

EVENING PRAYER -- *Vespers*

Opening

A lighted candle may be placed in your worship area. Congregational responses are in bold. Please join in as you are able. Center and calm yourself as we begin in silence.

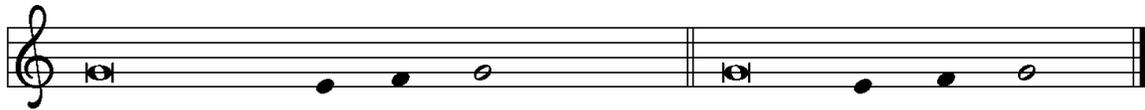
Advent Dialogue



The Spirit and the church cry out: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**



All those who await his ap-pear-ance pray: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**



The whole cre - a - tion pleads: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # _____.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The leader and the assembly give thanks.

Thanksgiving for Light Dialogue



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



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # _____.

Psalmody

The psalmody begins with Psalm 141, a song of forgiveness and protection.

Psalm 141

All



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



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

Group One or All



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

All

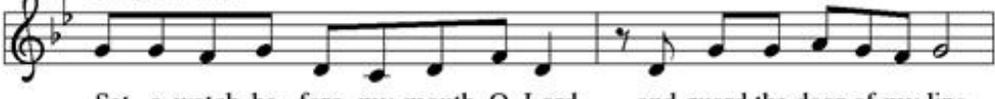


I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



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

Group Two or All

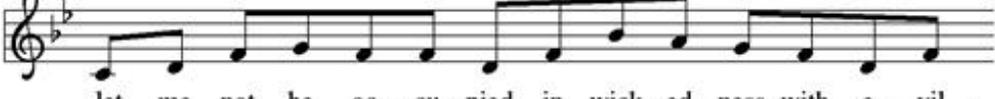


Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Group One or All

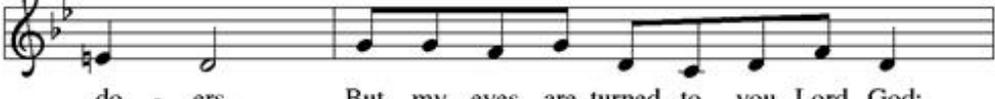


Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

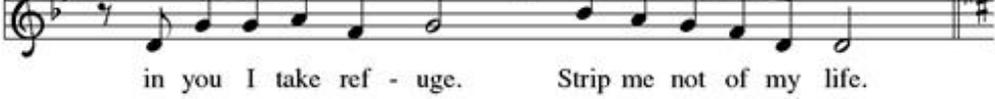


let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All

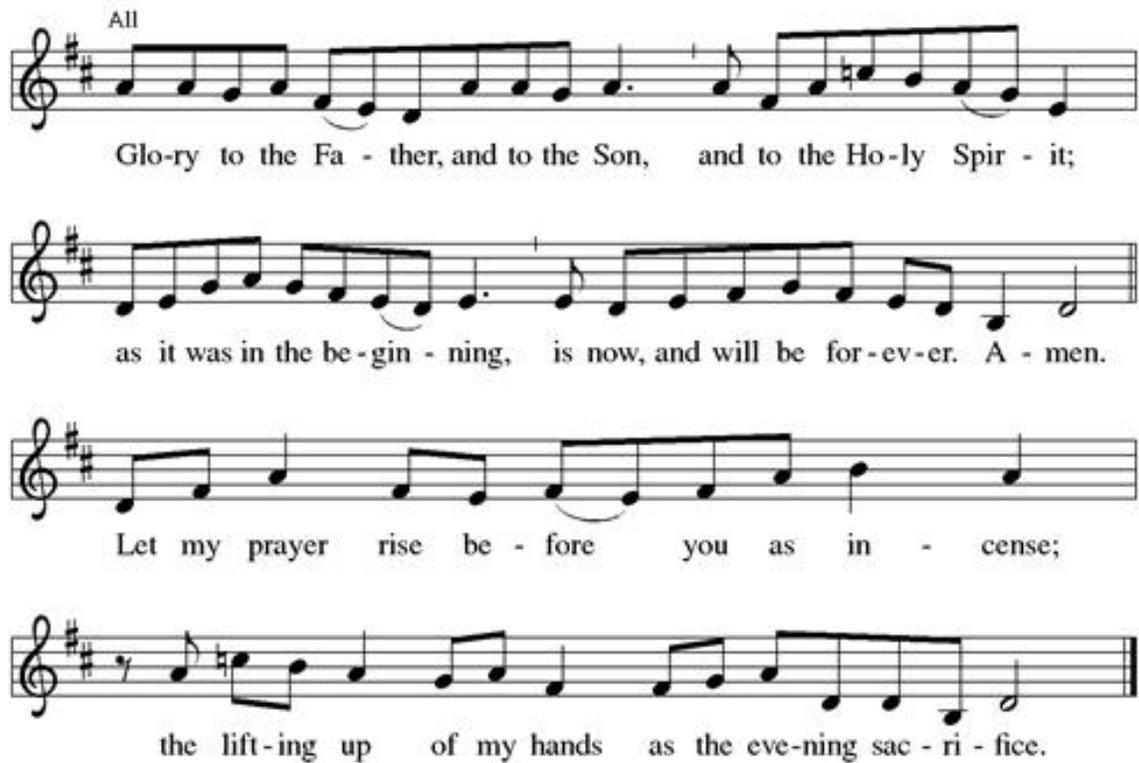


do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



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

All



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.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # _____.

