

Lent Mid-Week Worship
Wednesday, March 20, 2024



FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor
The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God.
We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

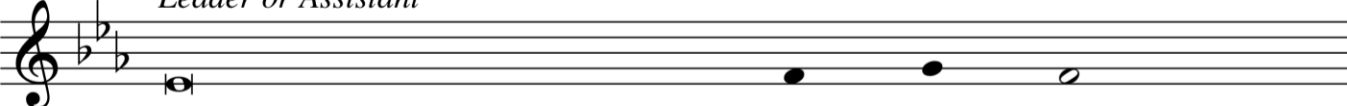
Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history.
Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and
grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.

Prelude

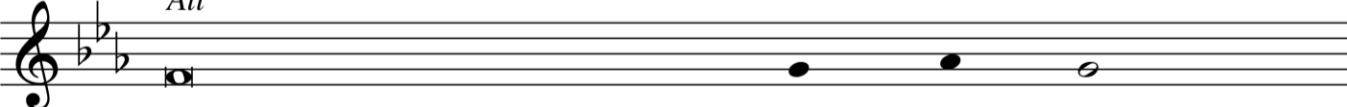
Evening Prayer

Leader or Assistant



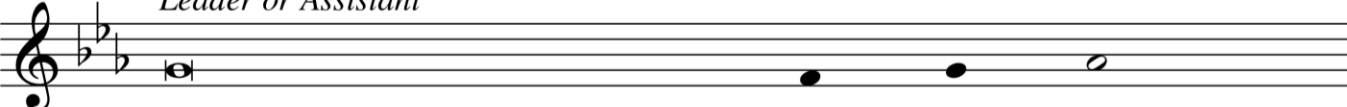
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All




the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Leader or Assistant




Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All *Leader or Assistant*



and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All



and shine within your peo-ple here.

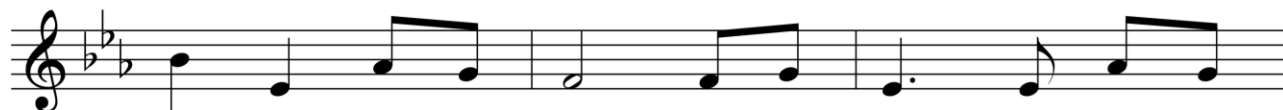
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Hymn of Light

All



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



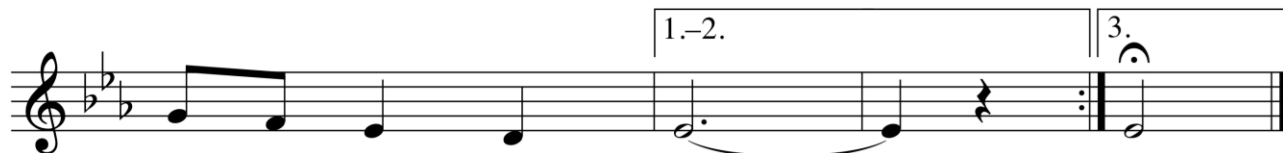
sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new.
free and make us whole.
on to end - less day.

Prayer

A *Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord! God will teach us of faithful ways,*

C **We will walk in the paths of the Lord!**

A *Show your servants your works, O Lord;*

C **And their children your glory.**

A *Let your merciful kindness be upon us,*

C **As we put our trust in you.**

A *Not to us, O Lord, not to us,*

C **But to your name be the praise.**

A *Lord, hear our prayer,*

C **And let our cry come to you.**

Exhortation

P *Friends in Christ, we are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love --the discipline of Lent -- help us to wage our spiritual warfare. Let us therefore turn to the Word of God this night. For the Word of God contains the Law and the Gospel and is the light before our eyes. The Gospel is God's gracious promise to us as his beloved children. It shows us all that He has done for us, in Israel and in Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sins and for newness of life. Christ makes us his own and heirs of his kingdom. The Law, on the other hand, represents what God expects of us in the response of our lives as we live in loving service to his will.*

C **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes.**

The Decalogue

A *God spoke these words, and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods,*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *Honor your father and mother.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *You shall not kill.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *You shall not commit adultery.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *You shall not steal.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *You shall not covet.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

The Law of Love

- P** *Jesus summarized the Decalogue into two great commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it; You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."*
- C** **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes. Amen.**

Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

- A** *A reading from Jeremiah. ³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.*
- A** *The word of the Lord.*
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

John 12:20-33

P *The Holy Gospel according to John, the twelfth chapter.*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Meditation

The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr.

Please stand, as you are able.

During the hymn, the offerings will be presented and the Table prepared.

A *Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Hear us, O God.*

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.*

C **Amen.**

P *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

C **And also with you.**

After sharing the peace, please remain standing.

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Lift up your hearts.*

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P *Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.*

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon these gifts and into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy supper. All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, in the church, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

P *Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us 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.

P *Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

*We welcome to the table all who proclaim Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine.
(Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.)*

Communion

Beautiful Savior

No. 838

After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.

P *The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his precious blood,
strengthen us and keep us together in grace.*

C **Amen.**

A *Let us pray. O God,*

C **in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your
presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your
table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with
all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor
the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P *Our almighty and merciful God: Father, + the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, bless and preserve us now and forever*

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

No. 793

A *Go in peace. Share your bread.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*Thank you to William Wood for
leading our music throughout the Lenten Season!*

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