

EVENING PRAYER FOR LENT



ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
7:30PM



☐ Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, ☑ **the light no darkness can over- come.**



☐ Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning, ☑ **and the day is almost o- ver.**



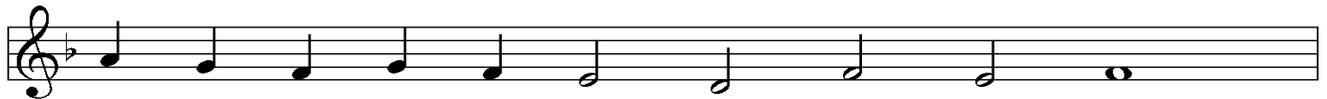
☐ Let your light scat- ter the dark-ness, ☑ **and illumine your Church.**

SERVICE OF LIGHT

As hymn is sung, candles in church are lighted



☐ Joy-ous light of glo - ry: ☑ **of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther;**



heav- en - ly, ho - ly, bless - ed Je - sus Christ.



We have come to the set-ting of the sun, and we look to the eve-ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir - it: You are wor-thy of



be - ing praised with pure voic - es for - ev - er. O Son of God,



O Giv - er of life: The u - ni - verse pro - claims your glo - ry.

☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ☑ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

☐ Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people

Israel by a pil - lar of cloud by day and a pil - lar of fire by night:

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may his Word be a lamp

to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer - ci - ful,

and you love your whole cre - a - tion, and we, your crea - tures, glo - ri - fy you,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. ☑ **A - men**

Please be seated

PSALMODY

☒ Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

☐ O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I cry to you.

☒ Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

☐ Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

☒ Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing; let me not be oc - cu -

pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers. ☐ But my eyes are

turned to you, Lord God; in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.

☒ Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

☐ as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

☒ Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Silence for meditation

P: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your loving kindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

C: Amen

Please stand

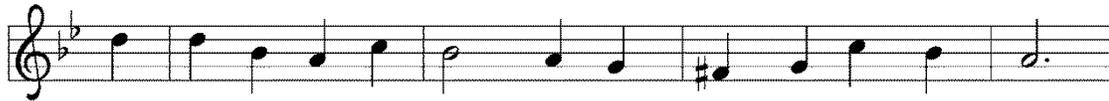
HYMN 326 "Bless Now, O God, the Journey"



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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LESSON (silence for meditation follows the reading)

