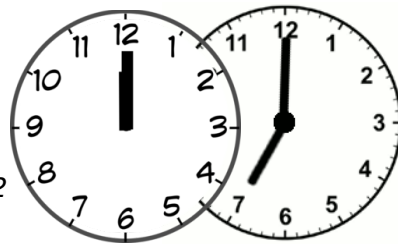
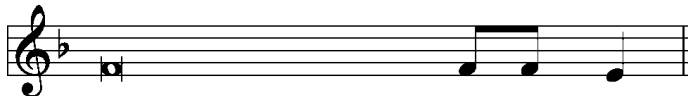


Midweek Advent Service

Evening Prayer for Dec 20 AD 2023 (pg. 243 in hymnal)



L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, *Jn 8:12*



C the light no darkness can o - ver - come. *Jn 1:5*

L Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening [*or* “noon of the day”],



C and the day is almost o - ver. *Luke 24:29*

L Let your light scatter the darkness *1 Cor. 4:5-6*



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,



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 (*sung*)

- L Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of the universe, 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. *Sit*



Psalmsody: Psalm 141 (Congregation sings **C** parts only; *Lectern* side sings I; *Pulpit* side II)



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.

L 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.

salm for Dec. 20

Psalm 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!**

Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

**He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,**
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.

ffice Hymn

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Reading

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8-11

 A reading from Isaiah, chapter 61.

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. . .

For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments

of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

After the daily readings:

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

Isaiah and the Messiah

Canticle: Magnificat

Song of Mary from Luke 1:46-55



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 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 blessèd.
 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 for Mission and Ministry

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 mercy.

- 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.

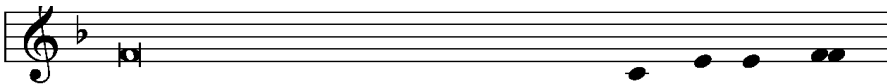
L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

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

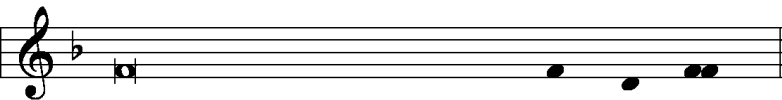
C Lord, have mercy.

The prayers then continue (now **without** the simultaneous “Lord” being sung)



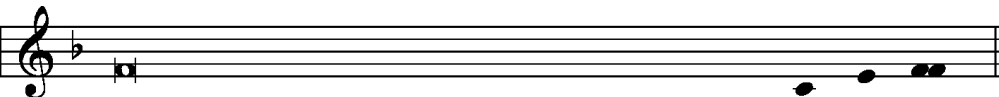
L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord: (pause)

Common: **C** Al - le - lu - ia.
Lent: **C** Thanks be to God.



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: (pause)

C To You, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains four measures of music, each with a pair of notes (dyads) on a whole note: G4 and Bb4, A4 and Bb4, G4 and Bb4, and F4 and G4. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It contains four measures of music, each with a pair of notes (dyads) on a whole note: G3 and Bb3, A3 and Bb3, G3 and Bb3, and F3 and G3. The lyrics 'To You, O Lord.' are written below the top staff, aligned with the first measure.

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.

The image shows a musical score for a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. It contains four measures of music, each with a single note on a whole note: G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the first measure.

Lord's Prayer

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting in 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



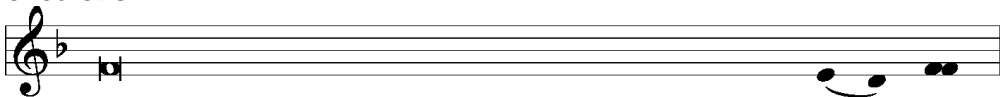
L Let us bless the Lord.



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.

Acknowledgments

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Special Thanks

To Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson for playing music for the service.

Soli Deo Gloria



