect of the Day
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. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven" LSB 877

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