

P R E P A R E Y E

Pander

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm

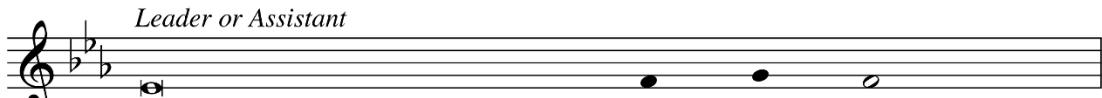
GATHER IN SILENCE

Welcome to our Advent worship series, Prepare Ye. Each week in this series we will contemplate the many ways we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas. In our worship for today we will consider ways in which we can ponder the meaning of the birth of our Savior through the reading of Scripture and through reflection. Mary serves as a model for us in this pondering in the Annunciation.

RINGING OF THE BELL

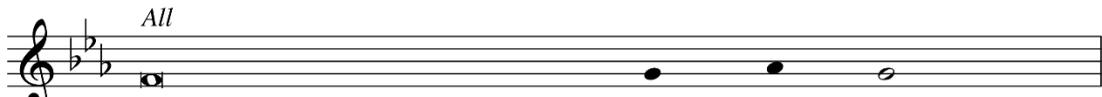
***HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER, pp. 2-8**

Leader or Assistant



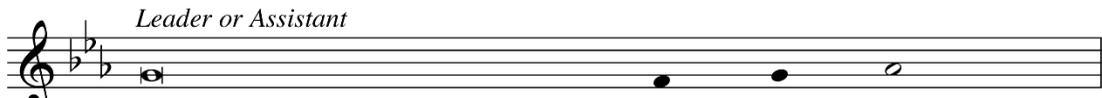
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All



the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Leader or Assistant



Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All *Leader or Assistant*



and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All



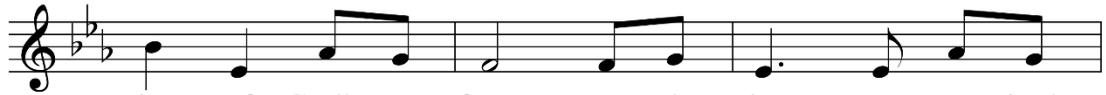
and shine within your peo-ple here.

Evening Hymn

All



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



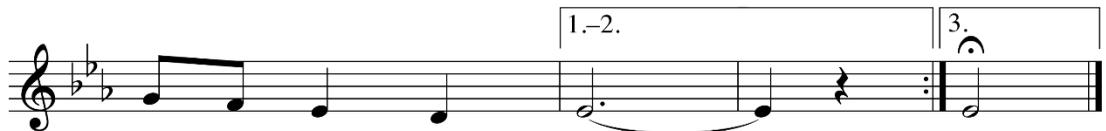
sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



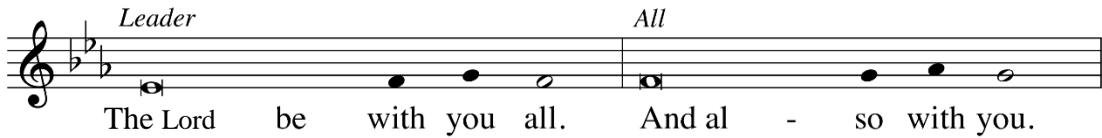
you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new.
free and make us whole.
on to end - less day.

Evening Thanksgiving

Leader *All*



The Lord be with you all. And al - so with you.

Leader or Assistant *All*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader 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



A - men.

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All:



Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -
fore you, the lift - ing up of my
hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Women:

— O God, I call to you, come to me

Men:

O God, I

now; O hear my voice when I

call to you, come to me now; O

cry to you. ————— Let my prayer rise

hear my voice when I cry to you.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -



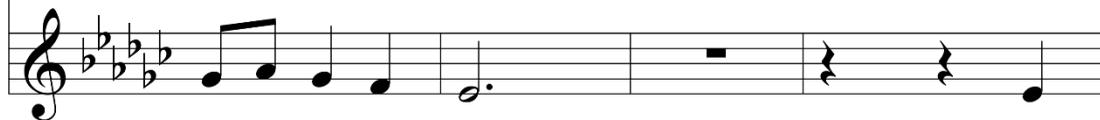
lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to



fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an



you. Keep watch with - in me, God;



