

March 22, 2023

Lent Midweek Worship

7:00 p.m. Service



If you are an online guest today, please leave a record of your visit, below. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

Lenten Mid-Week Worship

Wednesdays on March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at

12:00 PM (Service of the Word)

7:00 PM* (Holden Evening Prayer Service)

Lenten Soup Suppers at 5:30 PM | Parish Hall

March 1, 8, 22, & 29

Soup Makers and Volunteers Needed

Sign up at Welcome Center

Messiah Lutheran Church

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758

(256)721-0041 / www.mlutheran.org

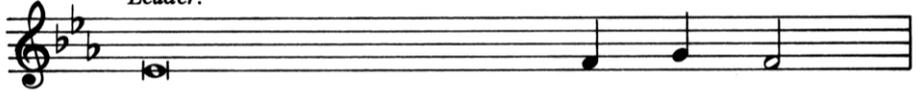
SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Holden Evening Prayer

THE PRELUDE

THE INVOCATION

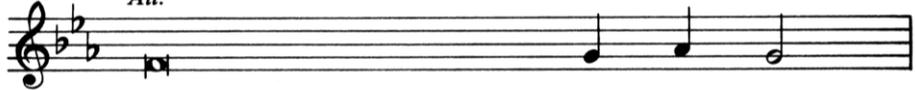
THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Leader:



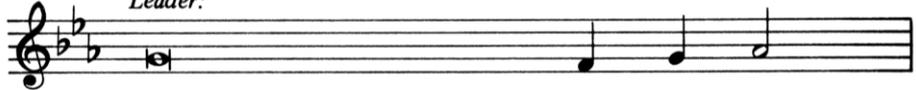
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



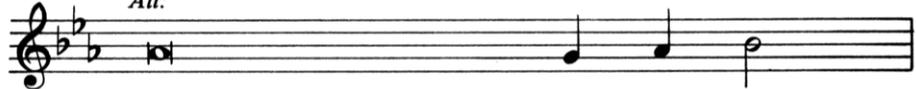
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:



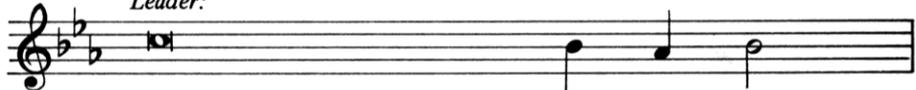
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All:



and the day is al - most over.

Leader:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:



and shine within your peo-ple here. — **2** *poco rit.*

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

All: *a tempo*



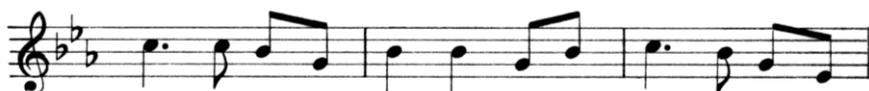
1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



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

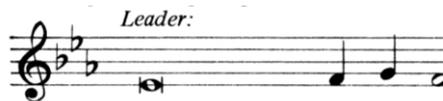


you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us

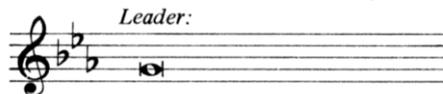


light our hearts a - new. _____
free and make us whole. _____
on to end - less day. _____

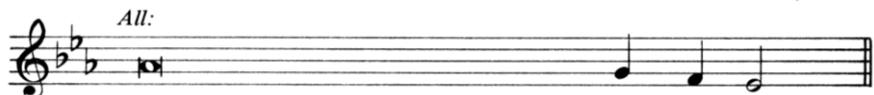
EVENING THANKSGIVING

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 -



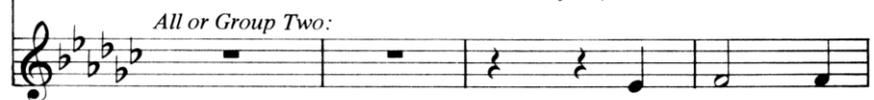
fore you, the lift - ing up of my



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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:17-22

