



Longing for Light

Advent Evening Prayer

December 15, 2019

Welcome

Opening prayer:

One: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

All: The light shines in the deepest night,
and the night cannot overcome it.

One: Stay with us, O God, for it is evening, and the day is almost over.

All: Let your light disperse the shadows
and shine within us here.

Opening Songs - All are welcome to come forward and light the votive candles

Within Our Darkest Night

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a -
way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the
fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a repeat sign. The second staff features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic followed by a piano (*p*) dynamic. The third staff concludes with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic and a *fine* marking.

Rise Up, O Flame

Musical score for 'Rise Up, O Flame' in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score is divided into four measures labeled I, II, III, and IV. The lyrics are: 'Rise up, O flame, By thy light glow - ing, Bring to us beau - ty, vi - sion, and joy.'

Reading I: Isaiah 9: 1,5

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
on those who dwelt in the shadow of death, light has dawned.

For a child is born for us, a son is given to us,
and authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named: Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Source, Ruler of Peace.

Silence

3 minutes

Song The Lord is My Light

Musical score for 'The Lord is My Light' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score is divided into two themes, Theme A and Theme B. Each theme has two lines of music. The lyrics are: 'The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The'.

Reading II: Luke 1:39-56 from The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation

Within a few days Mary set out and hurried to the hill country to a town of Judah, where she entered Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth.

As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why am I so favored, that the mother of the Messiah should come to me? The moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who believed that what our God said to her would be accomplished!"

Mary said, "My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior. For you have looked with favor upon your lowly servant, and from this day forward all generations will call me blessed. For you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your Name. Your mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear you. You have shown the strength with your arm; you have scattered the proud in their conceit; you have deposed the mighty from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places. You have filled the hungry with good things, while you have sent the rich away empty. You have come to the aid of Israel your servant, mindful of your mercy—the promise you made to our ancestors—to Sarah and Abraham and their descendants forever."

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then returned home.

Silence

3 minutes

Song

Magnificat (canon)

Ma-gni-fi-cat, ma-gni-fi-cat, ma-gni-fi-cat a-ni-ma me - a Do-mi-num.

Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a!

Sing out my soul. Sing out my soul. Sing out and glo-ri-fy the Lord who sets us free. Sing out my soul. Sing out my soul. Sing out and glo-ri-fy the Lord God!

Music: J. Berthier
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Intercessions:

One: Standing in the splendor of God's radiant light, we pray:

All: Come, O Radiant Dawn!

One: Bring justice to those wounded by hatred and war, we pray:

All: Come, O Radiant Dawn!

One: Bring light and peace to a fearful and anxious world, we pray:

All: Come, O Radiant Dawn!

One: Bring hope to all shackled by doubt and despair, we pray:

All: Come, O Radiant Dawn!

One: For what else shall we pray? If you would like, please speak your own intentions.
Loving God, Mother of all, we raise our prayers like incense before you; we ask
you to hear the prayers we have spoken and those in the silence of our hearts.

All: Amen.

Song Our Darkness Is Not Darkness In Your Sight

Our darkness is not darkness in your sight, Lord, in your sight
Our deepest, deepest night, is clear as daylight

Sending Prayer

One: O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice,
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness
and brighten our hearts with your love!
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.
May God Creator bless us,
May God Redeemer heal us
and May God the Holy Spirit fill us with her light. Amen.

Announcements and Invitation to share a sacred meal

Sending Song Prepare the Way of the Lord

Prepare the way of the Lord, prepare the way of the Lord,
And all people shall see the salvation of our God.