

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
Eric Haitz, Deacon
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December 10, 2025

Holden Evening Prayer

6:30 PM

ADVENT 2025



GATHERING

We gather in silent meditation and prayer.

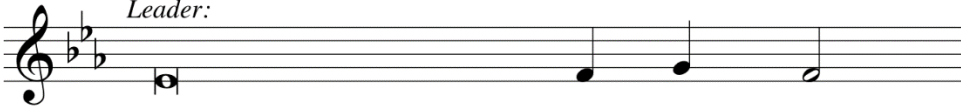
Rise and face the entrance as the service begins when the Sanctus bells ring.

Mark Jones, *Organist*

SERVICE OF LIGHT

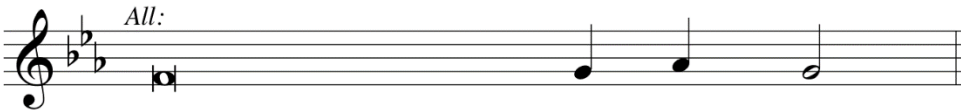
PROCESSION

Leader:



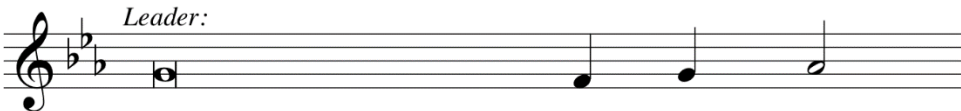
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



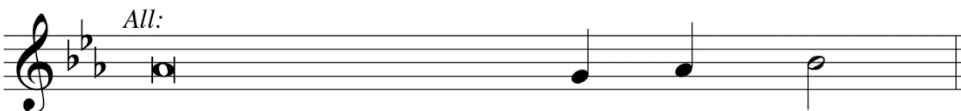
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:



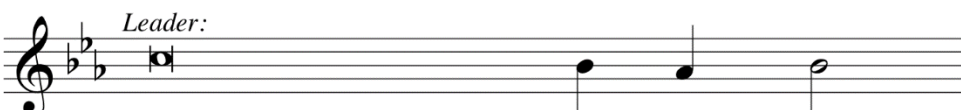
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

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.



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

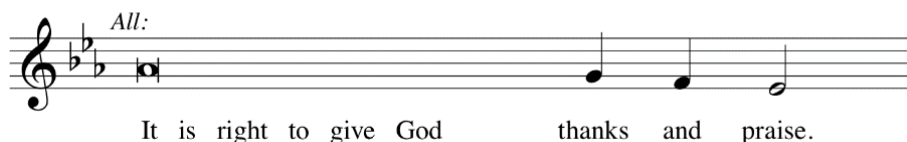
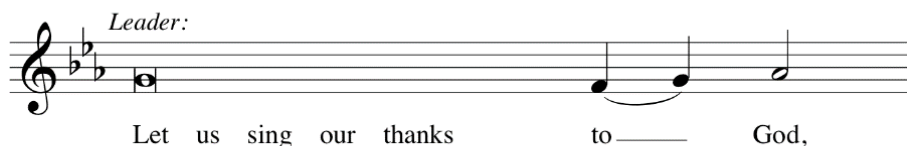


you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
 soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
 way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



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

EVENING THANKSGIVING



Leader: 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.



(sit)

PSALM 141



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.

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.**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-56

REFLECTION

Deacon Eric

ADORATION OF THE CROSS AND PRAYERS AT THE ALTAR

The tradition of venerating or adoring the cross dates back to the fourth century. Today, Christians around the world, especially during Holy Week, bow, kneel, or light candles before the cross as an expression of reverence for Christ's sacrifice and a sign of devotion to the living Christ present among us. In our Lenten services, you are invited to come forward, kneel or bow before the cross, and light a candle as a prayerful act of reflection and faith.

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

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

(rise in body or spirit)

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

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.

FINAL BLESSING

Leader:

All:



Let us bless our God: praise and thanks to you.

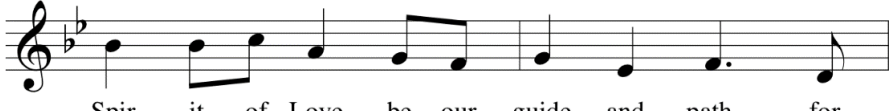
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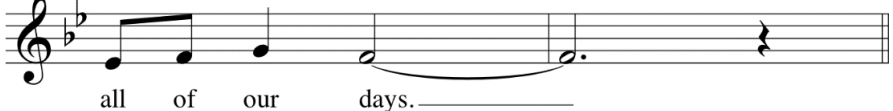
May God, Cre - a - tor bless us and keep us, may



Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the

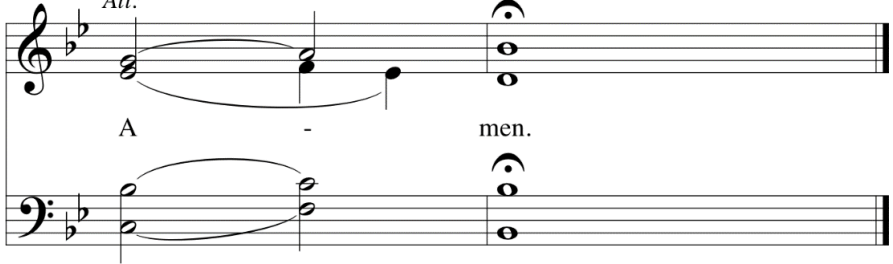


Spir - it of Love be our guide and path, for



all of our days. _____

All:



A - men.

depart in silence

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