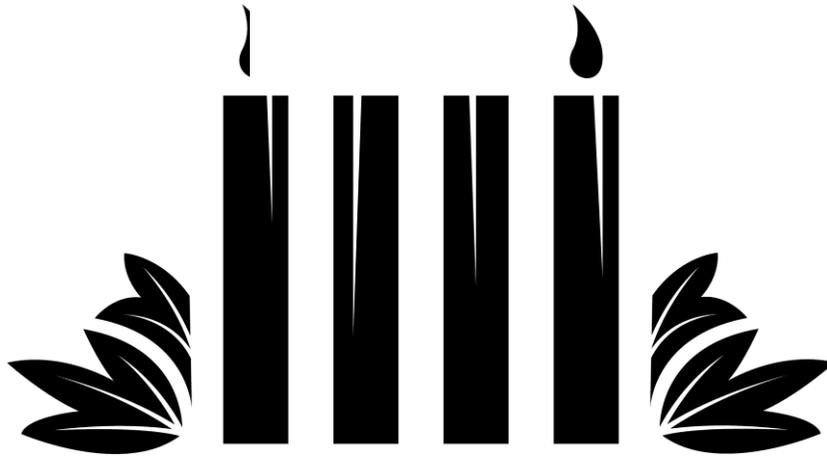


Advent Evening Prayer

December 4, 2019

**Lift Up Your Heads!
Your Lord Comes.**



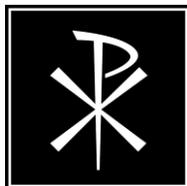
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WELCOME TO WORSHIP



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

Guest Book: Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.

Evening Prayer: Tonight's service is based on the historic service called "Vespers." Christians gather at the end of the day to raise their voices in thankful praise and prayer. Congregations may use the "Service of Light" as an alternate beginning. The "Service of Light" portrays the comforting and ever-present light of Christ as daylight disappears.

Amplifiers: Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

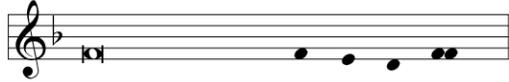
Broadcast: This Service is being broadcast at www.peacewithgod.com. Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

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The Advent of Christ, the Light of the World,
is celebrated at this Advent Vigil
with the lighting of the Advent Wreath
during the *Service of Light*.

SERVICE OF LIGHT

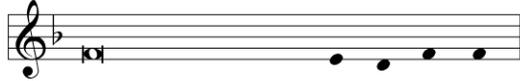
STAND as directed



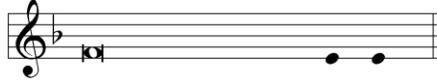
M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



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



M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning,



C: and the day is almost o-ver.



M: Be our light and scat-ter the dark-ness,



C: and hear our evening hymn of praise.



1 O gra-cious Light, Lord Je-sus Christ, In you the
2 Now sun-set comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are
3 Wor-thy are you of end-less praise, O Son of



Fa-ther's glo-ry shone. Im-mor-tal, ho-ly,
lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa-ther, Son, and
God, life-giv-ing Lord; Where-fore you are through



blest is he, And blest are you, his on-ly Son.
Spir-it: God Who dwells in the e-ter-nal light.
all the earth And in the high-est heav'n a-dored.

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU (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. 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.

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

PSALM

Psalm 24

Refrain



Let the Lord en-ter; he is the King of glo-ry.

Psalm tone



The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,*
 the world, and all who live in it;
 for he founded it upon the seas*
 and established it upon the waters.
 Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?*
 Who may stand in his holy place?
 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*
 he will receive blessing from God his Savior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, O you gates;
 be lifted up, you ancient doors,*
 that the King of glory may come in.
 Who is this King of glory?*
 The LORD strong and mighty,
 the LORD mighty in battle.
 Lift up your heads, O you gates;
 lift them up, you ancient doors,*
 that the King of glory may come in.
 Who is he, this King of glory?*
 The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
 and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Silence for meditation.

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 #A-712488

M: Lord God, Ruler of heaven and earth, cleanse our lives and purify our hearts so that your Son, the King of glory, may come in and lead us rejoicing to your heavenly city, where with the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 21-24

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰ He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

¹¹ And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹² The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!
You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. ²² And the LORD God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.” ²³ So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴ After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

LESSON

Isaiah 63:16b-17, 64:1-8

63:16b you, LORD, are our Father,
our Redeemer from of old is your name.