¹⁷ Instead of bronze I will bring gold, instead of iron I will bring silver; instead of wood, bronze, instead of stones, iron. I will appoint Peace as your overseer and Righteousness as your taskmaster. ¹⁸ Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders; you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise. ¹⁹ The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. ²⁰ Your sun shall no more go down, or your moon withdraw itself; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended. ²¹ Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land for ever. They are the shoot that I planted, the work of my hands, so that I might be glorified. ²² The least of them shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the LORD; in its time I will accomplish it quickly.

GOSPEL READING

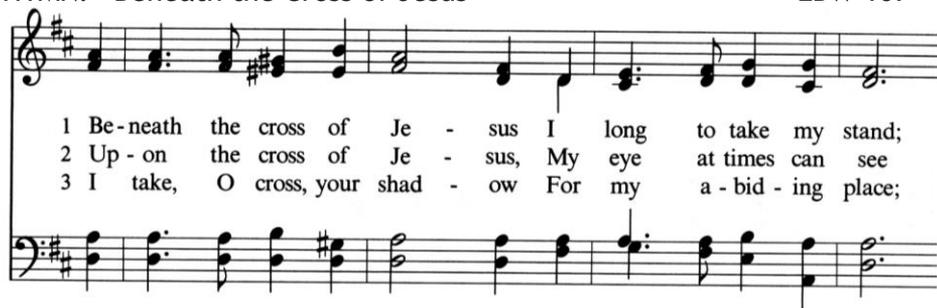
John 9:13-34

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.' ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' ²⁰ His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

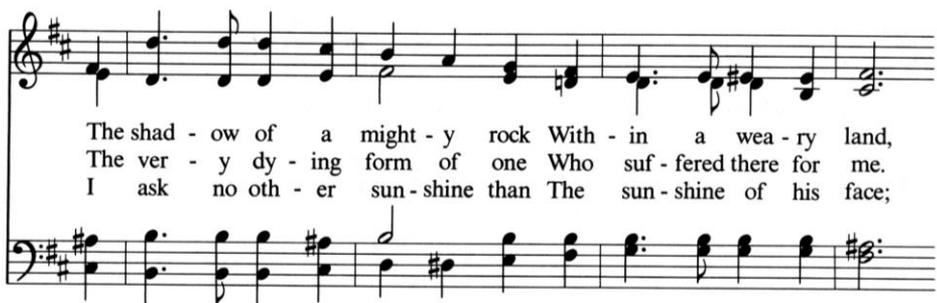
²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, ‘Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.’ ²⁵ He answered, ‘I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.’ ²⁶ They said to him, ‘What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?’ ²⁷ He answered them, ‘I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?’ ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, ‘You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.’ ³⁰ The man answered, ‘Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.’ ³⁴ They answered him, ‘You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?’ And they drove him out.

