



**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
OAK GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 7, 2025**

“YOUR LIGHT HAS COME” SETTING (BREWER)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

IT IS GOOD THAT YOU ARE HERE.

AT THE HEART OF OUR ADVENT PREPARATION STANDS JOHN THE BAPTIST, WHO CALLS US TO REPENT AND MAKE A NEW BEGINNING. AS THE DARKNESS INCREASES WE TURN TOWARD THE APPROACHING LIGHT OF CHRIST. FOR CHRISTIANS HE IS THE ROOT OF JESSE, THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE WHO WELCOMES ALL, ESPECIALLY THE POOR AND MEEK OF THE EARTH. WE WAIT WITH HOPE FOR THAT DAY WHEN THE WOLF WILL DWELL WITH THE LAMB, AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE HURT OR DESTRUCTION. FROM THE LORD'S TABLE WE ARE SENT IN THE SPIRIT OF JOHN THE BAPTIST TO PROCLAIM THAT IN CHRIST THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS-*Please stand as you are able.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection.

P: Most Merciful God,

All: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and

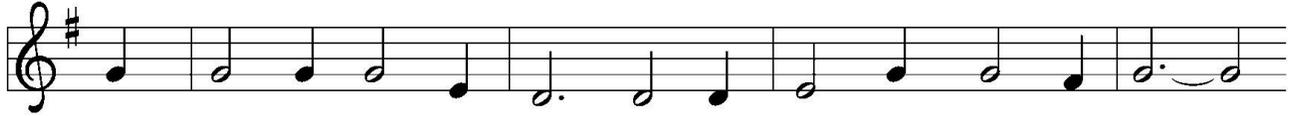
deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

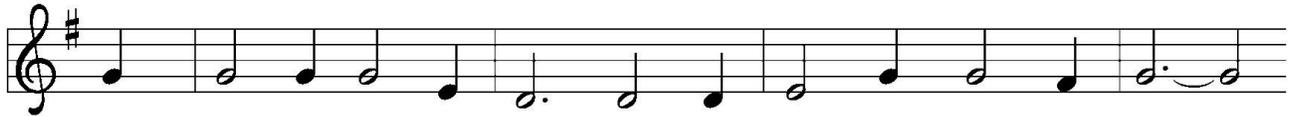
All: Amen



OPENING HYMN: *Prepare the Royal Highway*, LBW 26



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

TRINITARIAN BLESSING

Verses

3 L:In the name of the Fath - er. C:In the
L:Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. C:Lord, have

name of the Fath - er. L:In the name of the Son. C:In the
mer - cy up - on us. L:Lord, we pray, hear our prayer, C:Lord, we

5 name of the Son. L:In the name of the Spir - it. C:In the
pray, hear our prayer. L:Now we ask your for - give - ness. C:Now we

7 name of the Spir - it. ALL:In the name of the Three - in - One L:In the
ask your for - give - ness. ALL:We give thanks for your lov - ing care.

10 name of the Fath - er. C:In the name of the Fath - er. L:In the name of the Son. C:In the

13 name of the Son. L:In the name of the Spir - it. C:In the name of the Spir - it. ALL:In the

16 name of the Three - - - One.

GLORY TO GOD

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to
 6 God in the high - est. Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to
 12 God, glo - ry to God in the high - est. *Fine* Peace on
 18 earth be to ev - 'ry - one. The light of the world is here!
 24 Those who have walked in dark - ness now have noth - ing to
 30 fear. *D.C. al Fine*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Let us pray....

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

O COME O COME, EMMANUEL (VERSE 1)

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here

un - til the Son of God ap - pear. *Refrain* Re - joice! Re - joice!

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalteriolum Cationum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt

around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God



Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
- ² **that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;**
- ³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ **Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.**
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
- ⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
- ⁷ In his time may the | righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.

¹⁸ **Blessed are you, LORD God, the | God of Israel;
you alone do | wondrous deeds!**

¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious | name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”; ¹⁰ and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”; ¹¹ and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; ¹² and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.” ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand as you are able



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 23rd chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’” ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY: *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*, LBW 36



1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

OFFERING

Apostles' Creed

L: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I

believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence for reflection.

L: With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

L: With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

L: With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

L: With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease including those on prayer list, comment feed, and especially those we name before you now. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

L: With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

P: We give you thanks for the people among us who in service to others place their lives in harm's way and when called, lay down their lives for the sake of others. We pray especially for military members, firefighters, law enforcement, emergency responders and their families. God of grace.

All: Hear our prayer.

P: With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith (*especially Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, whom we commemorate today*). Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace,

All: Hear our prayer.

P: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

All: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

Greet each other with a sign of peace.

