

# Midweek Advent Service

December 21, 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.**
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- P** On the holy mount stands the city he founded;  
**C** the LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwelling places of Jacob.
- P** Glorious things of you are spoken, O city of God.  
**C** Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon; behold, Philistia and Tyre, with Cush— “This one was born there,” they say.
- P** And of Zion it shall be said, “This one and that one were born in her”; for the Most High himself will establish her.  
**C** The LORD records as he registers the peoples, “This one was born there.”
- P** Singers and dancers alike say, “All my springs are in you.”  
**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 #727

## On Eagles' Wings



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, Who a -  
 2 snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, And  
 3 You need not fear the ter - ror of the night, Nor the  
 4 For to His an - gels He's giv - en a com - mand To



bide in His shad - ow for life,  
 fam - ine will bring you no fear;  
 ar - row that flies by day; Though  
 guard you in all of your ways; Up -



Say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, My  
 Un - der His wings your ref - uge, His  
 thou - sands fall a - bout you, His  
 on their hands they will bear you up, Lest you



rock in whom I trust!"  
 faith - ful - ness your shield.  
 Near you it shall not come.  
 dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

### Refrain



And He will raise you up on ea - gles' wings,



Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the



sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand. 2 The

<sup>25</sup>To whom then will you compare me,  
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup>Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,  
calling them all by name,  
by the greatness of his might,  
and because he is strong in power  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

<sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.

<sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint,  
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

<sup>30</sup>Even youths shall faint and be weary,  
and young men shall fall exhausted;

<sup>31</sup>but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;  
they shall walk and not faint.

**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.

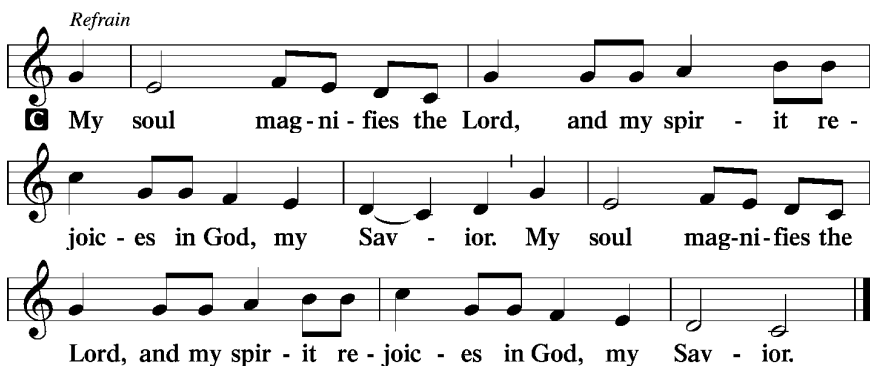
## Sermon

### Offering

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## Magnificat

*Refrain*



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

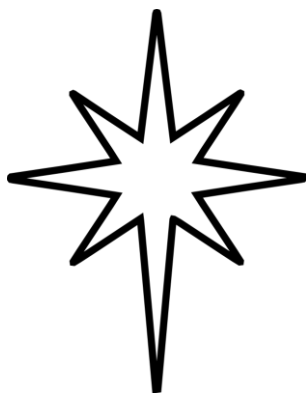
- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; 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 #336

# Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him  
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion  
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;  
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,  
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
 Pierced the and nailed Him to the tree,  
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.  
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly  
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



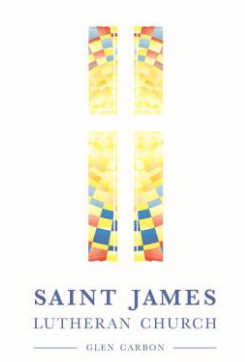
lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.  
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.; Tune: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99; Text and tune: Public domain



St. James Attendance





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