DEVOTION

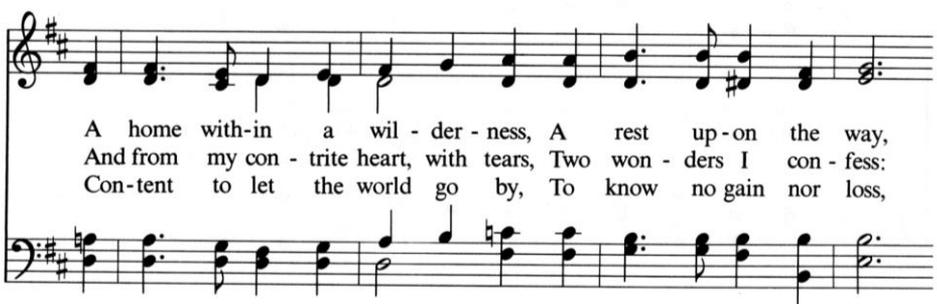
Laura Peterson



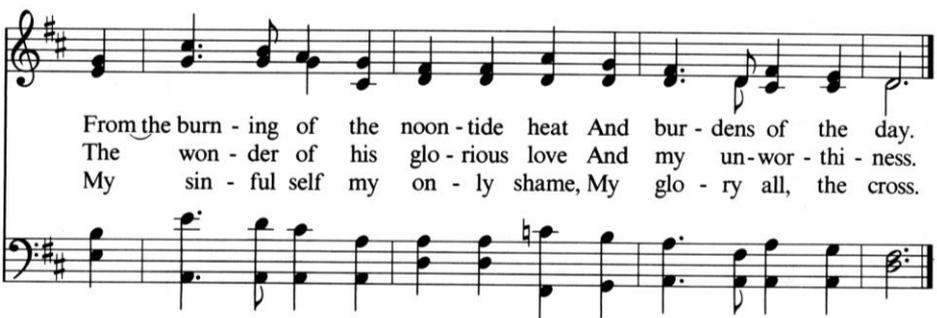
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, My eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow For my a - bid - ing place;



The shad - ow of a might - y rock With - in a wea - ry land,
 The ver - y dy - ing form of one Who suf - fered there for me,
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than The sun - shine of his face;



A home with - in a wil - der - ness, A rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, Two won - ders I con - fess:
 Con - tent to let the world go by, To know no gain nor loss,



From the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat And bur - dens of the day.
 The won - der of his glo - rious love And my un - wor - thi - ness.
 My sin - ful self my on - ly shame, My glo - ry all, the cross.

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

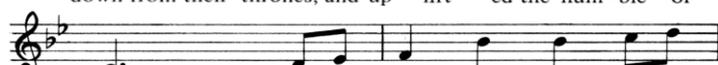
All:



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
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.



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



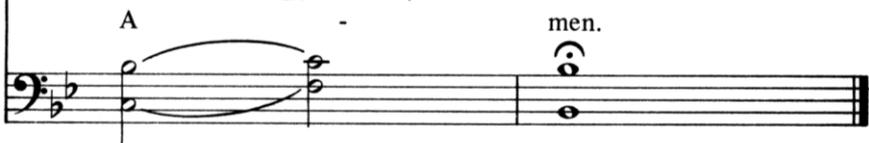
Spir - it of Love be our guide and path, for



all of our days. _____

All: 

A - men.



THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENT OFFERINGS

Lent midweek offerings unless otherwise designated will go to the Huntsville Assistance Program and Christ Kiswahili Church in Nashville, TN.

WE THANK TONIGHT'S LAY WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader: Laura Peterson

Devotion: Laura Peterson

Cantor: Andrew King

Accompanist: Randall Fields

Scream Team: Stephen Strand, Shane Peterson, Meredith Kilby

PASTORAL CARE continues to be provided by Pastor Diana Bottin for urgent matters that may arise until Pastor Kris officially starts on April 1. Please contact Claire or the Church Office.

SOUP MAKERS & KITCHEN LEADS needed for Lenten Soup Suppers this Wednesday. Sign up using the SignUP Genius page on mlutheran.org or at the Welcome Center. POC Debi Peterson

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Single Toothbrushes FOOD PANTRY Paper Towels

+ HOLY WEEK +

Sunday, April 2, 2022 - Palm / Passion Sunday

Services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM*, Easter Egg Hunt for Children 9:45 AM

Pastor Kris Schroeder's First Sunday at MLC

April 6 - Maundy Thursday

Services at Noon & 7 PM* with the Lord's Supper

April 7 - Good Friday Tenebrae

Services at Noon & 7 PM*

April 8 - Holy Saturday Prayer Stations

Prayer Stations Open 2:00–3:30 PM (Prepared by MLC Youth)

April 9 - Resurrection Sunday / Easter

Services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM*,

Easter Breakfast - MLC Youth Fundraiser

9:00 - 11:30 AM