

Holden Evening Prayer

1. Service of Light

Procession

Leader: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All: the light no darkness can overcome.

Leader: Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All: and the day is almost over.

Leader: 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 eve'ry land and race. Now as
evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to
you. God of day-break, 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 wary
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

Leader: May God be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us sing our thanks to God.

All: 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.

All: Amen.

2.Psalmody, Readings and Canticles

Psalm 141

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.

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

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

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

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

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

Silence for meditation

Leader: 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.

All: Amen

(Alternate psalms are on pages 10-12. The leader will indicate if any of these will be used in the service.)

One or two lessons are read; silence for meditation follows each reading.

Leader: The light shines in the darkness...

All: ... and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Annunciation

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

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."

Segue immediately to The Magnificat

The Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims you greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you. You have looked with love on you 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 you greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you. You have looked with love on you 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!

3. LITANY AND PRAYERS

Intercessions

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: In peace, in peace, we pray to you:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For peace and salvation, we pray to you:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For peace between nation, for peace between peoples:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For us, who are gathered to worship and praise you:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For all of your servants who live out you gospel:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For all those who govern, that justice might guide them:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For all those who labor in service to others:

All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: Grant weather that nourishes all of creation:
All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger:
All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: For all the beloved who rest in your mercy:
All: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leader: Help us, comfort us, all of our days:
All: Keep us, hold us, gracious God.

Closing Prayers

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.

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

**All: 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.**

Final Blessing

Leader: Let us bless our God:

All: Praise and thanks to you.

Leader: 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.

All: Amen.