

First Lutheran Church
Lenten Vespers 2021
Fourth Wednesday in Lent
The Power of Jesus' Last Words

JOYOUS LIGHT

EVENING PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL PART

RAY MAKEEVER

JOYOUS LIGHT

Evening Prayer



SERVICE OF LIGHT

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GREETING

We gather this night in the name of the One who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

OPENING DIALOGUE

Je-sus Christ, Light of life, shine in your peo-ple here.

Je-sus Christ, Light of life, shine in your peo-ple here.

Stay with us now; put fear to flight as eve-ning ush-ers in the night.

Warm the dark-ness with your love and light, Je-sus Christ

Je-sus Christ, (Je-sus Christ) Light of life, (Light of life)

Shine in your peo-ple here Je-sus Christ, (Je-sus Christ) Light of

life, (Light of life) shine in your peo-ple here.

HYMN OF LIGHT: *Joyous Light of Glory*

Refrain



Joy- ous Light of Glo- ry, sa- cred word made



Hu- man sto- ry, bless- ed Je- sus Christ,



of the Fa- ther giv- en Light to earth from



Light of hea- ven: ho- ly, end- less source of life.



1. As we come to the set- ting of the sun,
2. As we sing, O ho- ly Three in One,



and we look to the gold of eve- ning light,
fount of life and love and fire di- vine,



we will raise our songs in praise of your glo- ry
we re- joice in you with the pure voice of gla- ness



Refrain

and with all the u- ni- verse u- nite.
as we let your light with- in us shine.

It is right to give our thanks and praise to the Lord

Night is falling and day's allotted span draws to a close.

We praise you and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
through whom be glory, honor and power
to you in the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

PSALMODY

We lift our hands in prayer like in-cense ri- sing

and of-fer our lives to you, O God.

1. God, we call, for you are near: hear us and help us.
2. Touch our lips, form every word: keep us from evil.
3. As we turn our gaze to you: Light of creation.

Be now a- mong us here: hear us and help us.
Un- bind our hearts, O Lord: keep us from e- vil.
and live our days with you: Light of cre- a- tion.

Be thou the lov- ing ear: hear us and help us and all who cry.
Re-mind us we are restored: keep us from e- vil and all its lies.
and burn and blaze in you: Light of cre-a- tion, o- pen our eyes.

PSALM PRAYER

O God, from the rising of the sun to its setting your name is worthy of all praise. Let our prayer rise before you as incense, and with the lifting up of our hands may we offer our whole loves to you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE POWER OF JESUS' LAST WORDS: *Nicodemus (Paul Desilet)*

We take time this Lenten season to imagine what those who knew Jesus of Nazareth might have to say after his crucifixion.

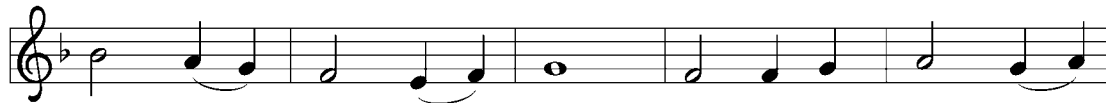
Today Nicodemus shares his desire to meet Jesus and how he experienced forgiveness and understanding as he reflects on Jesus' last words:

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

HYMN OF THE DAY: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (ELW 803)*



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

GOSPEL CANTICLE: *The Magnificat*

Refrain



My soul pro - claims your great-ness, O God,



my spir-it re - joic - es in the love of my Sav - ior.



You have looked with fa - vor on my sim - ple ways,



and I will praise you all of my days.



1 You have called me bless - ed, done great things for me.
2 You have hum-bled the might - y, scat-tered earth-ly pride.



You have shown your mer - cy, set my spir-it free.
You have strength-ened your ser-vants, kept us by your side.



You have lift - ed the low - ly, sent the rich a - way.
You have hon-ored your prom - ise made so long a - go.



Refrain

You have filled the hun - gry, and ho - ly is your name.
You have blessed your chil - dren from age to age, and so:

THE LITANY

Refrain



☐ God of love, have mer - cy, and lis - ten to our prayer.
(God.)

☐ Petitions

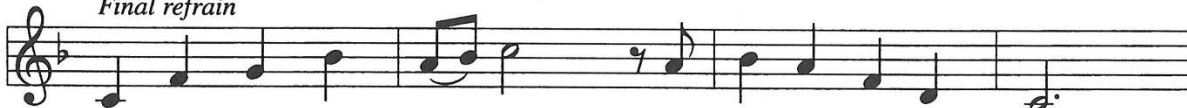


1 For peace born of heav - en, and
2 For peace in the whole world, and
3 For all those who gov - ern: give
4 For all who work for jus - tice and
5 For rain, sun, and har - vest, and
6 For all who know af - flic - tion, des -
7 For all those who suf - fer in
8 For all our be - lov - ed, our
9 Re - joic - ing in com - mu - nion with



for our sal - va - tion, we pray to you, O
peace a - mong all peo - ples,
wis - dom and com - pas - sion;
free - dom from op - pres - sion,
food to fill the hun - gry,
pair, wrath, and dan - ger,
grief, pain, and sor - row,
fam - 'ly, friends, and neigh - bors,
saints gone be - fore us,

Final refrain



☐ God of love, have mer - cy, and lis - ten to our prayer,
(God.)



God of love, hear our prayer. A - men

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

God of love, we thank you that you have kept us under your protecting care in the day that is past. Bring your healing to the wounds of this day, those we have inflicted, those we have felt, those that trouble our world. Cover us this night with the wings of your grace, and raise us to a new day with Christ, our light and our peace.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

SENDING BLESSING



Let us bless the Ho-ly One. To God our thanks we raise. May

God Al- might-y bless us, guide us and de-fend us, and lead us in- to

life. A- men, a- men, a- men.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, rest in the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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