

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

FESTIVAL OF ST. PATRICK, BISHOP AND MISSIONARY TO IRELAND, 372-466


March 17, 2021

SERVICE OF LIGHT

A candle is lit.

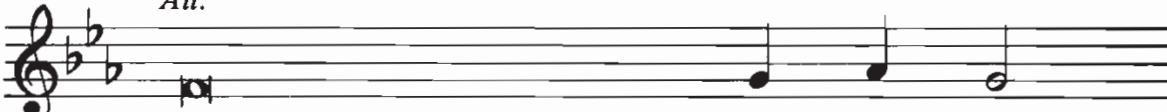
Procession

Leader:




Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:




the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:



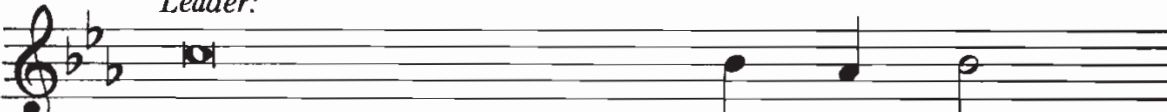
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All:



and the day is al - most over.

Leader:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:



and shine within your peo-ple here. —



1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly 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

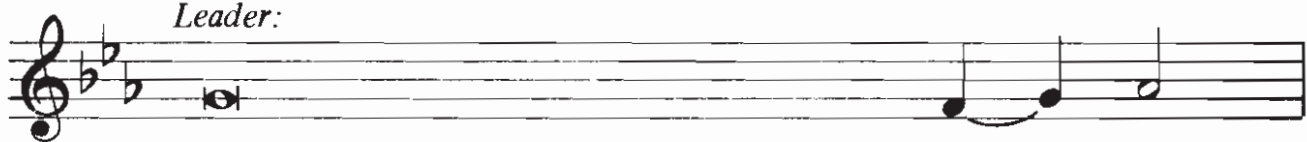


light our hearts a - new. _____
 free and make us whole. _____
 on to end - less day. _____

Evening Thanksgiving



May God be with you all, and al - so with you;



Let us sing our thanks to — God,



It is right to give God 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.



PSALM, READING & CANTICLE

Psalm 141

O Lord, I call to you, come to me now;

O hear my voice when I cry to you!

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you ,

The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

Keep watch within me, O God, deep in my heart;

May the light of your love be burning brightly within me!

Incense may be lit. You may lift your hands in silent prayer and 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 praise you for your love in our lives. Amen.**

First Reading

Ephesians 6:10--19

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.

Silence for meditation.

Second Reading

St. Patrick's Breastplate

Patrick, along with Brigid, is the Patron Saint of Ireland. A Britain, he was captured by pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. He escaped only to return as a Priest and Bishop who proclaimed the Gospel of forgiveness and grace to his former captors. According to tradition, he used the shamrock with its three "leaves" to explain the Trinity to those he baptized.

He composed this daily prayer over a lifetime of facing many dangers and much beauty:

I bind unto myself today the strong Name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.
I bind this day to me forever, by power of faith, Christ's incarnation,
his baptism in the Jordan River, his cross of death for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb, his riding up the heavenly way,
his coming at the day of doom, I bind unto myself today.
I bind unto myself today the virtues of the starlit heaven,
the glorious Sun's life-giving ray, the whiteness of the Moon at evening,
the flashing of the lightning free, the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
the stable earth, the deep salt sea, around the old eternal rocks.
Christ be with me,
Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me,
Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger.
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.
I bind unto myself the Name,
the strong Name of the Trinity
by invocation of the same, the three in One and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation;
salvation is of Christ the Lord!

Silence for meditation.

The Light shines in the darkness

And the darkness has not overcome it!

Leader: 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."
(immediately to "The Magnificat")

All:

1.3. My ——— soul pro - claims your
 2. You have cast the might - y

great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
 down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of

you,
 heart, You have looked with love on your
 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.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,



How you fa - vor the weak ___ and low - ly one,
As you prom-ised to Sar-ah ___ and A - bra - ham,



hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

The Annunciation & The Magnificent

A *All: Repeat continuously*

(Hmmm)

B

God — of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader: **A** **B**

1. In peace, in peace, we pray_ to you:

Leader: **A** **B**

2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

Leader: **A** **B**

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:

Leader:

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

All:

Keep — us, hold — us, gra - cious God.

LITANY & PRAYERS

Candles may be lit as a way to pray.

Great and Merciful God, Source and Ground of all Goodness and Life,

Grant to us and to your people everywhere the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Dance and Lover of our Soul. Amen.

God, remember us in your Love, and teach us to pray:

Our Father/Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come: your will be done on earth as it is 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 you reign in power and glory, now and forever. Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

Leader: *All:*

Let us bless our God: praise and thanks to you.

Presider:

May God, Cre - a - tor bless us and keep us, may

Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the

Spir - it of Love be our guide and path, for

all of our days.

All:

A - men.

Go in peace. Follow the Way of the Cross.
Thanks be to God!

You may share signs of peace with those in your space and on zoom.