



Advent 2018

Evening Prayer

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

Champaign, Illinois





*Welcome to Evening Prayer at Grace Lutheran Church. Because this is a contemplative service, there will be no announcements or verbal directions. Each section of the liturgy will move directly into the next. Silence will be observed as indicated. Aside from the readings the entire service is sung.*

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The liturgy is reprinted from *Sundays and Seasons*, © 2018, by permission of Augsburg Fortress. Hymns are sung out of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* L = Leader, C = Congregation

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*As the leader enters, the assembly stands and faces the candle.*

## SERVICE OF LIGHT



L The Spirit and the Church cry out: C **Come, Lord** **Jesus**



L All those who await his appearance pray: C **Come, Lord** **Jesus**



L The whole crea - tion pleads: C **Come, Lord** **Jesus**



☒ Joy-ous light of glo - ry: ☑ of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther;

heav - en - ly, ho - ly, bless - 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.

L The Lord be with you

☑ And al - so with you.

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L We give you thanks ... now and forever.

☑ A - men



*The assembly is seated.*

# PSALMODY



☐ 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.



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



☐ 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. ☐ But my eyes are



turned to you, Lord God; in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.





II Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



I as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



III Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



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

*Silence for reflection*

PSALM PRAYER



III A - men

PSALM

*The Psalms are found in the front of the ELW worship book.*

*The psalm is chanted responsively between leader and congregation using the following tone:*



December 5: Psalm 90

December 12: Psalm 126

December 19: Psalm 80:1-7

*Silence for reflection*

PSALM PRAYER

*The leader chants the prayer after the silence.*



*The assembly stands.*

## HYMN

December 6: ELW #629 “Abide With Me”

December 13: ELW #565 “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

December 20: ELW #564 “God, Who Made The Earth and Heaven”

*The assembly is seated.*

## READINGS

*Silence for reflection follows each reading*



### First Reading (December 5)

Isaiah 29:17-24

Shall not Lebanon in a very little while

become a fruitful field,

and the fruitful field be regarded as a forest?

<sup>18</sup> On that day the deaf shall hear

the words of a scroll,

and out of their gloom and darkness

the eyes of the blind shall see.

<sup>19</sup> The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord,

and the neediest people shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>20</sup> For the tyrant shall be no more,

and the scoffer shall cease to be;

all those alert to do evil shall be cut off—

<sup>21</sup> those who cause a person to lose a lawsuit,

who set a trap for the arbiter in the gate,

and without grounds deny justice to the one in the right.



<sup>22</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob:  
No longer shall Jacob be ashamed,  
no longer shall his face grow pale.  
<sup>23</sup>For when he sees his children,  
the work of my hands, in his midst,  
they will sanctify my name;  
they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob,  
and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.  
<sup>24</sup>And those who err in spirit will come to understanding,  
and those who grumble will accept instruction.

### **Second Reading (December 5)**

Excerpts from Luther's Explanation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Petition of the Lord's Prayer  
in the Small and Large Catechisms.



### **First Reading (December 12)**

### **2 Peter 1:2-15**

May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. <sup>3</sup>His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. <sup>4</sup>Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants in the divine nature. <sup>5</sup>For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. <sup>8</sup>For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>For anyone who lacks these things is shortsighted and blind, and is forgetful of the cleansing of past sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brothers and sisters, be all the more eager to confirm your call and election, for if you do this, you will



never stumble. <sup>11</sup>For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will be richly provided for you.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore I intend to keep on reminding you of these things, though you know them already and are established in the truth that has come to you. <sup>13</sup>I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to refresh your memory, <sup>14</sup>since I know that my death will come soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. <sup>15</sup>And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

## Second Reading (December 12)

Excerpt from *The Advent of Salvation* by Jean Danielou



## First Reading (December 19)

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> The Lord has taken away the judgements against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

<sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup> The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,

he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing

<sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival.

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**



I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

<sup>19</sup> I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

<sup>20</sup> At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

**Second Reading (December 19)**

**Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**Third Reading (December 19)**

*Ask Not* by Karl Rahner

*Silence for reflection*



## RESPONSE

L Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways | by the prophets.  
C but in these last days God has spoken to us | by the Son.

*The assembly stands*

## GOSPEL CANTICLE



☩ 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-ceil. 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 he


  
 made to our fa - thers, to A - bra - ham and his chil - dren for - ev - er.


  
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

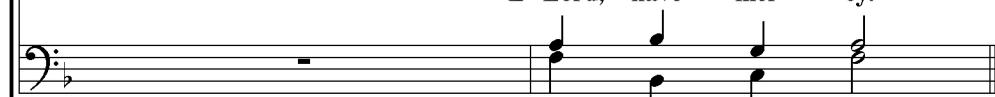

  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

## THE LITANY

*The congregation holds the final chord of the response through the following petition.*

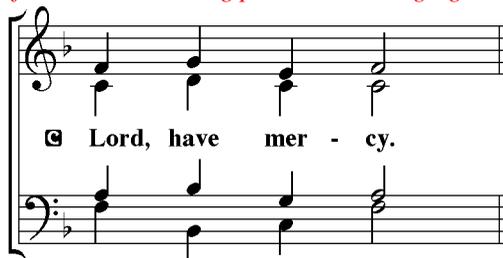

  
 ☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.


  
 ☑ Lord, have mer - cy.





*After each succeeding petition, the congregation responds:*

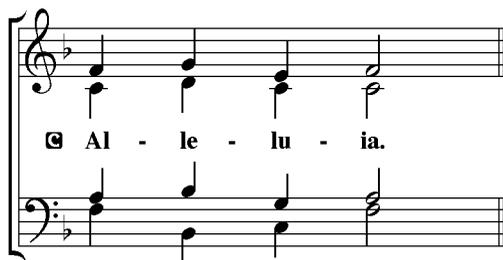


☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is a simple four-note sequence: G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The bass line consists of four chords: G2-Bb2, A2-Bb2, Bb2-C3, and C3-Bb2.

The final petitions:

L For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest,  
let us give thanks to the Lord.



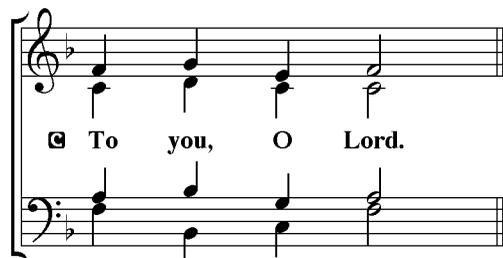
☐ Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is a simple four-note sequence: G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The bass line consists of four chords: G2-Bb2, A2-Bb2, Bb2-C3, and C3-Bb2.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for meditation*

L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves,  
one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



☐ To you, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is a simple four-note sequence: G4, A4, Bb4, C5. The bass line consists of four chords: G2-Bb2, A2-Bb2, Bb2-C3, and C3-Bb2.

L O God, from whom come all holy desires ... and the Holy Spirit, God forever



☐ A - men

The musical notation consists of a single treble clef staff in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is a simple four-note sequence: G4, A4, Bb4, C5.



L Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:



☩ Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in



heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are



yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men

L Let us bless the Lord



☩ Thanks be to God.

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
bless and preserve us.

C Amen



*Please return your bulletin the narthex for use throughout Advent*



