

Holden Evening Prayer
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Decorah, IA
Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Bell

Gathering Music

Versicles

Solo Jesus Christ, You are the light of the world,

All The light no darkness can overcome.

Solo Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All And the day is almost over.

Solo Let Your light scatter the darkness,

All And shine within Your people here.

Evening Hymn

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.

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.

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.

Evening Thanksgiving

Solo May God be with you all.

All And also with you.

Solo Let us sing our thanks to God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Solo Blessed are You, Creator of the universe, from old You have led Your people by night and day. May the light of Your Christ make our darkness bright, for Your Word and Your presence are the light of our pathways, and You are the light and life of all creation.

All Amen

Psalm 141

Refrain: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

O God, I call to you, come to me now; O hear my voice when I cry to you. *Refrain*

Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your love be burning bright. *Refrain*

All praise to the God of all, Creator of life; All praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love. *Refrain*

Silence for Meditation

May our prayers come before You, O God, as incense, and may Your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing Your praise and Your love in our lives. **Amen.**

Readings and Reflection

The Annunciation

Solo An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and His name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do Your will.

All My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in You. You have looked with love on Your servant here, And blessed me all my life through. Great and mighty are You, O Holy One, strong is Your kindness evermore. How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart! You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart. You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part. Great and mighty are You, O Faithful One, strong is Your justice, strong Your love, as You promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore. My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in You. You have looked with love on Your servant here, And blessed me all my life through.

Litany and Prayer

Congregation responds to each petition: **God of mercy, hold us in love.**

Solo Help us, comfort us, all of our days.

All Keep us, hold us, gracious God.

Closing Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Final Blessing

Solo Let us bless our God.

All Praise and thanks to You. May God, Creator, bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever light for our lives, May the Spirit of Love be our guide and path for all of our days. Amen.

Postlude

Prayer Bell