

Midweek Lenten Worship – March 16, 2022

PRELUDE

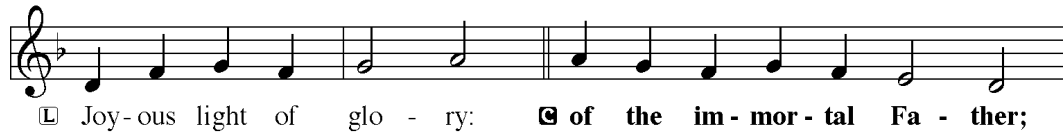
SERVICE OF LIGHT

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness,
and illumine your Church.

HYMN OF LIGHT



THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIGHT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,

For in the beginning you called light into being,

and you set light in the sky

to govern night and day.

In a pillar of cloud by day

and a pillar of fire by night

you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ:

may your Word be a lamp to our feet

and a light to our path;

for you are merciful,

and you love your whole creating,

and with all your creatures we give you glory,

through your Son Jesus Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

now and forever.

Amen

PSALMODY



Silence for meditation

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon 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 and ever.

Amen.

Silence for meditation

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 42

As the deer longs | for the water-brooks,*
so longs my soul for | you, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the | living God;*
when shall I come to appear before the pres- | ence of God?

My tears have been my food | day and night,*
while all day long they say to me, “Where now | is your God?”

I pour out my soul when I think | on these things;*
how I went with the multitude and led them into the | house of God,

with the voice of praise | and thanksgiving,*
among those | who keep holy-day.

Why are you so full of heaviness, | O my soul?*
And why are you so disquiet- | ed within me?

Put your | trust in God;*
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, | and my God.

My soul is heav- | y within me;*

therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,

and from the peak of Mizar among the | heights of Hermon.

One deep calls to another in the noise | of your cataracts;*

all your rapids and floods have gone | over me.

The Lord grants his lovingkindness | in the daytime;*

in the night season his song is with me, a prayer to the God | of my life.

I will say to the God of my strength, “Why have you for- | gotten me,*

and why do I go so heavily while the enemy op- | presses me?”

While my bones are | being broken,*

my enemies mock me | to my face;

all day | long they mock me*

and say to me, “Where now | is your God?”

Why are you so full of heaviness, | O my soul?*

And why are you so disquiet- | ed within me?

Put your | trust in God;*

for I will yet give thanks to him,

who is the help of my countenance, | and my God.

Silence for meditation

Lord God, never-failing fountain of life, through the saving waters of baptism you called us from the depth of sin to the depths of mercy. Do not forget the trials of our exile, but from the wellspring of the Word satisfy our thirst for you, so that we may come rejoicing to your holy mountain, where you live and reign now and forever.

Amen

HYMN LBW#280 "Now the Day is Over"

All verses



1 Now the day is o - ver; night is draw - ing nigh;
2 Je - sus, give the wea - ry calm and sweet re - pose;
3 Com - fort ev - 'ry suf - f'rer watch - ing late in pain;
4 Through the long night - watch - es may your an - gels spread



shad - ows of the eve - ning steal a - cross the sky.
with your ten - d'rest bless - ing may our eye - lids close.
those who plan some e - vil, from their sin re - strain.
their bright wings a - bove me, watch - ing round my bed.

5 When the morning wakens,
then may I arise
pure and fresh and sinless
in your holy eyes.

6 Glory to the Father,
glory to the Son,
and to you, blest Spirit,
while the ages run.

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Silence for meditation

REFLECTION

SCRIPTURAL DIALOGUE

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

Glory to the Father, and | to the Son, *
and to the | Holy Spirit;
as it was in the begin- | ning, is now, *
and will be forev- | er. Amen

THE SUFFRAGES

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Show us your mercy, O God,
and grant us your salvation.

Give us the joy of your saving help again,
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

Give peace in all the world;
for only in you can we live in safety.

Keep the nations under your care,
and guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;
your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

HYMN LBW#93 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, blest re - deem - er, whom we love,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, breath - ing no re - pen - tant vow,
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing with more fer - vent love for you;



foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior from the world a - bove:
though we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, see your thorn - en - cir - cled brow?
may our eyes be ev - er turn - ing to be - hold your cross a - new;



of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed, gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall;
Yet your sin - less death has brought us life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest;
till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er from the bless - ed Sav - ior's side,



yet up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, you have borne the pain of all.
on - ly what your grace has taught us calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
grav - en in our hearts for - ev - er, dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

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