

# Evening Prayer



**Advent Vespers  
December 2021  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
Houston, Texas**

Cover: *The Martyrdom of Saint Andrew—In the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Patras, Greece*

## OPENING

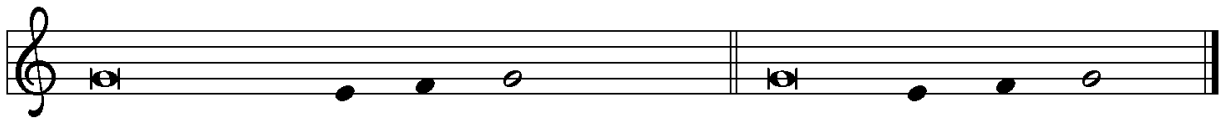
*The assembly stands. A large, lighted candle may be carried to its place.*



The Spirit and the church cry out: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**



All those who await his ap-pear-ance pray: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**



The whole cre - a - tion pleads: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## Hymn of Light

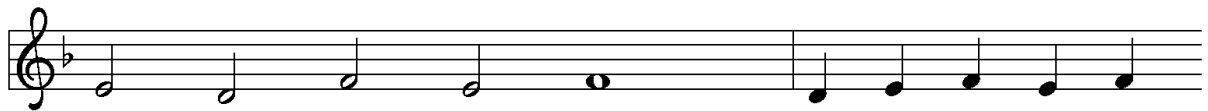
*Joyous light of glory*



Leader  
Joy-ous light of glo - ry:



All  
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.



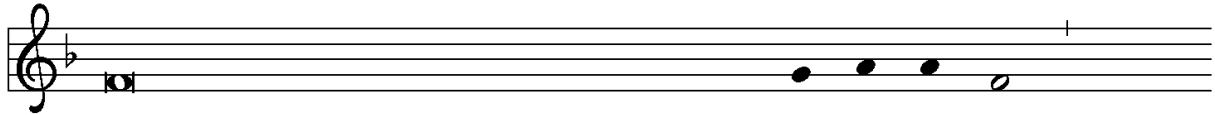
We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:

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.

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent.; tr. Roger T. Petrich, b. 1938  
 Music: Roger T. Petrich  
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### Thanksgiving for Light

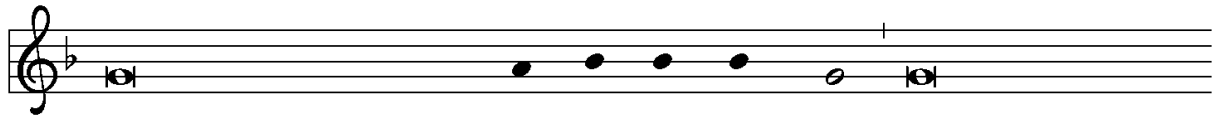
The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
 We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light in - to being,  
 and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.



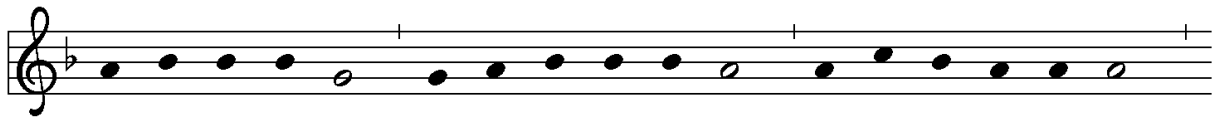
In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night



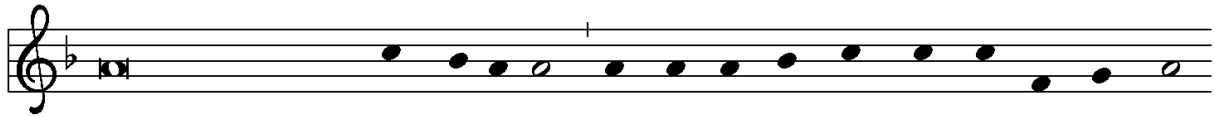
you led your peo - ple in - to freedom.



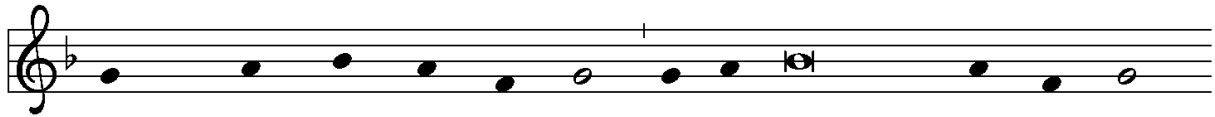
Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be



a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer-ci - ful,



and you love your whole cre-a-tion, and with all your crea-tures we give you glory,




through your Son Je - sus Christ, in the unity of the Ho - ly Spirit,



now and for - ev - er. **A - men.**

PSALMODY

All



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Group One or All



O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when

All



I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Group Two or All



Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Group One or All



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

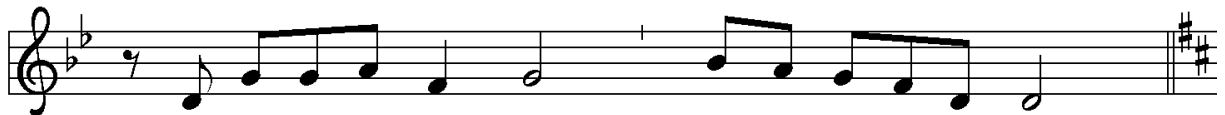


let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All



do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.



Glo-ry 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.

