

Pre-Service Music and the Singing of the Venite

For about fifteen months, the little congregation here at Faith has been without an organist. This has presented us with a challenge, and, thanks be to God, we've joined together to sing the Divine Service liturgy and many hymns *a capella* (without musical accompaniment).

However, in those fifteen months, we have not used the Order of Matins and we are losing the ability to sing the *Venite* and the *Te Deum*. So, the saints here at Faith have the opportunity to reinforce (or even introduce) these two parts of Matins.

We're going to begin with the *Venite*, which is Psalm 95:1-7. Matins begins on page 219 of the hymnal, while the *Venite* is on page 220. Starting this Sunday, the pre-service music will include the opening section of Matins, which will include the *Venite*.

The pre-service music is ten minutes long and has three parts:

- music of hymn 941 ("We Praise You and Acknowledge You")
- the versicles, responses and *Venite* of Matins (pages 219-220)
- another musical selection just prior to the Divine Service

In order to aid in our learning and singing, I've posted a YouTube video. I'll send a link out to that video on the congregation's CallMultiplier app. You won't need a hymnal for it. The video will have the music and words so you may sing along. (Just thinking about it, this is a good way to start the devotions for the day.)

Once we get comfortable with this, then we'll incorporate the beginning section of Matins into the Divine Service. And then, the LORD willing, we'll do the same for the *Te Deum*.

O come, let us sing unto the LORD.

Pastor McCoy
(reviewed and approved by Pastor Laws)

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