

December 8, 2021

Advent Mid-Week Worship



If you are an online guest today, please
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[Online Guest Form](#)

Advent Series: *Holden Evening Prayer*

DECEMBER 1: THE SERVICE of LIGHT

"Jesus Christ you are the light of the world."

DECEMBER 8: PSALM 141

"Let my prayers rise up like incense before you."

DECEMBER 15: The ANNUNCIATION to MARY

"The angel said to her 'Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child...'"

DECEMBER 22: MARY'S SONG of PRAISE

"My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you."

**Please see additional announcements at
the end of the bulletin.**

Messiah Lutheran Church

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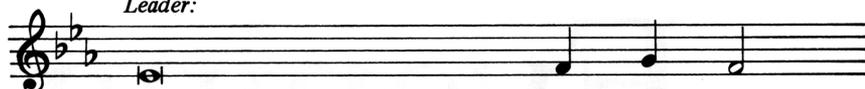
SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Holden Evening Prayer

THE PRELUDE

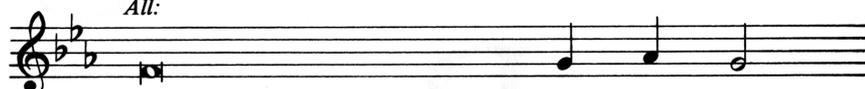
THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Leader:



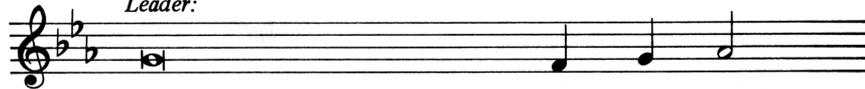
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



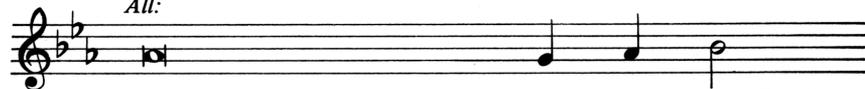
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:



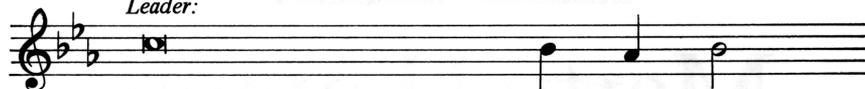
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All:



and the day is al - most over.

Leader:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:



and shine within your peo-ple here. —

EVENING HYMN: "Joyous Light of Heav'nly Glory"

All: *a tempo*



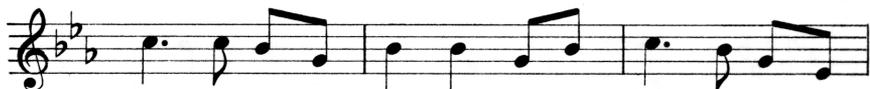
1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our

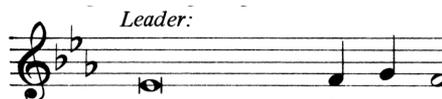


you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us

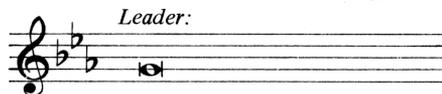


light our hearts a - new. _____
free and make us whole. _____
on to end - less day. _____

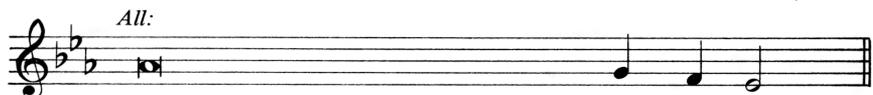
EVENING THANKSGIVING

Leader:  *All:* 

May God be with you all, and al - so with you;

Leader: 

Let us sing our thanks to — God,

All: 

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe—from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

All: 

A - - - men.

PSALM 141: "Let My Prayer Rise Up as Incense"

All: 

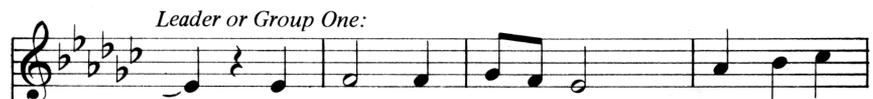
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -



fore you, the lift - ing up of my



hands as an of - fer - ing to you. —

Leader or Group One: 

— O God, I call to you, come to me

All or Group Two: 

O God, I

now; O hear my voice when I
call to you, come to me now; O

cry to you. ————— Let my prayer rise
hear my voice when I cry to you.

up like in cense be - fore you, the
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to
fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. ————— Keep watch with - in me, God;
of-fer-ing to you. Keep

deep in my heart may the light of your love be
watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the

burn - ing bright. _____ Let my prayer rise
light of your love be burn - ing bright.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to
fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an

you. _____ All praise to the God of all - Cre -
of - fer - ing to you. All

a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the
praise to the God of all- Cre - a - tor of life; all

Spir - it of love. Let my prayer rise
praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to
fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an

you.
of - fer - ing to you.

