

A lit candle is the central focus, with a bright flame and a warm glow. The background is dark with numerous out-of-focus, warm-toned circular lights, creating a bokeh effect. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

*Holden Evening Prayer
Lent Vespers*



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Midweek Lenten worship at First Lutheran

Welcome to worship! If you worshiped with us before, welcome back. If this is your first time at First Lutheran, we hope you feel at home worshipping with us.

Connect with First Lutheran:

Use the Connection Cards or laminated “Welcome to First Lutheran Church!” cards, both found in the pew slots, to:

- let us know you worshipped with us today
- update your contact information
- tell us you’re interested in First Lutheran membership
- request prayers

Connection Cards can be placed in the offering plates on your way out of the sanctuary after worship.

Offering:

Our gratitude is expressed in gifts for the church’s mission and the world’s need. You can scan the QR code with your smart phone to give online. Offering plates will also be available as you come in and leave the sanctuary.



About Holden Evening Prayer:

“Marty Haugen wrote Holden Evening Prayer during the winter of 1985–1986 during a musical residency at Holden Village. A simple Lutheran vespers service that follows traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language, this service has become beloved by many.”

(www.holdenvillage.org/calendar/holden-evening-prayer-around-the-world/)

Kids in Worship: We welcome families with children to First Lutheran and are glad for the presence of all children in worship with us.

- **Prayground:** At the evening service, a prayground will be available in the sanctuary for kids to pray playfully and be a part of the worship service.
- **Nursery:** Our nursery is open at the evening service for little ones ages 0-3 if parents need to take children there for some wiggle time. It’s located in the hall to the south of the sanctuary (at the bottom of the stairs).
- **Children’s bulletins, worship busy books, and sensory toys:** Crayons, children’s bulletins, worship busy books, and sensory toys are available on the bookshelf opposite the west entrance to the sanctuary. (Look for the yellow kids’ table.)
- **Mother’s room (nursing room):** A lockable mother’s room is located to the left of the women’s restroom in the Commons Area.

Follow us:

Facebook: *First Lutheran Church - Lincoln, NE*

Instagram: *flclincoln*

Website: www.flclincoln.org

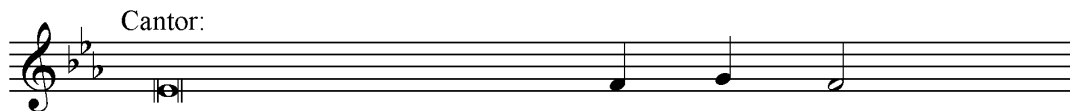
PRELUDE

WELCOME

stand

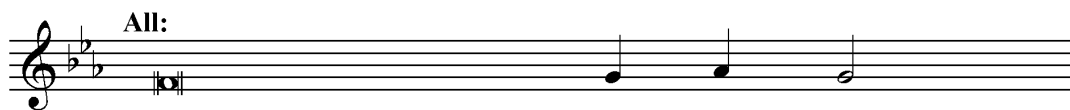
SERVICE OF LIGHT

Cantor:



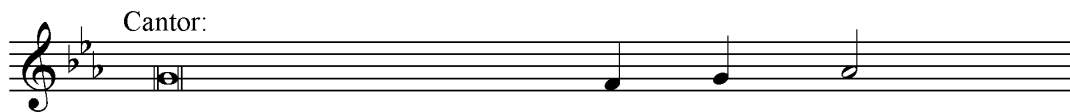
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



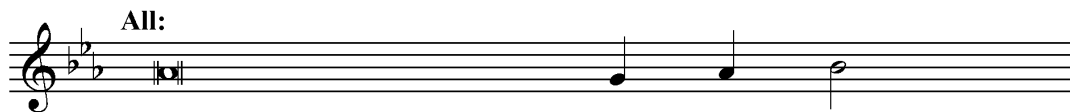
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Cantor:



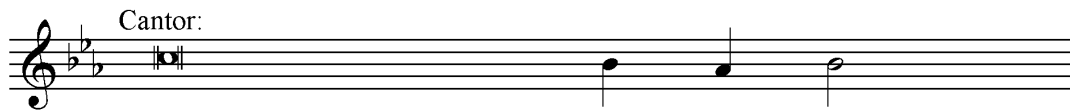
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All:



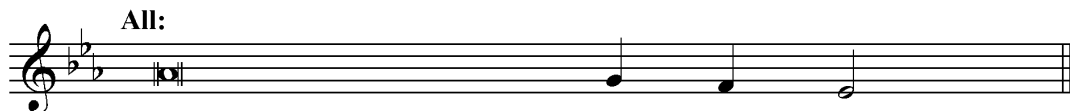
and the day is al - most over.

Cantor:



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:



and shine within your peo - ple here.



