

# Advent with the Saints

*a Midweek Evening Prayer Series*

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Midweek 3: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

December 15th, 4:00 & 7:00 PM  
Concordia Lutheran Church - Greenwood, IN

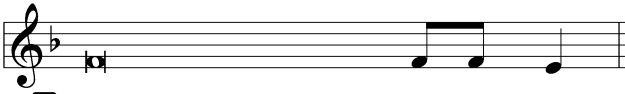
# EVENING PRAYER

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## Service of Light

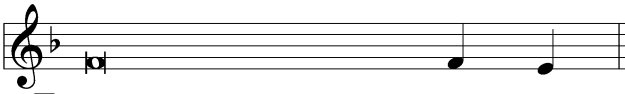
*Stand*

**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 evening,



**C** and the day is almost o - ver.

**L** Let Your light scatter the darkness



**C** and il - lu - mine Your Church.

### PHOS HILARON *LSB 244*

**L** Joyous light of glory:



**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**      *LSB 245*

**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.

*SitPsalmody*  
**PSALM 141**      *LSB 245*

**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.



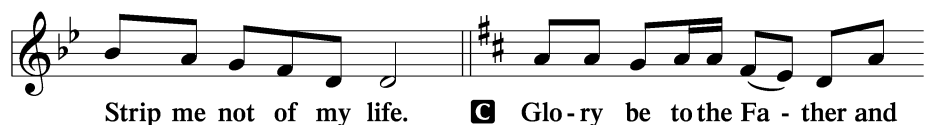
**I** Let not my heart in-cline to an-y e-vil thing;



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.

OFFICE HYMN: 331 THE ADVENT OF OUR KING



1 The ad-vent of our King Our prayers must now em-ploy,  
2 The ev-er-last-ing Son In-car-nate deigns to be,  
3 O Zi-on's daugh-ter, rise To meet your low-ly King,  
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a-gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho-ly joy.  
Him-self a ser-vant's form puts on To set His ser-vants free.  
Nor let your faith-less heart de-spise The peace He comes to bring.  
And His true mem-bers all u-nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

Tune and text: Public domain  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Readings

### Revelation 1: 1-6

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**L** O Lord, have mercy upon us

**C** Thanks be to God.

### 1 John 1:1– 2:2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the

truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

- L** O Lord, have mercy upon us
- C** Thanks be to God.

### JOHN 21: 20-25

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to him and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!" So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"

This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

- L** O Lord, have mercy upon us
- C** Thanks be to God.
- 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

*Stand*

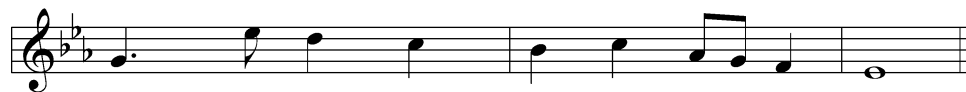
### 934 MY SOUL NOW MAGNIFIES THE LORD



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters  
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -  
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.  
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.  
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

# Prayer

*Kneel/Stand*

**LITANY**

*LSB 249*

- 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:*

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

**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious 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** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER    *LSB 251*

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICITON    *LSB 252*

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C** Amen

HYMN TO DEPART: 878 ABIDE WITH ME



1 A - bid with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,  
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid.  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.  
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bid with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bid with me.  
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bid with me.  
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bid with me.

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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## Advent Midweek Series Schedule

December 1<sup>st</sup>: St. Andrew, Apostle

December 8<sup>th</sup>: St. Stephen, Martyr

December 15<sup>h</sup>: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist