

# Midweek Advent Service

November 30, 2022

## Evening Prayer

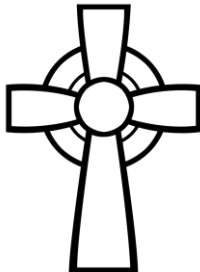
- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,  
**C** **the light no darkness can overcome.**  
**P** Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
**C** **and the day is almost over.**  
**P** Let Your light scatter the darkness  
**C** **and illumine Your Church.**

## Phos Hilaron (O Joyful Light)

- P** Joyous light of glory:  
**C** **of the immortal Father;  
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.**  
**We have come to the setting of the sun,  
and we look to the evening light.**  
**We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:  
You are worthy of being praised  
with pure voices forever.**  
**O Son of God, O Giver of life:  
the universe proclaims Your glory.**

## Thanksgiving for Light

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar 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 merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**



- P** I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- C** **My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.**
- P** Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!
- C** **I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.**
- P** Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.
- C** **This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.**
- P** The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- C** **Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**
- P** Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!
- C** **The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**
- P** Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- C** **What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good?**
- P** Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.
- C** **Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.**
- P** The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous and his ears toward their cry.
- C** **The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.**
- P** When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.
- C** **The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.**
- P** Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.
- C** **He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.**
- P** Affliction will slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.
- C** **The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Hymn #347

## Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551,  
 Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 40:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

- P** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
- C** But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

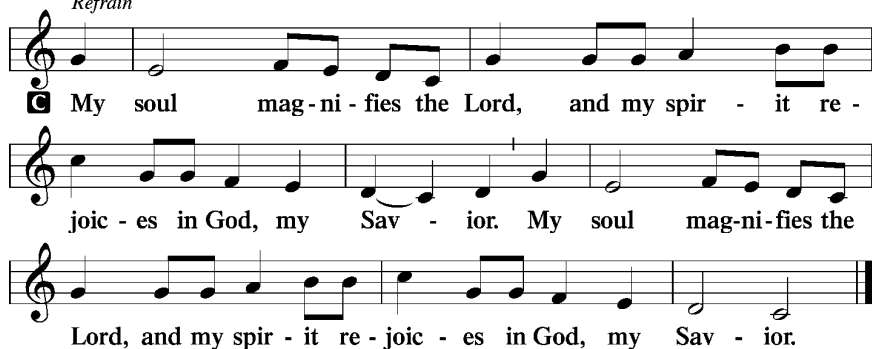
## Sermon

### Offering



## Magnificat

*Refrain*



**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir-it re-joic-es in God, my Sav-ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir-it re-joic-es in God, my Sav-ior.

- P** For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.  
For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.  
For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;  
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

### **C** Refrain

- P** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.  
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### **C** Refrain

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## Litany

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** 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:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison and Rev. Timothy J. Scharr, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For President Biden, for all 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:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** 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:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For ... let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
- C** **Alleluia.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

### *Silence for individual prayer*

- P** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
- C** **To You, O Lord.**

## Collect for Peace

- P** 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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **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.**

## Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.
- C** Amen.

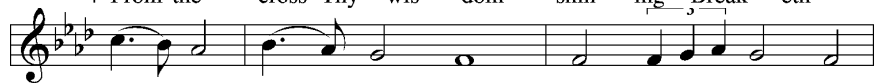


# Closing Hymn #578

# Thy Strong Word



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with  
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



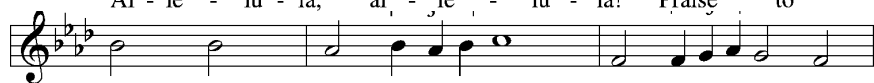
speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 May the light which Thou dost send  
 Fill our songs with alleluias,  
 Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 To Thee laud and honor be.  
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 Praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
 Glory, glory be to Thee.  
 Mortals, angels, now and ever  
 Praise the holy Trinity!

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