17 Why, LORD, do you make us wander from your ways
and harden our hearts so we do not revere you?
Return for the sake of your servants,
the tribes that are your inheritance.

64:1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!

2 As when fire sets twigs ablaze
and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you!

3 For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

4 Since ancient times no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

5 You come to the help of those who gladly do right,
who remember your ways.
But when we continued to sin against them,
you were angry.
How then can we be saved?

6 All of us have become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

7 No one calls on your name
or strives to lay hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have given us over to our sins.

8 Yet you, LORD, are our Father.
We are the clay, you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

M: The Lord will come again in glory.

C: **The Spirit and the Church cry out:**

All: **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

STAND

HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates | 4



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be -
 2 The King is born in pov - er - ty, His
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make
 5 Re - deem - er, come! I op - en wide My



hold, the King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
 char - iot is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is
 Christ the rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and
 it a tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for
 heart to you; here, Lord, a - bide! Oh, en - ter with your



draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here.
 ho - li - ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress.
 hap - py homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes!
 heav'n's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 sav - ing grace; Show me your kind and friend - ly face.



Life and sal - va - tion he will bring; There -
 The end of all our woe he brings; There -
 The cloud - less sun of joy is he Who
 So shall your Sov - reign en - ter in And
 Your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on Un -



fore re - jice and glad - ly sing. To God the Fa - ther
 fore the earth is glad and sings. To Christ the Sav - ior
 comes to set his peo - ple free. To God the Spir - it
 new and no - bler life be - gin. To God a - lone be
 til our glo - rious goal is won. E - ter - nal praise and



raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 praise For word and deed and grace!
 fame We of - fer to your name.

BE SEATED

AN ADVENT DEVOTION

The Father comes with an amazing plan.

STAND

SONG OF MARY (*Magnificat*)



C: 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



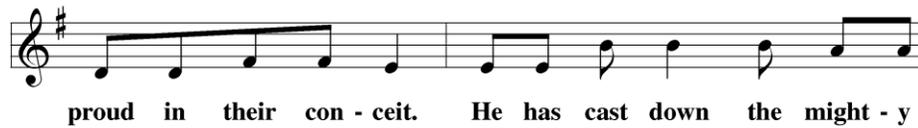
things for me, and ho - ly is his name. He has mer - cy on



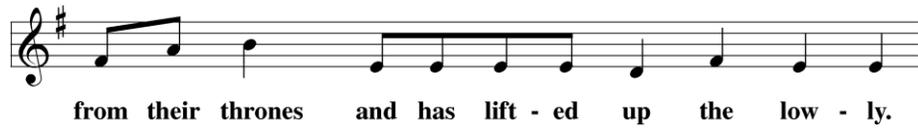
those who fear him in ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the



proud in their con - ceit. 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 made to our fa - thers,

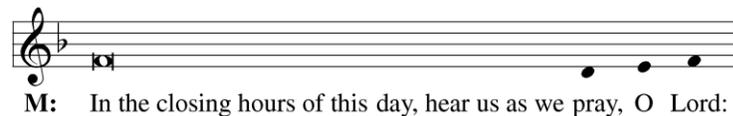


to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)



M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



C: Thanks be to God.

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



C: A - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part



ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen



your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry



peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

STAND

BLESSING



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow | 587



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,
 2 The rule of day is o - ver And shin - ing
 3 Lord Je - sus, since you love me, Oh, spread your
 4 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber
 jew - els cov - er The heav - en's bound - less
 wings a - bove me And shield me from a -
 night will sure - ly From per - il guard your



lies. But you, my heart, a - wak - en,
 blue. Thus I shall shine in heav - en,
 larm. Though Sa - tan would as - sail me,
 heads. Sweet slum - bers may he send you



With prayer and song be tak - en;
 Where crowns of gold are giv - en
 Your mer - cy will not fail me;
 And bid his hosts at - tend you



Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.
 To all who faith - ful prove and true.
 I rest in your pro - tect - ing arm.
 And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN (776 778) Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517, alt.