OFFERING

OFFERING OF MUSIC

Please be seated. The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared. Once the Offering has been collected please stand & sing:

OFFERING SONG

Glo-ry to you, Lord, for all comes from you. With each new day, Lord, your
bless-ings re-new. We lift our voi - ces in your hol - y name, You are e -
ter - nal, ev - er the same. Use us to tell of your in - fin - ite love. _____

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray...

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

PREFACE

L: The Lord be with you. C: And al - so with you. L: Lift

up your hearts to the Lord. Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is

right that we give Him our praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Hol - y, hol - y, hol - y Lord, God of pow - er and might.

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord Ho - san - na in the

high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us pray the prayer our Lord taught us:

All: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Please be seated)

The practice at Oak Grove is to commune at the rail. When you are ready or have been instructed, please proceed down the side aisle and gather at the rail shoulder by shoulder facing the Altar. If you would prefer an individual cup of wine, please take an empty cup found in the tray at the end of each rail. If you would prefer grape juice, please take an individual cup from the tray that has juice in it already.

If you do not take an individual cup, the common cup of wine will be offered to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please request from the Pastor.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world. Have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world. Have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world. Grant us peace. Grant us peace.

COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank - ful hearts and voi - ces now raise, go tell now all that

7 F G A D F C D em
God has done. Let all who seek the Lord now re-joyce and proud - ly

14 G Asus4 A bm A/C# D bm
bear His name. Send us now Lord with your word so true of

21 em em/A bm em A f#m
how to earth You came. We glor - i - fy Your hol - y

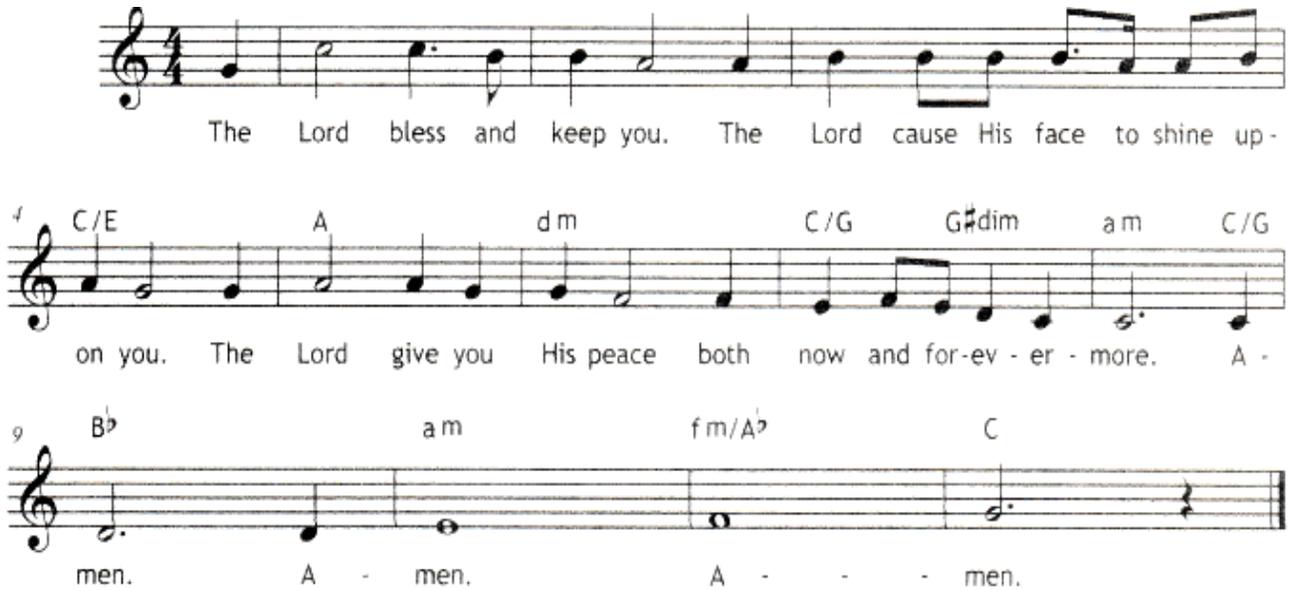
28 bm Bb C D
name, for - ev - er and the same.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

BENEDICTION

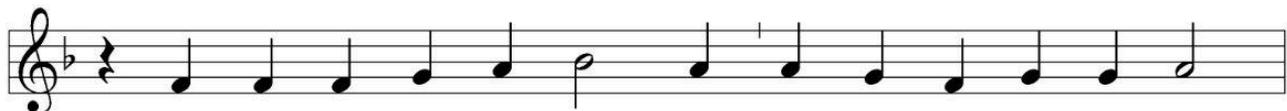


The Lord bless and keep you. The Lord cause His face to shine up -
 on you. The Lord give you His peace both now and for-ev - er - more. A -
 men. A - men. A - - - men.

SENDING SONG *Hail the Lord's Anointed*, LBW 87



- 1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
- 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
- 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
- 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth.
 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion and rule in eq - ui - ty.
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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