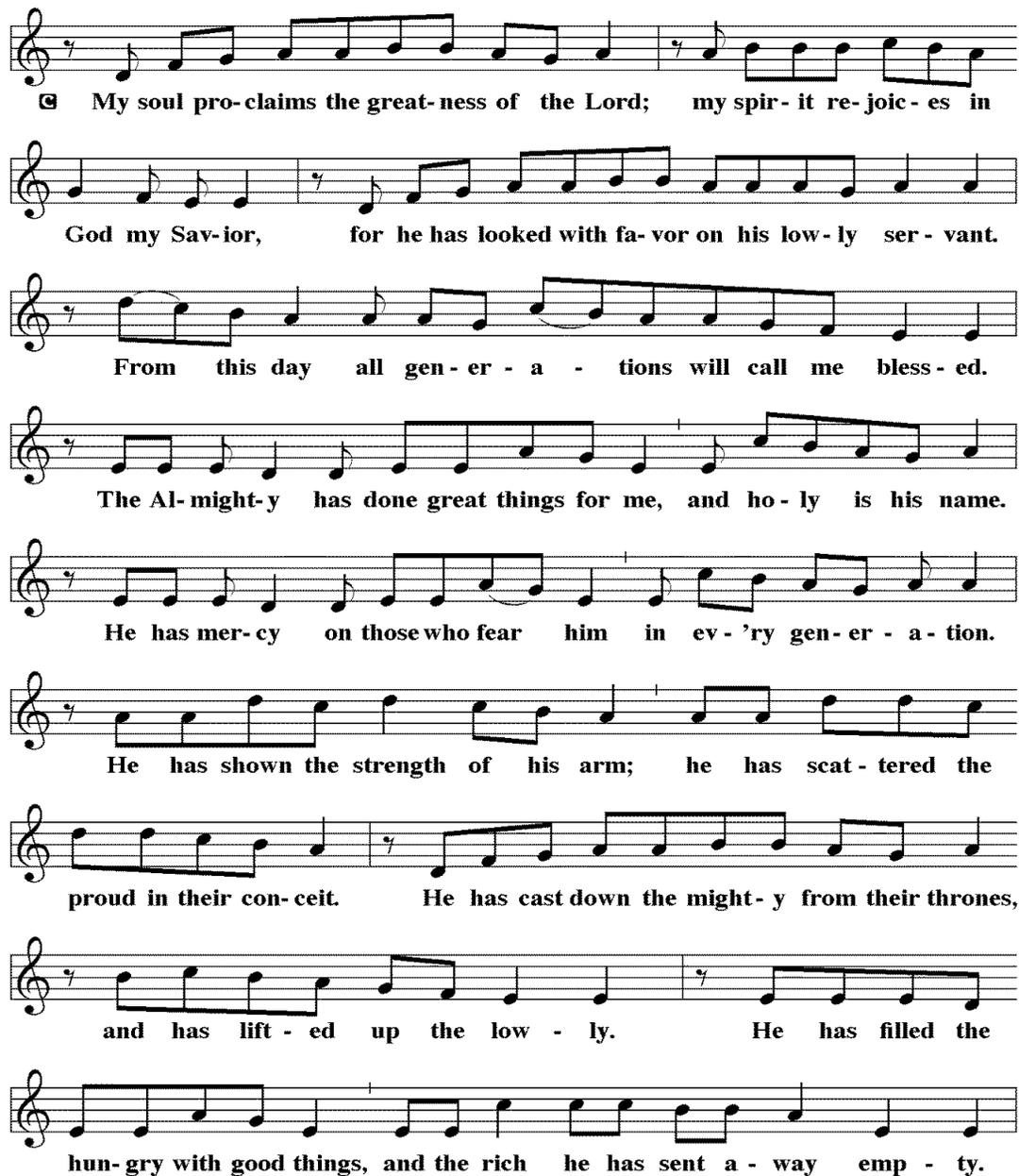
Mark 4: 35-41

P: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

C: But in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

Please stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE



☐ My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-joic-es in
God my Sav-ior, for he has looked with fa-vor on his low-ly ser-vant.
From this day all gen-er-a-tions will call me bless-ed.
The Al-might-y has done great things for me, and ho-ly is his name.
He has mer-cy on those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.
He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the
proud in their con-ceil. He has cast down the might-y from their thrones,
and has lift-ed up the low-ly. He has filled the
hun-gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a-way emp-ty.

He has come to the help of his ser- vant Is - ra - el,
 for he has re- mem-bered his prom- ise of mer- cy, the prom- ise he
 made to our fa- thers, to A- bra- ham and his chil- dren for- ev - er.
 Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be- gin-ning, is now, and will be for- ev- er. A - men

LITANY

☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
 ☑ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
 C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all; let us pray to the Lord.
 C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the health of the creation, for the abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

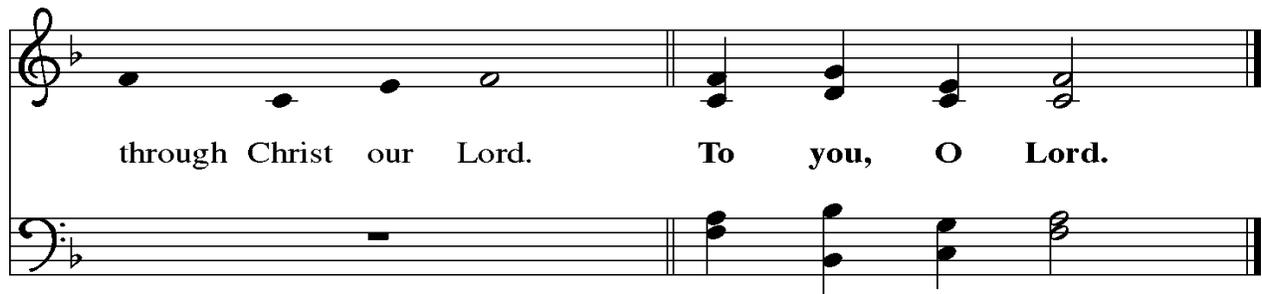
C: Lord, have mercy.

Other petitions may be added

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows

P: Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,



P: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
+Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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 upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

OUR FATHER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to come to his Supper.

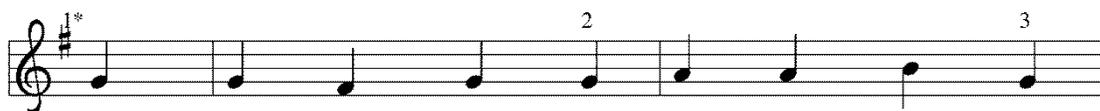
C: O Lord, we are not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and we shall be healed.

THE DISTRIBUTION

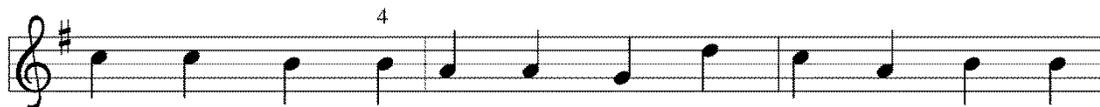
POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN 565 *“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”*



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night for
2 For - give me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the
3 Teach me to live, that I may dread the
4 Oh, may my soul in thee re - pose, and
5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



all the bless - ings of the light. Keep me, oh, keep me,
ill that I this day have done; that with the world, my -
grave as lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die, that
may sweet sleep mine eye - lids close, sleep that shall me more
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



King of kings, be - neath thine own al - might - y wings.
self, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
so I may rise glo - rious at the awe - some day.
vig - 'rous make to serve my God when I a - wake!
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.
Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis, 1505–1585

DISMISSAL

L: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith. Sent to Serve.

C: All are welcome.

L: Go in peace, Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The themes of Evening Prayer are light, repentance and recollection, quiet waiting for the Lord, meditation on the Scriptures, praise and thanksgiving, and intercessory prayer.

From the beginning of the human race, people kindled lights as darkness approached. It was never merely a utilitarian act, for the ancient symbols of darkness, light, and fire called forth a host of associations and suggestions. Jewish practice continued the blessing of the evening light, especially as the Sabbath begins. As the Christian liturgy began to develop, the utilitarian and symbolic act of lighting lamps was continued, being taken from the family dinner table to the church building.

The heart of our Gospel is the death and resurrection of Christ, which is celebrated every Sunday. The service of light, which begins Evening Prayer is a portrayal of creation, when in the darkness “God said, ‘Let there be light,’” and of the new creation, when from the darkness of death God called forth his Son. The darkness of chaos, fear and defeat, while strong and threatening, is driven back by the coming of the light. The lighting of the lamps is a re-enactment of creation and of the resurrection.

We rejoice that the Light of Christ has come into our world and into our lives. And we wait and watch for the light to shine in all its fullness when our Lord returns in glory.