

EVENSONG

June 24, 2020 – The Feast of the Nativity of John the Baptist

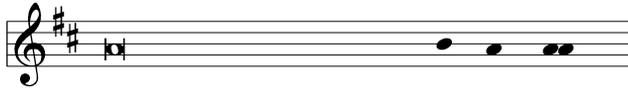
The name Evensong: We will be using the order of Vespers from Lutheran Service Book (page 229) but I've titled the service "Evensong" which is a traditional English title for an evening service of hymn and chant, usually led by a choir. These can be found all across England in cathedrals, churches, and schools, sometimes offered daily.



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

346 When All the World Was Cursed



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na - tion,
2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,
3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres - sion,
4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re - ceive, re - joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.
Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.
Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.
The word pro - claimed by John, Our true re - pen - tance voic - ing,



With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er One he named,
By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,
Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,
That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way



And Him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.
He tes - ti - fied of Him Of whom the proph - ets told:
Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.
Un - til we live with Him In His e - ter - nal day.

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Readings

Isaiah 40:1–5

- ¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.
³A voice cries:
“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Acts 13:13–26

¹³Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, ¹⁴but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. ¹⁵After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it.” ¹⁶So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said:

“Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. ¹⁷The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. ¹⁸And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. ¹⁹And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. ²⁰All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. ²¹Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. ²²And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, ‘I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’ ²³Of this man’s offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised. ²⁴Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵And as John was finishing his course, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.’

²⁶“Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation.”

Luke 1:57–80

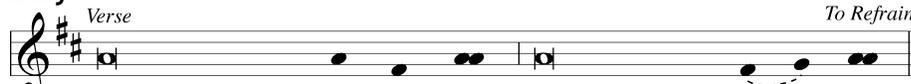
⁵⁷Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. ⁵⁹And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, ⁶⁰but his mother answered, “No; he shall be called John.” ⁶¹And they said to her, “None of your relatives is called by this name.” ⁶²And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. ⁶³And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And they all wondered. ⁶⁴And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. ⁶⁵And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, ⁶⁶and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, “What then will this child be?” For the hand of the Lord was with him.

⁶⁷And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

⁶⁸“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
 for he has visited and redeemed his people
⁶⁹and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
 in the house of his servant David,
⁷⁰as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
⁷¹that we should be saved from our enemies
 and from the hand of all who hate us;
⁷²to show the mercy promised to our fathers
 and to remember his holy covenant,
⁷³the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
⁷⁴that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
 might serve him without fear,
⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.
⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
 for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people
 in the forgiveness of their sins,
⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God,
 whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high
⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
 to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

⁸⁰And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Responsory



- 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.
- 2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.
- 3 Glory be to the
 Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.

Refrain

C Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel

1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His
 2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on
 3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His
 4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -

vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,
 oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:
 way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,
 lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death

Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a
 Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -
 His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and
 And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our

might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!
 liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.
 grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.
 foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

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Sermon A Mouth Opened, A Structure Enlivened (Luke 1:64-66)

Canticle

Stand

L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,

C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Magnificat

C My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav - ior;



I for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



II For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



I For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



II and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



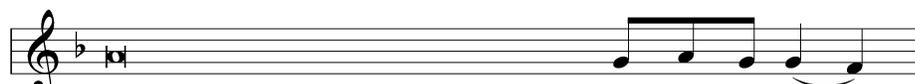
imagination of their hearts. II He has cast down the



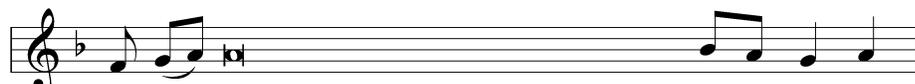
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



I He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.



II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev - er.



III Glo - ry be 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.

Prayer

Kyrie

LSB 233



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven...

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, You once proclaimed salvation. Now grant that we may know this salvation and serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life; through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for Peace

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 234



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234



P The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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