

L E N T E N V E S P E R S

W E D N E S D A Y , M A R C H 8 , 2 0 2 3



The Savior
Henry Ossawa Tanner (1899-1937)

SAINT MARTINS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annapolis, Maryland

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able

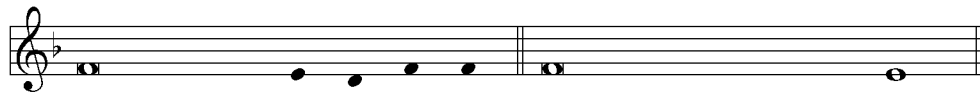
OPENING



☐ Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, ☑ **the light no darkness can over- come.**



☐ Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning, ☑ **and the day is almost o- ver.**



☐ Let your light scat- ter the dark-ness, ☑ **and illumine your Church.**

HYMN OF LIGHT



☐ Joy-ous light of glo - ry: ☑ **of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther;**



heav- en - ly, ho - ly, bless - ed Je - sus Christ.



We have come to the set- ting of the sun, and we look to the eve- ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir - it: You are wor-thy of



be- ing praised with pure voic- es for - ev - er. O Son of God,



O Giv- er of life: The u - ni- verse pro- claims your glo - ry.

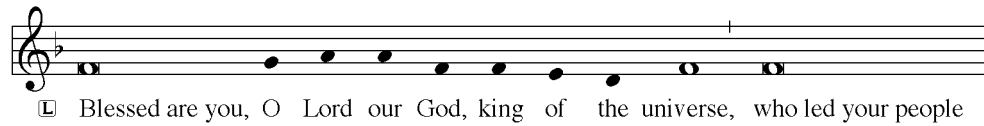
THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT



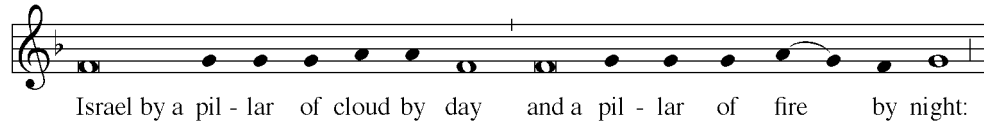
☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.



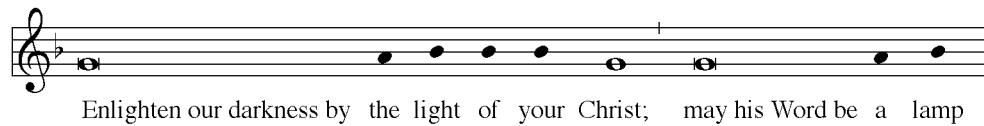
☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.



☐ Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people



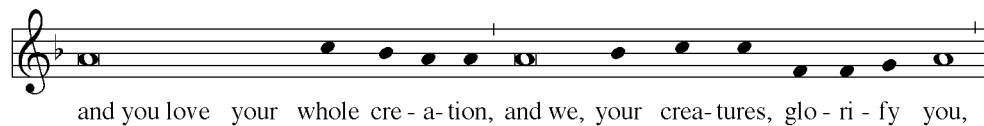
Israel by a pil - lar of cloud by day and a pil - lar of fire by night:



Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may his Word be a lamp



to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer - ci - ful,



and you love your whole cre - a - tion, and we, your crea - tures, glo - ri - fy you,



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. ☑ A - men

PSALMODY



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;




the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when



I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -



do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.



Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascent before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon 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. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 36:22-32

²²Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. ²⁸Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. ²⁹I will save you from all your uncleannesses, and I will summon the grain and make it abundant and lay no famine upon you. ³⁰I will make the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field abundant, so that you may never again suffer the disgrace of famine among the nations. ³¹Then you shall remember your evil ways, and your dealings that were not good; and you shall loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominable deeds. ³²It is not for your sake that I will act, says the Lord GOD; let that be known to you. Be ashamed and dismayed for your ways, O house of Israel.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

PSALM 128

¹Happy is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways. ²You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. ³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. ⁴Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD. ⁵The LORD bless you from Zion. May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. ⁶May you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel!

Please stand as you are able

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 7:53 – 8:11

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to John, the seventh chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵³Then each of them went home, ¹while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, ⁴they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. ⁵Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

The Gospel of The Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated for the hymn



1 A lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth to save a world of sin - ners.
 2 This lamb is Christ, our great - est friend, the Lamb of God, our Sav - ior,
 3 Our Sav - ior an - swered from his heart that he would take the bur - den:
 4 Of death I am no more a - fraid; your dy - ing is my liv - ing.



He bears the bur - den all a - lone, dies shorn of all his hon - ors.
 whom God in mer - cy chose to send to win us reb - els o - ver.
 "My Fa - ther's will is my com - mand; I'll do as I am bid - den."
 You clothe me in your roy - al robes that you are al - ways giv - ing.



He goes to slaugh - ter, weak and faint, is led to die with -
 "Go down, my child," the Fa - ther said, "and free my chil - dren
 Oh, won - drous love! Oh, lov - ing might! To right what mor - tals
 Your love is dress e - nough for me to wear through all e -



out com - plaint; his spot - less life he of - fers. He bears the shame,
 from their dread of death and con - dem - na - tion. The pain - ful stripes
 can - not right the Son was sent from heav - en. What love, O Love,
 ter - ni - ty be - fore the throne of heav - en, where we shall stand



the stripes, the wrath; his an - guish, mock - er - y,
 are hard to bear, but by your death they all
 who came to save by lov - ing e - ven to
 close by your side, your church, the well - ap - point -

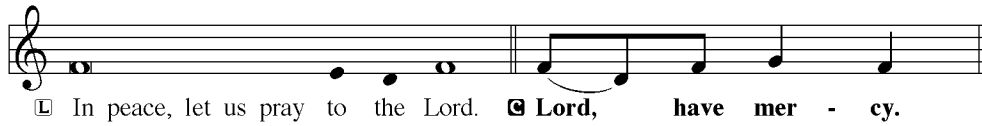


and death for us he glad - ly suf - fers.
 can share the joy of your sal - va - tion."
 the grave un - til the stone was riv - en.
 ed bride, when all the faith - ful gath - er.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.
 Music: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON, Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Please stand as you are able

LITANY



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our church staff, Pastor Dave and for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



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 commandments; 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, God forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

▪ SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY ▪

Officiant

Pastor Dave Oravec

Director of Music Ministry

Dr. Erin Hanke

Media Technician

Sara Wetz