PRAYER

(silence for meditation)

May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

Amen

READING

Psalm 141

- ¹ I call upon you, O LORD; come quickly to me;
give ear to my voice when I call to you.
- ² Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,
and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.
- ³ Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD;
keep watch over the door of my lips.
- ⁴ Do not turn my heart to any evil,
to busy myself with wicked deeds
in company with those who work iniquity;
do not let me eat of their delicacies.
- ⁵ Let the righteous strike me;
let the faithful correct me.
Never let the oil of the wicked anoint my head,
for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds.
- ⁶ When they are given over to those who shall condemn them,
then they shall learn that my words were pleasant.
- ⁷ Like a rock that one breaks apart and shatters on the land,
so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of Sheol.
- ⁸ But my eyes are turned toward you, O GOD, my Lord;
in you I seek refuge; do not leave me defenseless.
- ⁹ Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me,
and from the snares of evildoers.
- ¹⁰ Let the wicked fall into their own nets,
while I alone escape.

HYMN: "O Light Whose Splendor Thrills"

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O Light Whose Splendor Thrills

1 O Light whose splen - dor thrills and glad - dens
 2 As twi - light hov - ers near at sun - set,
 3 In all life's bril - liant, time - less mo - ments,

with ra - diance bright - er than the sun,
 and lamps are lit, and chil - dren nod,
 let faith - ful voic - es sing your praise,

pure gleam of God's un - end - ing glo - ry,
 in eve - ning hymns we lift our voic - es
 O Son of God, our life - be - stow - er,

O Je - sus, blest A - noint - ed One:
 to Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, one God.
 whose glo - ry light - ens end - less days.

MEDITATION
THE OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;
Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

The light shines in the darkness

And the darkness has not overcome it.

THE ANNUNCIATION & THE MAGNIFICAT

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

THE MAGNIFICAT

All:
1.3. My _____ soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y
great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of

you,
heart,

You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

fine last time

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,

How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,

hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

THE LITANY

A *All:*
Repeat continuously

(Hmmm)

B

God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: **A**

B

1. In peace, in peace, we pray_ to you:

Leader: **A**

B

2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

Leader: **A**

B

3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:
4. For us who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
6. For all those who gov-ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la-bor in ser-vice to oth-ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish-es all of cre-a-tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:
10. For all the be-lov-ed who rest in your mer-cy:

Leader:

Help us, com - fort us, all of our days:

All:

Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

PRAYERS

Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen**

FINAL BLESSING

Leader: *All:*

Let us bless our God: praise and thanks to you.

Presider:

May God, Cre - a - tor bless us and keep us, may

Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the

Spir - it of Love be our guide and path, for

all of our days. _____

All:

A - men.

THE POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTES on HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER from Pastor Scott:

Holden Evening Prayer was written during the winter of 1985-6, while composer Marty Haugen was the *musician-in-residence* at Holden Village. Holden Village is a Lutheran retreat center in the North Cascade mountains of Washington state. The service follows the traditional form of an Evening Prayer (Vesper) Service, yet uses contemporary language.

Haugen reminisced about that winter in the mountains: "*With nine feet of snow you had nothing to do after vespers but to sit around and critique the vespers.*" Those snowbound critics were not satisfied with the *Evening Prayer* service in the green LBW hymnal. So, Haugen began experimenting with a new evening prayer liturgy. The key--E-flat minor (*six flats!*) is rare, but Haugen said it worked well with the voices he had in residence as he was composing the music.

Over the last three decades, in at least four states, I have presided and participated in *Holden Evening Prayer* services. No one accompanies *Holden* with the same flow, beauty, and grace as Lois does at MLC in the seasons of Advent and Lent. Enjoy!

ADVENT THEME for 2021

The *Holden Evening Prayer* service poignantly addresses how our Lord brought God's light into the world's darkness. We will focus on God's Word in **four key components** of *Holden* during our Wednesday Advent services at Noon and 7:00 p.m. on December 1, 8, 15, and 22.

DECEMBER 1: The SERVICE of LIGHT

DECEMBER 8: PSALM 141

DECEMBER 15: The ANNUNCIATION to MARY

DECEMBER 22: MARY'S SONG of PRAISE

HOPING FOR MASKS REQUIRED LIVE SERVICES IN ADVENT?

LIVE STREAMED Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall

LIVE STREAMED Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

ADVENT MID-WEEK OFFERINGS

Unless otherwise designated, Wednesday Advent service offerings will benefit the work of MLC's *Kit Makers* mission ministry. The *Kit Makers*, led by Rhonda Gaede, produced 3 TONS (6,000 lbs.) of kits in the previous year! These kits primarily were given to Lutheran World Relief **Kit Ministries** serving people in crisis around the world.