

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY**

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**December 6, 2023**

**Holden Evening Prayer**

**6:30 PM**

**ADVENT 2023**





# GATHERING

*We gather in silent meditation and prayer.*

*Rise and face the entrance as the service begins when the Sanctus bells ring.*

Mark Jones, *Organist*

## SERVICE OF LIGHT

### PROCESSION

*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.*

Turn as the service continues with the Evening Hymn.

## EVENING HYMN

*Joyous Light*

Marty Haugen

*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.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND PRAYER**

**P** By the light of this first candle we are roused from our slumber, crying out, “*Come now, blessed Jesus!*” We are *hopeful* for a world for a world that is full of your grace. Use us to share your love, calling others to recognize that we are your beloved people, clay in your hand, useful for your purposes. Help us to make you name known near and far. Out of hearts overflowing with thanksgiving, we see to do you will.


**C** **Amen.**

*(light the first candle)*

**EVENING THANKSGIVING**

Leader:

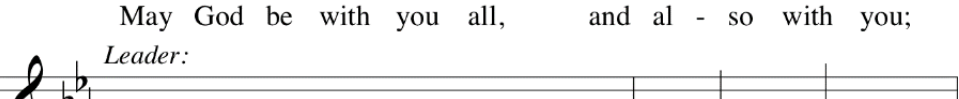
All:



May God be with you all,

Leader:


All:



and al - so with you;

Leader:

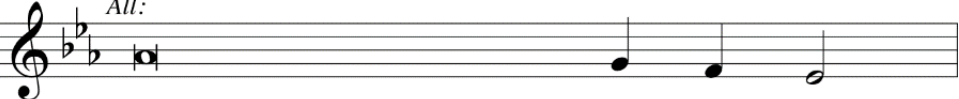
All:



May God be with you all,

Leader:

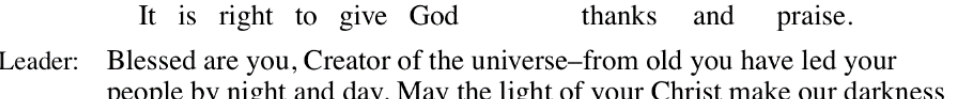
All:



and al - so with you;

Leader:

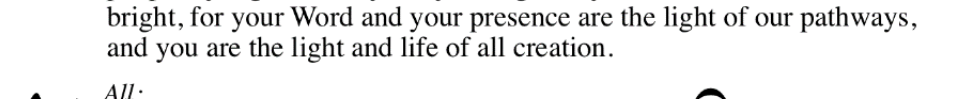
All:



May God be with you all,

Leader:


All:



and al - so with you;

Leader:


All:



May God be with you all,

Leader:

All:



and al - so with you;

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.

Leader:

All:



May God be with you all,

Leader:

All:



and al - so with you;

(sit)

# PSALM 141

*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

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.



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.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## *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.

## **SILENCE**

## **SCRIPTURE AND REFLECTION**

**Isaiah 64:1-9**

**O** that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence — <sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

## **INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS AT THE ALTAR**

*You are invited at this time to come forward, light a candle and offer your prayers to God. Know that God hears you and listens to your requests, questions, thanks, joys and sorrows.*

*The service continues with the following responses which introduce the Annunciation:*

- ☞ The Light shines in the darkness      ☞ and the darkness has not overcome it.

*(stand)*

## **THE ANNUNCIATION**

**Luke 1:26-28, 30-32, 38**

- ☞ 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.”

(immediately to "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

*fine last time*

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.

# PRAYERS

[A] *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.

**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.

**L** 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.

*(remain seated for the rest of the service)*

## A BLESSING FOR TRAVELING IN THE DARK

## 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.



*depart in silence*

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# Worship With Us During Advent!

## **Wednesdays, December 6, 13, & 20**

Lunch: 11:00 AM – Noon

Supper: 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Worship: 6:30 PM



## **Weekend Worship Times**

Saturdays: 5:00 PM

Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00 AM

**Please Note:** Sunday, December 24, no 11:00 AM worship service

## **Musical Offerings**

Tuba Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 10, 3:00 PM

## **Candlelight Carol Service**

Saturday, December 16, 5:00 PM

## **Children's Christmas Program**

Sunday, December 17, 9:00 AM



## **December 24**

Advent 4: 9:00 (no 11:00 AM)

Christmas Eve: 4:00, 7:00, 11:00 PM

## **December 25**

Christmas Day: 10:00 AM