

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

A North American Lutheran Church Congregation

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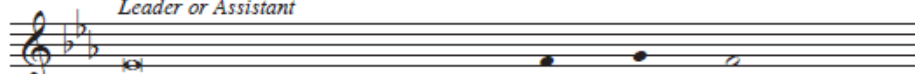
Vespers Service

December 11, 2024

Stand


SERVICE OF LIGHT: C – CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Leader or Assistant



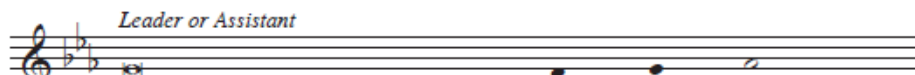
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All



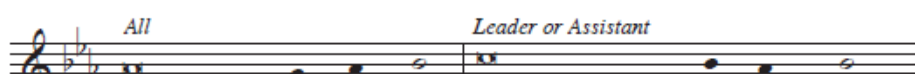
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Leader or Assistant




Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All *Leader or Assistant*



and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,


All




and shine within your peo - ple here.

EVENING HYMN


All



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly 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 or Assistant *All*
 May God be with you all. And al - so with you.

Leader or Assistant *All*
 Let us sing our thanks to God. 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.

Kneel/Sit

PSALMODY

C

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.

Cantor O God, I call to you, come to me now; O hear my voice when I cry to you.

C

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.

Cantor Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your love be burning bright.

C

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.

Cantor All praise to the God of all, Creator of life; all praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.

C

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.

Silence for meditation

L 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.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: GENESIS 37:1-4

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan.

²This is the account of Jacob's family line.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. ⁴When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

L The light shines in the darkness

C and the darkness has not overcome it.

Be Seated

SERMON "An Envious Style"

Heather Kopietz



Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

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."

All



1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -



spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift - ed the hum - ble of 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. How you fa - vor the
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom - ised to



weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more. D.C.

Kneel/Sit
LITANY

All
[A] *repeat continuously* [B]

God of mer-cy, hold us in love.

[A] *Leader or Assistant* [B]

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

[A] *Leader or Assistant*

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

All

Keep us, hold us, gra - cious God.

Stand

CLOSING PRAYERS

L 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.

C **Amen.**

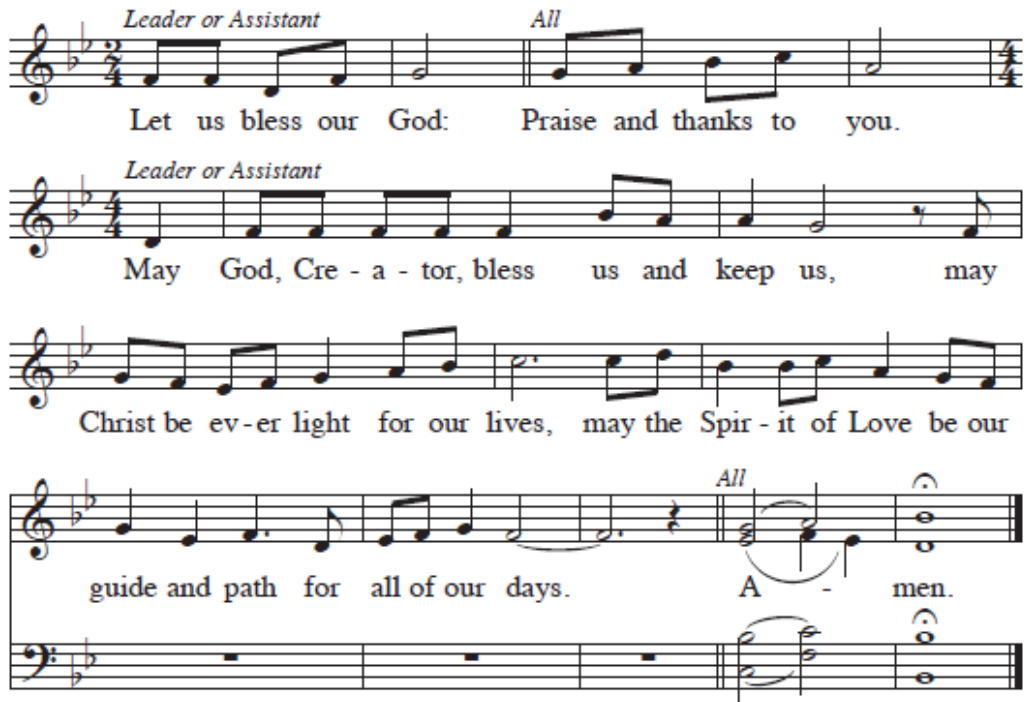
P God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**



The musical score is written on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 2/4 time. The score is divided into four systems. The first system is for the Leader or Assistant (2/4 time) and All (4/4 time). The second system is for the Leader or Assistant (4/4 time). The third system is for the Leader or Assistant (4/4 time). The fourth system is for the All (4/4 time) and includes a bass line. The lyrics are: "Let us bless our God: Praise and thanks to you. 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. A - men."

Leader or Assistant *All*
Let us bless our God: Praise and thanks to you.

Leader or Assistant
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.

Away in a Manger

278

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
 and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

BENEDICTION

P Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



As a congregation of the
North American Lutheran Church
we are guided by four core values:

1. Christ Centered
2. Mission Driven
3. Traditionally Grounded
4. Congregationally Focused



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