

Welcome to Matins for **December 26th, January 2nd, and 7th in the season of Christmas - Epiphany**. The Service for Matins can be found on p131-141 in the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW). The Psalms for this evening are **Psalm 116 on page 272 and Psalm 48 on page 237**. The hymn is "**Let Us Now Our Voices Raise**" and **LBW #84**.

PSALM 116 (*The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.*)

ANTIPHON

December 26 - St. Stephen's Day

I see the | heavens opened,
and the Son of Man standing at the right | hand of God.*

January 2, 7

Come, you peoples | of the earth;
drink from the wells | of salvation.*

¹ I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my | supplication,*
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I | called upon him.

² The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took | hold of me;*
I came to | grief and sorrow.

³ Then I called upon the name | of the LORD:*
"O LORD, I pray you, | save my life."

⁴ Gracious is the | LORD and righteous;*
our God is full | of compassion.

⁵ The LORD watches o- | ver the innocent;*
I was brought very low, | and he helped me.

⁶ Turn again to your rest, | O my soul.*
for the LORD has treat- | ed you well.

⁷ For you have rescued my | life from death,*
my eyes from tears, and my | feet from stumbling.

⁸ I will walk in the presence | of the LORD*
in the land | of the living.

⁹ I believed, even when I said, "I have been brought | very low."*
In my distress I said, "No one | can be trusted."

¹⁰ How shall I re- | pay the LORD*
for all the good things he has | done for me?

¹¹ I will lift up the cup | of salvation*
and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹² I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD*
in the presence of | all his people.

¹³ Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his servants.

¹⁴ O LORD, I | am your servant;*
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me | from my bonds.

¹⁵ I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving*
and call upon the name | of the LORD.

¹⁶ I will fulfill my vows | to the LORD*
in the presence of | all his people,

¹⁷ in the courts of | the LORD's house,*
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. | Hallelujah!

ANTIPHON

December 26 - St. Stephen's Day

I see the | heavens opened,
and the Son of Man standing at the right | hand of God.*

January 2, 7

Come, you peoples | of the earth,
drink from the wells | of salvation.*

PSALM 48 *(The cantor will speak / sing the antiphon. The psalm will be spoken / sung in unison.)*

ANTIPHON

Let Mount Zion be glad, and let the cities of Ju | dah rejoice,
for the | Lord has come.*

- ¹ Great is the LORD, and highly | to be praised;*
in the city of our God is his | holy hill.
- ² Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the | hill of Zion,*
the very center of the world and the city of | the great king.
- ³ God is in her citadels;*
he is known to be | her sure refuge.
- ⁴ Behold, the kings of the | earth assembled*
and marched for- | ward together.
- ⁵ They looked and | were astounded;*
they retreated and | fled in terror.
- ⁶ Trembling | seized them there;*
they writhed like a woman in childbirth,
like ships of the sea when the | east wind shatters them.
- ⁷ As we have heard, so have we seen,
in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city | of our God;*
God has established | her forever.
- ⁸ We have waited in silence on your lovingkind- | ness, O God,*
in the midst | of your temple.
- ⁹ Your praise, like your name, O God, reaches | to the world's end;*
your right hand is | full of justice.
- ¹⁰ Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,*
because | of your judgments.
- ¹¹ Make the circuit of Zion; walk | round about her;*
count the number | of her towers.
- ¹² Consider well her bulwarks; exam- | ine her strongholds;*
that you may tell those | who come after.

¹³ This God is our God forev- | er and ever;*
he shall be our guide for- | evermore.

ANTIPHON

Let Mount Zion be glad, and let the cities of Ju | dah rejoice,
for the | Lord has come.*

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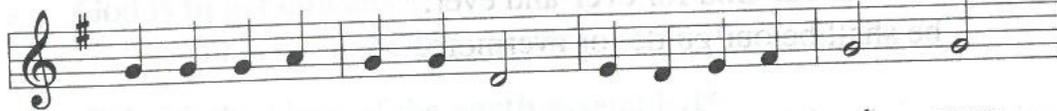
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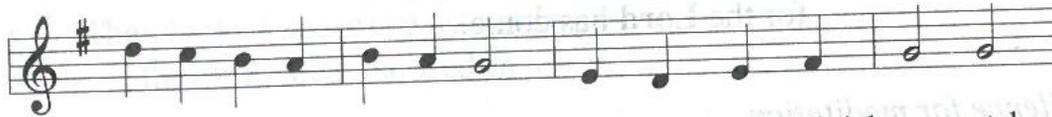
This hymn is sung on December 26 - St. Stephen's Day



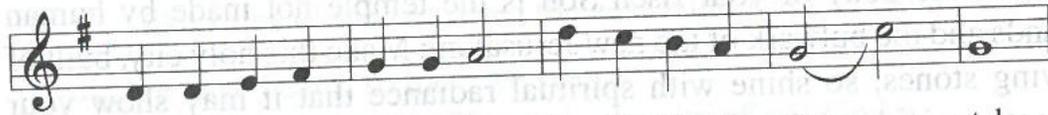
Let us now our voic-es raise, Wake the day with glad - ness;



God him-self to joy and praise Turns our hu - man sad - ness;



Joy that mar-tyrs won their crown, O-pen'd heav'n's bright por - tal,



When they laid the mor-tal down For the life im - mor - tal.

2 Never flinched they from the flame,
From the torment never;
Vain the tyrant's sharpest aim,
Vain each fierce endeavor:
For by faith they saw the land
Decked in all its glory,
Where triumphant now they stand
With the victor's story.

3 Up and follow, Christians all!
Press through toil and sorrow;
Turn from fear and heed the call
To a glorious morrow!
Who will venture on the strife;
Who will first begin it?
Who will grasp the land of life?

Christians up and win it! [SBH 546, H82 237]

Text: St. Joseph the hymnographer, d. 883; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Tune: *Tempus adest floridum* from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

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This hymn is sung on January 2 and 7

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning



1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3 Shall we not yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,
5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
fra - grance of E - dom and of - f'rings di - vine,
vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;
dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.
mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.
myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.
guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.