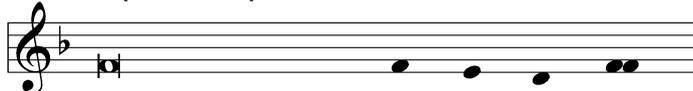


+ Service of Light +

Office of Evening Prayer for Midweek Advent 2022: Chosen Child(ren)



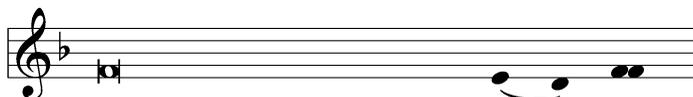
Versicles (Common) *John 8:12; John 1:5; Luke 24:29; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 2 Corinthians 4:6*



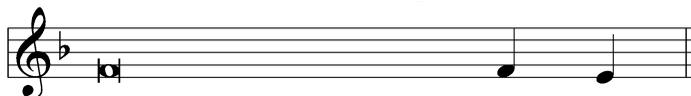
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



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.

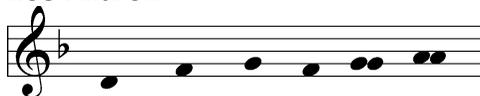


L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness

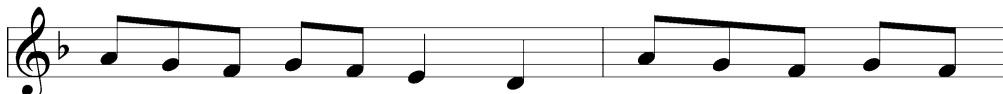


C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C 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.

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 merciful, and You love Your whole creation
 and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



C A - men.

+ Psalmody +

Psalm 141

Psalm 141:1-4, 8



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.

Psalm (Nov 30)

Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
**Behold, as the eyes of servants
look to the hand of their master,**
as the eyes of a maidservant
to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,

till he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.

**Our soul has had more than enough
of the scorn of those who are at ease,
of the contempt of the proud.**

Psalm (Dec 7)

Psalm 25:1–7

To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

let me not be put to shame;

let not my enemies exult over me.

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

Psalm (Dec 14)

Psalm 27:1, 4–5, 11–14

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

**The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,**

to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.

**For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;**

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

**Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.**

Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out violence.

**I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!**

Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

Psalm (Dec 21)

Psalm 102:24–28

“O my God,” I say, “take me not away
in the midst of my days—
**you whose years endure
throughout all generations!”**

Of old you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

**They will perish, but you will remain;
they will all wear out like a garment.**

You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,
but you are the same, and your years have no end.

**The children of your servants shall dwell secure;
their offspring shall be established before you.**

Office Hymn (Nov 30): 909 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (see hymnal)

Hymn (Dec 7): 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Hymn (Dec 14): 348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

Hymn (Dec 21): 605 Father Welcomes

+ Readings +

Nov 30 Reading

1 Peter 2:1–11

L A reading from 1 Peter, chapter 2.

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Dec 7 First Reading

2 Chronicles 7:12

L A reading from 2 Chronicles, chapter 7.

Then the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night and said to him: “I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a house of sacrifice.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Dec 7 Second Reading

Psalm 132

L A reading from Psalm, chapter 132.

Remember, O LORD, in David's favor,
all the hardships he endured,
how he swore to the LORD
and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
"I will not enter my house
or get into my bed,
I will not give sleep to my eyes
or slumber to my eyelids,
until I find a place for the LORD,
a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."
Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.
"Let us go to his dwelling place;
let us worship at his footstool!"

Arise, O LORD, and go to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might.
Let your priests be clothed with righteousness,
and let your saints shout for joy.
For the sake of your servant David,
do not turn away the face of your anointed one.

The LORD swore to David a sure oath
from which he will not turn back:
"One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.
If your sons keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them,
their sons also forever
shall sit on your throne."

For the LORD has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his dwelling place:
"This is my resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
I will abundantly bless her provisions;
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
Her priests I will clothe with salvation,
and her saints will shout for joy.
There I will make a horn to sprout for David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.
His enemies I will clothe with shame,
but on him his crown will shine."

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Dec 14 First Reading

1 Samuel 9:1–2, 15–21

L A reading from 1 Samuel, chapter 9.

