

# March 6, 2024

## 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](http://www.mlutheran.org)

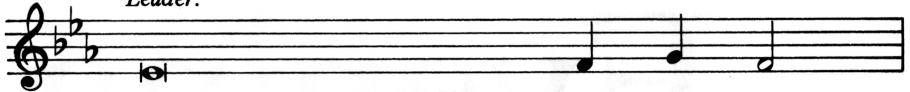
**SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
*Holden Evening Prayer*

THE PRELUDE

THE INVOCATION

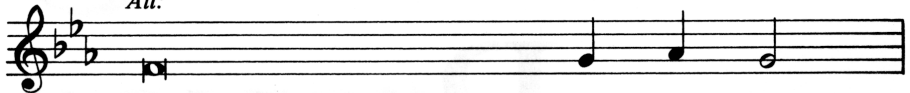
THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*Leader:*



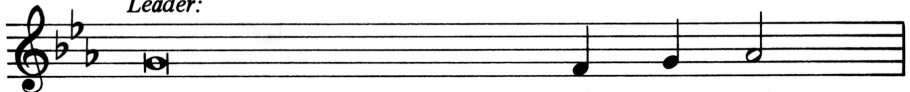
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

*All:*



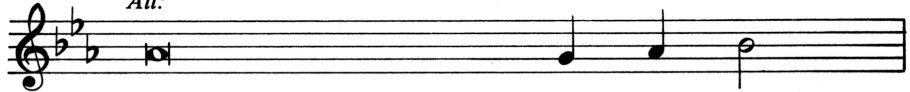
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

*Leader:*



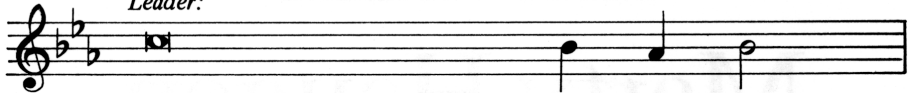
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

*All:*



and the day is al - most over.

*Leader:*



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

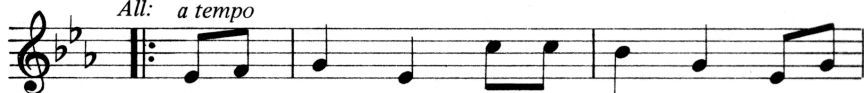
*All:*



and shine within your peo-ple here. —

# 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



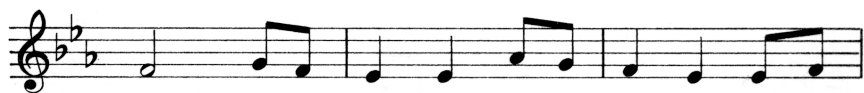
glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



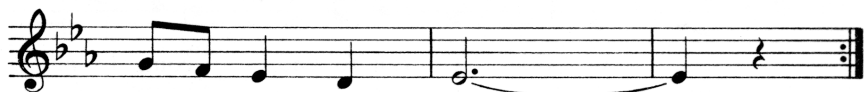
sto - ry, shine on ev 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



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

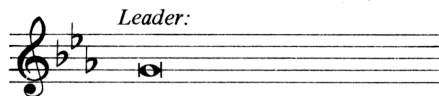


light our hearts a - new. \_\_\_\_\_  
free and make us whole. \_\_\_\_\_  
on to end - less day. \_\_\_\_\_

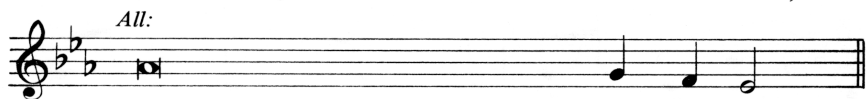
# EVENING THANKSGIVING

*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 -



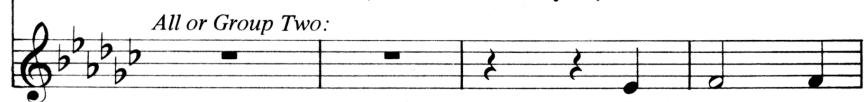
fore you, the lift - ing up of my



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

Ephesians 4:22-32 (p. 1068)

<sup>22</sup>You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, <sup>23</sup>and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup>and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

<sup>25</sup>So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup>Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup>Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup>and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

## \*GOSPEL

Matthew 12:43-50 (p. 891)

<sup>43</sup>When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but it finds none. <sup>44</sup>Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' When it comes, it finds it empty, swept, and put in order. <sup>45</sup>Then it goes and brings along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there; and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So will it be also with this evil generation."

<sup>46</sup>While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him. <sup>47</sup>Someone told him, "Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you." <sup>48</sup>But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" <sup>49</sup>And pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are



my mother and my brothers! <sup>50</sup>For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

MEDITATION/DIALOG "House of Balloons" Pastor Kris Schroeder

\*HYMN: "Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways" green LBW #480

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his stat - utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word And make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'Tis a de - light - ful road;

Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!  
Let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.  
And should I e'er for - get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

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

## The Magnificat

Luke 1: 46-55

*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, 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.

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-vation, 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.

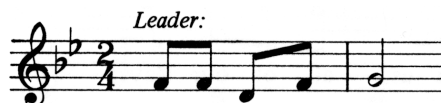
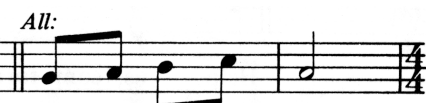
**PRAYERS**

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.**

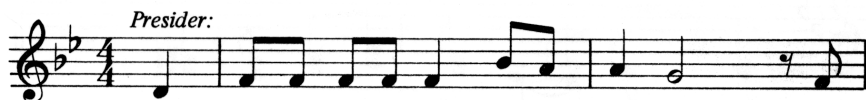
God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

**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 MLC's Kit Ministry and to New Futures, Huntsville.

## SOUP MAKERS & KITCHEN LEADS

needed for Lenten Soup Suppers this Wednesday. Sign up using the SignUP Genius page on [mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org) or at the Welcome Center. POC Kari Pitchko

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Towels 27 x 52 Dark FOOD PANTRY Cans of Soup

## LENTEN MEDITATIONS

“Learning from the Tempter”

A series of satirical dialogs based on C.S. Lewis’

“Screwtape Letters”

March 6 - House of Balloons

March 13 - Marooned

March 20 - Prowde Spirits

*Past Lenten services are available for viewing on [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org) and MLC's YouTube Channel*

## + HOLY WEEK +

**Sunday, March 24 - Palm / Passion Sunday**

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

**March 28 - Maundy Thursday**

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

**March 29 - Good Friday Tenebrae**

Services at 7 PM\*

**March 31 - Resurrection Sunday / Easter**

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

Easter Breakfast - MLC Youth Fundraiser

9:00 - 11:30 AM