

AN ADVENT LITURGY OF EVENING PRAYER
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

First Mid-Week in Advent

December 2, 2020

AS WE GATHER

John 1:1–18 These verses are rich in light and life, truth and grace. They are some of the most important words ever written! God has given his to you. It's a Word connected to creation and connected to God—all so he can be forever connected to you. Connected to you as the Light that shines (shines!) in your darkness! So slow down. Take a deep breath. There's no need to panic. God says, "You have my Word." And what an awesome Word it is. His name? Jesus!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Adelante Ministries of Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

Pastor Stephen Heimer

INVOCATION

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

G Amen.

ADORATION

P Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

G **Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

P Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

G **Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre!**

P Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

G **For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Ref: He's coming, He's coming! Yes, Jesus is coming again!
He's coming, He's coming! Yes, Jesus is coming again

- 1 Light the candle of Hope, Light the candle of Hope.
Light the candle of Hope, Light the candle of Hope.
And light up the world with the Hope of the Lord.
And light up the world with the Hope of the Lord.

Text: Public domain

CALL TO WORSHIP

2 Corinthians 13:14 and John 1:1-18

P In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

G **He was with God in the beginning.**

P Through him all things were made.

G **Without him nothing was made that has been made.**

P In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

G **The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.**

P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

G **We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only.**

P Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

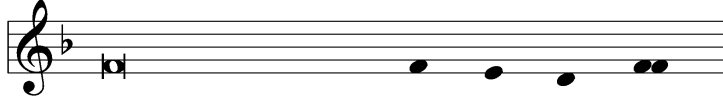
G **From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.**

P The Law was given through Moses.

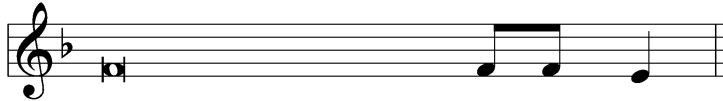
G **Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ!**

+ SERVICE OF LIGHT +

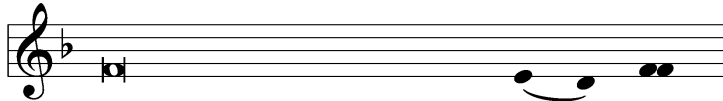
VERSICLES



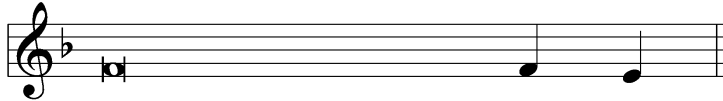
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



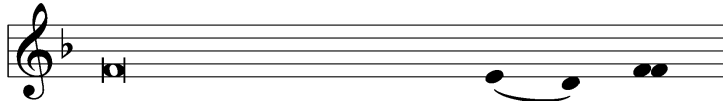
C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.

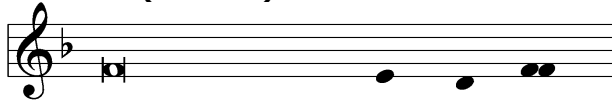


L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness

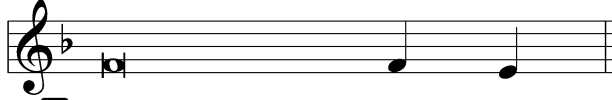


C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

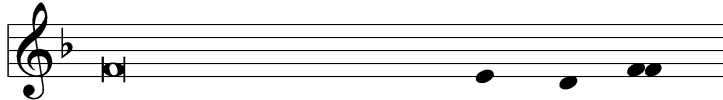
VERSICLES (ADVENT)



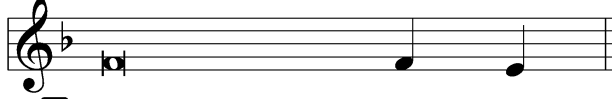
L The Spirit and the Church cry out:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.



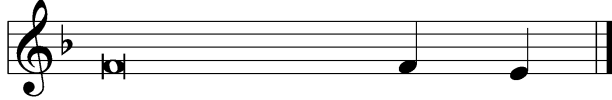
L All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.



L The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.