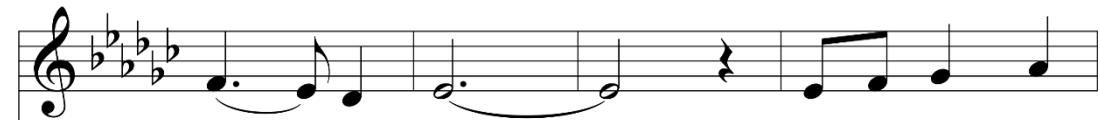
of-fer-ing to you. Keep



deep in my heart may the light of your Word be



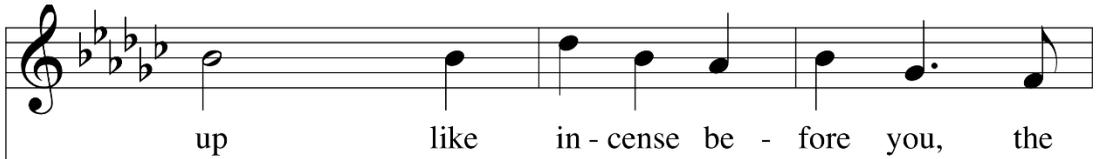
watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the



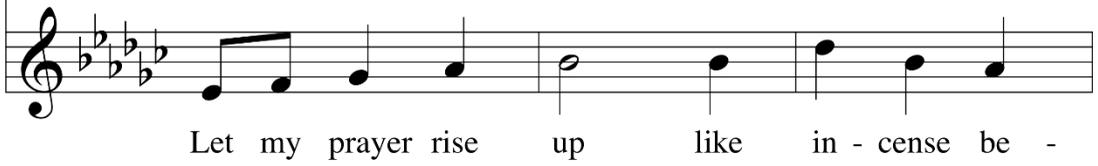
burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise



light of your Word be burn - ing bright.



up like in-cense be-fore you, the



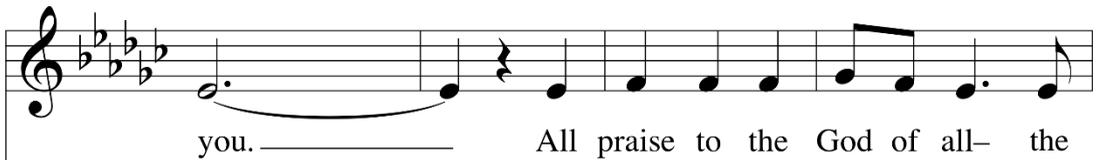
Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be-



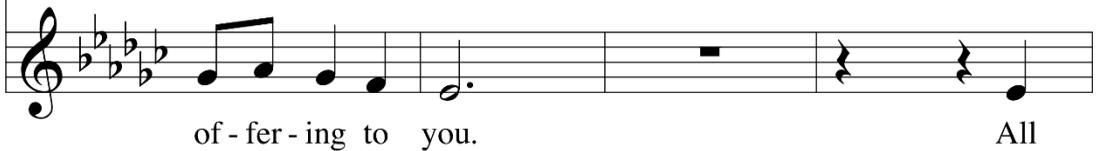
lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to



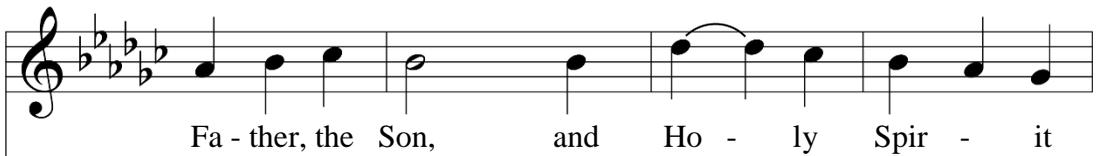
fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an



you. All praise to the God of all- the



of-fer-ing to you. All



Fa-ther, the Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it



praise to the God of all- the Fa-ther, the Son, and

Three__ in One. Let my prayer rise

Ho - ly Spir - it Three__ in One.
up like in - cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -
lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to

fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an
you.
of - fer - ing to you.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word follows the canticle.)

