



Advent Evening Prayer

Week 4: December 22, 2021

Invocation & Dialogue

In the name of the ✝ triune God
in whose presence we wait,
the Holy Parent, fulfilling the promise,
the Holy Child, waiting to be born,
the Holy Spirit, illumining the way.

Amen.

In the hustle and bustle, in the kitchens and malls,
it is hard to feel still.

Our to-do lists are long;
it is hard to be present.

We are called to stillness;
we long to be still.

When the world asks us for just one more thing,
it's time to slow down and listen for your voice.

Hymn of Light

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

The first system of music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a -

The second system continues the melody from the first system. The treble clef melody starts with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass line starts with a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.

way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

The third system begins with a treble clef melody starting with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The treble clef melody starts with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass line starts with a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Thanksgiving for 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 creation,
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

Psalm 97

The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

**Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**

Fire goes before the LORD,
burning up enemies on every side.

**Lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.**

The mountains melt like wax
before the Lord of all the earth.

**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,
and all the peoples see your glory.**

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.

**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments, O LORD.**

For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods.

**You who love the LORD, hate evil!
God guards the lives of the saints
and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the honest of heart.

**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name.**

*After a time of silence, a psalm prayer concludes the psalmody.
The assembly responds: Amen.*

Song *People, Look East (ELW 248)*

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

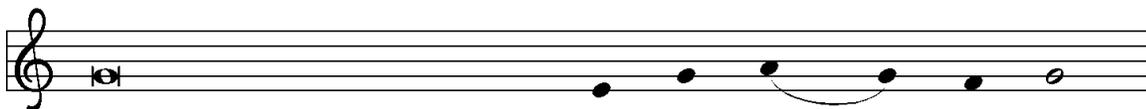
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.



1 My soul proclaims the great - ness of the Lord,
2 You have mer - cy on those who fear you,
3 You have filled the hun - gry with good things



my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
from generation to gen - er - ation.
and sent the rich a - way empty.



for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your low - ly servant.
You have shown . . strength with your arm
You have come to the aid of your ser - vant Is - ra - el,



From this day all generations will call me bless'd:
and scattered the proud in their con - ceit,
to remember the prom - ise of mercy,



you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
casting down the might - y from their thrones
the promise made to our . . . fore - bears,



and holy is your name.
and lifting up the low - ly.
to Abraham and his chil - dren for - ev - er.

Refrain

Prayers

That we are able to let go of things we do not need to carry
and be present as we wait for Christ's return,
we pray to you, O God.

That we are freed to both give and receive
during this Advent season,
we pray to you, O God.

That we see holiness in the small things,
we pray to you, O God.

That through the stresses of this season
we may live in and live out your love and grace,
we pray to you, O God.

We lift up our prayers to you, O Lord.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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

Ever-present God, in this time when busy-ness is exalted and it seems there is so much to do, keep our focus on you. May we let go of those things that add stress or distract us so that we may sit in your splendor, even for a moment, and be present to that which gives us life.

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

Amen.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

Postlude

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Within Our Darkest Night

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People, Look East

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