*sit*

Psalm of the Day

December 1

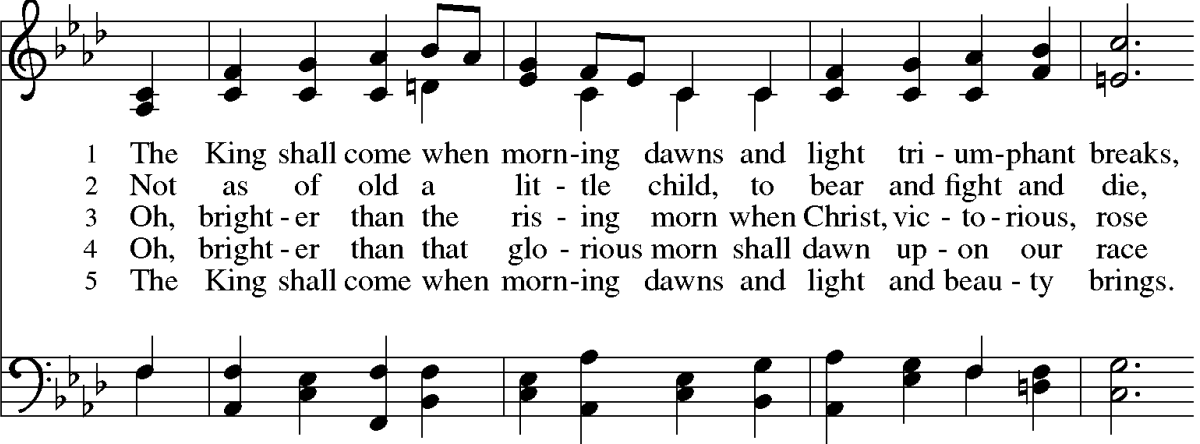
Psalm 19:1-6

December 8

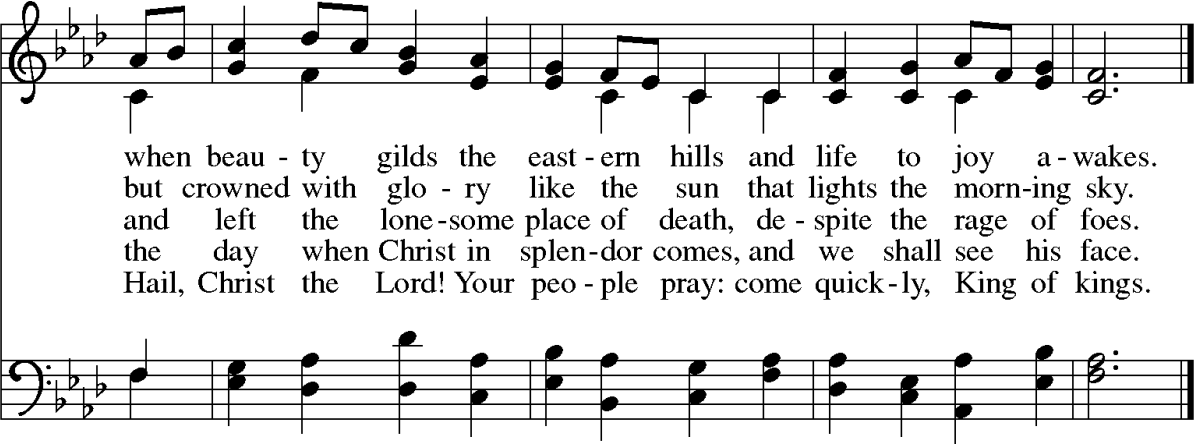
Psalm 145:8-13

December 15

Psalm 31: 3-4, 6-8, 16-17



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
 and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
 the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davissou, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.



## WORD

### Scripture Reading

*sit*

*After the conclusion of the reading, the assembly may respond*

**Thanks be to God.**

*The reading of scripture is followed by silence for reflection. Other forms of reflection may also follow, such as a brief commentary, teaching, or personal witness; non-biblical readings; interpretations through music or other art forms; or guided conversation among those present.*

December 1

Ezekiel 3:16-21

Romans 10:10-18

The Holy Gospel: Saint John 1:35-42

December 8

1 John 4:7-14

The Holy Gospel: Saint Mark 10:13-16

December 15

2 Corinthians 10: 17B-11:2

The Holy Gospel: Saint Matthew 25: 1-13

Reading

# Magnificat

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.  
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—  
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat  
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

## PRAYERS

The image shows a musical score for a prayer. It consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a whole note G4. The lyrics 'In peace, let us pray to the Lord.' are written below this staff. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment. The middle staff is a treble clef line with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a whole note C5. The bottom staff is a bass clef line with a whole rest, followed by a half note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a whole note C3. The lyrics 'Lord, have mercy.' are written below the middle staff.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us<sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us<sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us<sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share,  
and for peaceful times, let us<sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us;  
for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection  
in this and every place, let us<sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering,  
and for those who are in captivity, let us<sup>1</sup> pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need,  
let us | pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For name/s and all servants of the church, for this assembly,  
and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy,  
let us | pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*A time of silence follows.*

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the  
communion of name/s and all the saints, we commend ourselves, one  
another, and our whole life to you,

through Christ our Lord. To you, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music is in 4/4 time. The first measure of the top staff contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a half note D4. The second measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a half note D4. The first measure of the bottom staff contains a whole rest. The second measure contains a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, and a half note D3. The third measure contains a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, and a half note D3. The fourth measure contains a quarter note G3, a quarter note F3, a quarter note E3, and a half note D3.

## The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught 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.**

## Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,  
keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

*The greeting of peace may be shared by all.*

Ben Remmert..... Usher  
Sergio Rodriguez..... Preacher  
Amandus Derr..... Reader