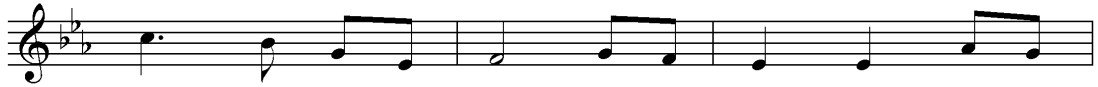
1. Joy - ous light of heav -'nly glo - ry, lov - ing glow of God's own
 2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing sun of
 3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry danc - ing star of



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and
 dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et
 night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us each re - flect your



race. Now as eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall
 song. Love that fills the night with won - der, love that
 light. Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle



raise our songs to you, God of day - break, God of
 warms the wea - ry soul, Love that bursts all chains a -
 Christ who lights our way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal -



shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
 sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
 va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.



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.

Cantor: 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.**

Kneel/Sit

PSALM 141

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.**

Pulpit Side: **O God, I call to you, come to me now; O**
 Font Side: **O God, I call to you,**

(pulpit) **hear my voice when I cry to you.**
 (font) **come to me now; O hear my voice when I cry to**

(pulpit) **Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the**
 (font) **you. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -**

(pulpit) lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

(font) fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

(pulpit) Keep watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the

(font) you. Keep watch with - in me, God;

(pulpit) light of your love be burn - ing bright.

(font) deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing

(pulpit) Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the

(font) bright. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -

(pulpit) lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

(font) fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

(pulpit) All praise to the God of all Cre - a - tor of life; all
(font) you. All praise to the God of all Cre-

(pulpit) praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love,
(font) a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir-it of

(pulpit) Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the
(font) love, Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -

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

PSALM 130

Refrain
All (melody)

(harmony)

With all my be - ing, I wait for
you, O God, and in your word I place my
unis. hope, and in your word I place my hope. *To Verses Last time*

Verses Cantor:

Out of the depths I cry to you, O God: O God, hear my voice. Let your ears be open to the sound of my cries for mercy. **Refrain**

If you, O God, should mark our sins, O God, who could stand? But in you is forgiveness, so that we can, with rev'ence, serve you. **Refrain**

I wait for God, with all my heart I wait. In God's word is my hope. My soul is waiting more than those who watch for morning. **Refrain**

Silence for meditation.

P Patient and ever-present God, you are loving and forgiving to all. Hear our voices amidst the darkness, in the silence, from the depths of our hearts. As we wait and watch for the dawning of your light in us, show us your mercy and compassion. Show us Jesus, your Son, our Savior.

C Amen.

REFLECTION

Silence for meditation.

P The Light shines in the darkness

C and the darkness has not overcome it.

THE ANNUNCIATION

Luke 1:26-28, 30-32, 38

Cantor: 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."

THE MAGNIFICAT

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. *Fine*
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.
Sarah and A-bra-ham, kind-ness for-ev-er-more.

Kneel/Sit

LITANY AND PRAYERS

Introduction of response and petitions - Cantor

Responses and humming – Congregation

Musical score for the response. The score is written for a treble and bass clef in 6/8 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: (Hum) God of mer - cy, hold us in love. The word 'Hum' is written below the treble clef staff. The word 'Response' is written above the treble clef staff. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

- Cantor:
1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:
 2. For peace and salvation, we pray to you:
 3. For peace between nations, for peace between peoples:
 4. For us who are gathered to worship and praise you:
 5. For all of your servants who live out your gospel:
 6. For all those who govern, that justice might guide them:
 7. For all those who labor in service to others:
 8. Grant weather that nourishes all of creation:
 9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger:
 10. For all the beloved who rest in your mercy:
- Help us, comfort us, all of our days:

Musical score for the response. The score is written for a treble and bass clef in 6/8 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: All: Keep us, hold us, gra - cious God. The word 'All:' is written above the treble clef staff. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

P Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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 the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Stand

FINAL BLESSING

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the Cantor, starting with a 2/4 time signature. The second staff is for the All, starting with a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Let us bless our God. Praise and thanks to you. 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. A - - Men."

Cantor: All:

Let us bless our God. Praise and thanks to you.

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. A - - Men.

POSTLUDE

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HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Sunday, March 29

8:15 AM Worship with Livestream – Palm Procession with bagpipes

10:45 AM Worship – Children’s Palm Procession

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 2

Service with Holy Communion, Noon and 6:30 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 3

Tenabrae Service, Noon and 6:30 PM

EASTER VIGIL

Saturday, April 4 at 6:30 PM

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran

6901 Panama Road – Hickman, NE

Collaborative Service with Lincoln-area ELCA churches

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 5

8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:00 AM Worship