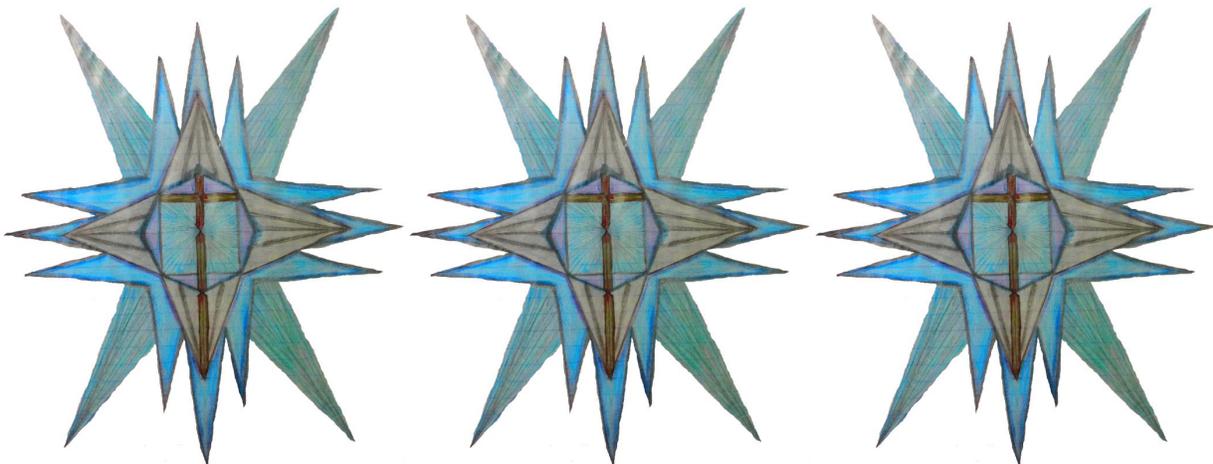
Word

READINGS

This Advent we will use readings based on the daily lectionary selections for the day. Daily lectionary readings are meant to prepare us for the texts we will hear in our upcoming Sunday worship.

A brief silence is kept following the readings.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors
 in many and various ways by the prophets,
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.



GOSPEL CANTICLE

Hymn 251, My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ADVENT

251

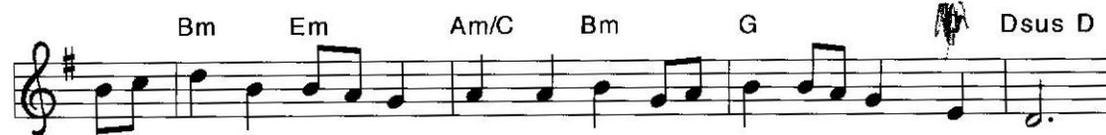
My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



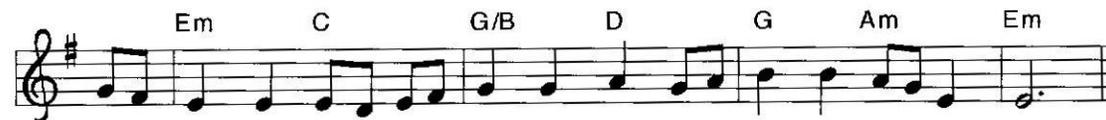
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
 Music: English folk tune
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

KINGSFOLD
 CMD

PRAYERS

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 the health of the creation, for abundant
 harvests that all may share,
 and for peaceful times, let us | pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us;
for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection
in this and every place, let us | pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering,
and for those who are in captivity, let us | pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need,

let us | pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

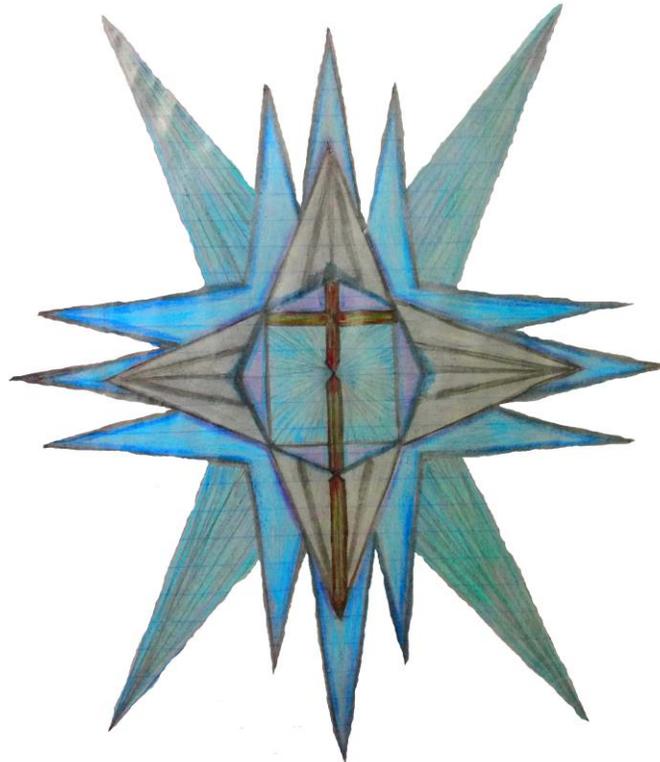
For [*name/s and*] all servants of the church, for this assembly,
and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy,
let us | pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

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

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest,
rejoicing in the communion of all the saints,
we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.
To you, O Lord.

Let us pray,
O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license # _____.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
 keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.
Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We depart in peace. Our service will continue silently for five minutes to allow for silent prayer and meditation.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved.
 Reprinted with permission under One License #A-731951. All rights reserved.