There was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, son of Zeror, son of Becorath, son of Aphiah, a Benjaminite, a man of wealth. And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.

Now the day before Saul came, the LORD had revealed to Samuel: “Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over my people Israel. He shall save my people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have seen my people, because their cry has come to me.” When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD told him, “Here is the man of whom I spoke to you! He it is who shall restrain my people.” Then Saul approached Samuel in the gate and said, “Tell me where is the house of the seer?” Samuel answered Saul, “I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for today you shall eat with me, and in the morning I will let you go and will tell you all that is on your mind. As for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not set your mind on them, for they have been found. And for whom is all that is desirable in Israel? Is it not for you and for all your father’s house?” Saul answered, “Am I not a Benjaminite, from the least of the tribes of Israel? And is not my clan the humblest of all the clans of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then have you spoken to me in this way?”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Dec 14 Second Reading

1 Samuel 16:1, 6–23

L A reading from 1 Samuel, chapter 16.

The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is before him.” But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.” Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And

Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here." And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. And Saul's servants said to him, "Behold now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord now command your servants who are before you to seek out a man who is skillful in playing the lyre, and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will be well." So Saul said to his servants, "Provide for me a man who can play well and bring him to me." One of the young men answered, "Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence, and the LORD is with him." Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me David your son, who is with the sheep." And Jesse took a donkey laden with bread and a skin of wine and a young goat and sent them by David his son to Saul. And David came to Saul and entered his service. And Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer. And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Let David remain in my service, for he has found favor in my sight." And whenever the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Dec 21 Reading

Isaiah 42:1–9

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 42.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people on it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:
 “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
 I will take you by the hand and keep you;
 I will give you as a covenant for the people,
 a light for the nations,
 to open the eyes that are blind,
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.
 I am the LORD; that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,
 nor my praise to carved idols.
 Behold, the former things have come to pass,
 and new things I now declare;
 before they spring forth
 I tell you of them.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Final Reading Response

Hebrews 1:1–2a

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

+ Sermon +

Chosen Child(ren)

+ Canticle +

Magnificat

Luke 1:46–55

Refrain

C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
 joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the
 Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

1 For _____ He has re - - - - - garded
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son

1 the lowliness of His hand-maiden.
 2 and holy is His name;
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;

1 For be - hold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,

1 all generations will call me blessed.
 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

Offering (may be placed in the plates in the back before you depart)

+ Prayer +

Litany

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mer - cy.

- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

L For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

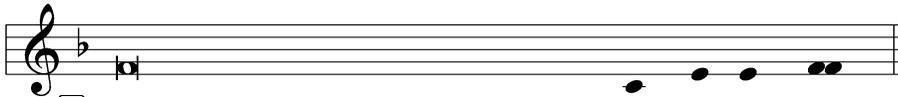
L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

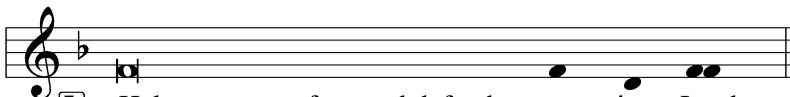
C **Lord, have mercy.**

The prayers then continue:



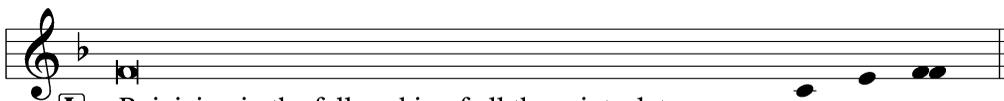
L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Al - le - lu - ia.



L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.



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



C To You, O Lord.

Collect for Peace

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Lord's Prayer

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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.

Benedicamus

[Psalm 103:1]

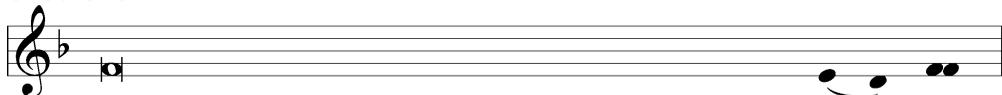


L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



C A - men.

Hymn (Nov 30): 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

Hymn (Dec 7): 883 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

Hymn (Dec 14): 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Hymn (Dec 21): 364 Away in a Manger

Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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