PHOS HILARON



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bles - 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 -

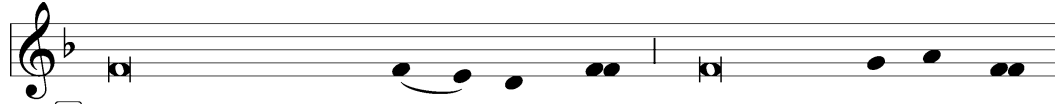


ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:

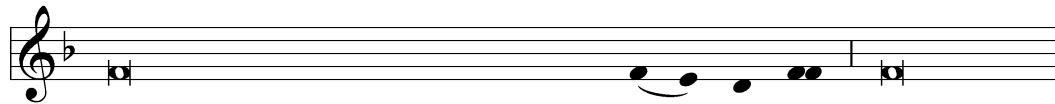


the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

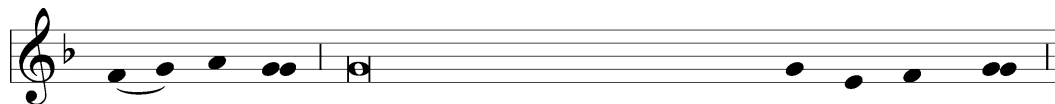
THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT



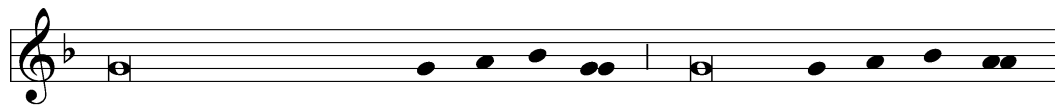
L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,



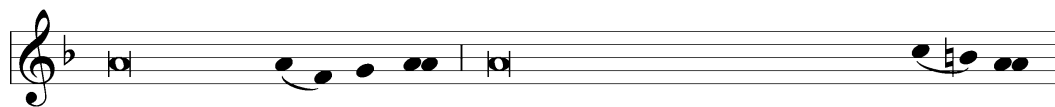
who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of



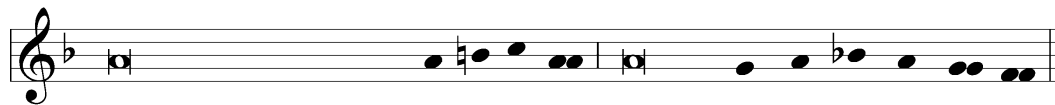
fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;



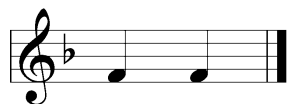
may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;



for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion



and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.



C A - men.

+ PSALMODY +

PSALM 141



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



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



I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



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



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



I 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.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.



Strip me not of my life. C Glo-ry be 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.

PSALM PRAYER

I Let us pray. Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on 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.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Great Thou Art" LSB 801



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der Con-sid-er
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar-ing, Sent Him to
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; When I look down from loft-y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-

thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
 gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
 bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
 ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou
 art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to
 Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

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+ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE +

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

(By His Word, God created all things")

Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

EPISTLE LESSON

(God's Word upholds the universe)

Hebrews 1:1-3

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

GOSPEL LESSON

(The creating Word was with God, the Word was God)

John 1:1-5

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Beautiful Savior" LSB 537

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of

God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom-ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright-er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -
 serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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SERMON

"You Have My Word" John 1:1-5, Pastor Stephen Heimer

OFFERING, OFFERTORY, AND SILENT PRAYER

+ PRAYER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Heavenly Father, hear us as we praise you for the beauty and power of your Word. "Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord made has failed." (Joshua 21:45)
- C** **Your Word is trustworthy and true.**
- P** "Grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever." (Isaiah 40:8)
- C** **Your Word endures forevermore.**
- P** "My Word will not return to me empty." (Isaiah 55:11)
- C** **Your Word works, always doing what it says.**
- P** "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)
- C** **Your Word shines in the darkness.**
- P** And the darkness will never overcome it!

+ Additional Prayers +

- P** Heavenly Father, we will slow down and take a deep breath. There is no need to panic.
- C** **All things are working for our good and your glory.**
- P** We know because we have your Word!
- C** **And his name is Jesus!**
- P** In his name we pray.
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

EVENING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** John writes his gospel so that we may believe.
- C** **That Jesus is the Christ—**
- P** The Son of God.
- C** **And that by believing we may have life in his name.**
- P** Go forth in his name—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—for in his name you have life.
- C** **Abundant life.**
- P** Joyful life.
- C** **Eternal life.**
- All:** Amen!

CLOSING HYMN OF EVENING PRAYER

"Abide With Me" LSB 878



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Pastor John Benito and Miguel Muñoz of Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care for leading our singing in tonight's worship service.

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