

Lenten Vespers 2021

“Word and Sacrament: The Means of God’s Grace”

Participants are invited to light a candle at home along with the presiding minister.



OPENING

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

- 1 Joyous light of heav'nly glory,
loving glow of God's own face,
you who sing creation's story,
shine on ev'ry land and race.
Now as evening falls around us,
we shall raise our songs to you.
God of daybreak, God of shadows,
come and light our hearts anew.
- 2 In the stars that grace the darkness,
in the blazing sun of dawn,
in the light of peace and wisdom,
we can hear your quiet song.
Love that fills the night with wonder,
love that warms the weary soul,
love that bursts all chains asunder,
set us free and make us whole.
- 3 You who made the heaven's splendor,
ev'ry dancing star of night,
make us shine with gentle justice,
let us each reflect your light.
Mighty God of all creation,
gentle Christ who lights our way,
loving Spirit of salvation,
lead us on to endless day.

The candles may be extinguished.

READING

- 2/24 Galatians 3:10-14
3/3 Matthew 28:16-20
3/10 Romans 6:1-4; 1 Timothy 6:17-19
3/17 Matthew 26:26-28
3/24 1 Corinthians 11:17-26

MEDITATION

PRAYERS

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us 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 pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us 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 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 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 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 all servants of the church, for this congregation, 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.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.
To you, O Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, the Father, † the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us. **Amen.**

HYMN

- 2/24 ELW 504 "A mighty fortress is our God"
3/3 ELW 449 "We know that Christ is raised"
3/10 ELW 447 "O blessed spring"
3/17 ELW 462 "Now we join in celebration"
3/24 ELW 490 "Let all mortal flesh keep silence"