Pastor: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, Lord, and let Your loving kindness descend on us that with purified minds we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever and ever.

People: Amen.

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT

Joshua 1:7-9

Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 48:9

We have thought on your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:15-17

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)"

Mary Wenkheimer,
soloist

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON HYMN

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

LSB 356



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 “My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God’s ho - ly name.”
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 “Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!

Tune and text: Public domain

SERMON

“Prepare Ye: Ponder”

Pastor Chris Matthis

OFFERING

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.epiphanylc.org and click on GIVE. If you do not have anything to give, please do not give.



HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

The Annunciation (pg. 8-12)

(Silence for reflection of God’s Word.)

Cantor: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a virgin 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 will live to do your will." (*immediately to "The Magnificat"*)

The Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55



1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -



spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift - ed the hum - ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom - ised to



weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

3. LITANY AND PRAYERS

Intercessions

All
[A] *repeat continuously* [B]

Lord, have mer-cy, hold us in love.

[A] *Leader or Assistant* [B]

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:
2. For peace and sal - va - tion, we pray to you:
3. For peace be - tween na - tions, for peace be - tween peo - ples:
4. For us, who are gath - ered to wor - ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser - vants who live out your gos - pel:
6. For all those who gov - ern, that jus - tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la - bor in ser - vice to oth - ers:
8. Grant weath - er that nour - ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan - ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer - cy:

[A] *Leader*

Help us, com - fort us, all of our days:

All

Keep us, hold us, gra - cious God.

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both are in a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The music consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'Keep us, hold us, gracious God.' The tempo/mood is marked 'All'.

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Pastor: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commands and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Final Blessing

Leader or Assistant *All*

Let us bless the Lord Praise and thanks to Him

Leader or Assistant

May God, the Fath - er , bless us and keep us, may

The image shows a musical score for the Final Blessing. It consists of two staves in treble clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first staff starts with a 2/4 time signature and ends with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are 'Let us bless the Lord Praise and thanks to Him'. The second staff starts with a 4/4 time signature and the lyrics are 'May God, the Fath - er , bless us and keep us, may'. The tempo/mood is marked 'All'.

Christ be ev-er light for our lives, may the Spir-it of Truth pre-serve and bless us for all of our days. *All* A - men.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

"From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come"

LSB 358 vs. 1-4

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
 news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,
 joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

Text and tune: Public domain

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SERVING THE LORD MIDWEEK SERVICES

	December 2	December 9	December 16
Preacher	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>
Elders	<i>Richard Rath</i>	<i>Richard Rath</i>	<i>Richard Rath</i>
Cantors	<i>Denice Rose</i>		
Sound System	<i>Mike Kozimko</i>		

ADVENT SERVICES

This Advent season, our theme is “**Prepare Ye**”

Week 2, December 9th, 6:30 pm

Week 3, December 16th, 6:30 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24th, 2:00 pm – Praise Team

4:00 pm – Praise Team & Children’s Choir

6:00 pm – Adult Choir & Hand bells

8:00 pm – Special Music (with Communion)

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th, 10:00 am (with Communion)

Epiphany Lutheran Church of Castle Rock, Colorado



550 E. Wolfensberger Rd. + Castle Rock, CO 80109 + Office: 303-688-4435

Website: www.epiphanylc.org

ME SYSTEM LINK: <https://epiphanylc.ccbchurch.com/login.php>

Pastor Chris Matthis + Cell: 303-921-0717

pastorchrismatthis@epiphanylc.org

(Pastor available by appointment)

DCE Kristin Schmidt + Cell: 951-775-6134 + Tu-F 8 am - 4 pm

dce@epiphanylc.org

Mrs. Donata Rolf + office@epiphanylc.org + Office hours: M-F 8 am – 4 pm

Ms. Mary Wenkheimer, Choir Director + choir@epiphanylc.org

Ms. Debbie Stewart, Accounting Assistant + accounting@epiphanylc.org

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

“We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ”

