

Advent Evening Prayer 2020
December 9, 2020
Resurrection Lutheran Church

Kindly share in the spoken responses at home with your device's microphone on mute in order to minimize background noises that will help maintain a worshipful atmosphere.

Dialogue:

The Spirit and the church cry out:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

All those who await his appearance pray:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The whole creation pleads:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Hymn of Light:

“O Radiant Light, O Sun Divine” (ELW # 562 – pray along when sung by Pastor)

Thanksgiving for Light:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning you called light into being,
and you set light in the sky
to govern night and day.

In a pillar of cloud by day
and a pillar of fire by night
you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ:
may your Word be a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path;
for you are merciful,
and you love your whole creation,
and with all your creatures we give you glory,
through your Son Jesus Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

Amen.

Psalmody:

Psalm 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon
the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing
and make music to the LORD.

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸My heart speaks your message, "Seek my face."

Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away, you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my
salvation.

¹⁰Though my father and my mother forsake me,

the LORD will take me in.

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD;

lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹²Subject me not to the will of my foes,

for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

¹³This I believe, that I will see the goodness of the LORD

in the land of the living!

¹⁴Wait for the LORD and be strong.

Take heart and wait for the LORD!

Reading:

A reading from Luke.

⁵In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. ⁸Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” (1:5-17)

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Response to the Reading:

The reading of scripture is followed by silence for reflection and brief comments by the Pastor.

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

Gospel Canticle, Song of Mary (“My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord,”
ELW # 234 – pray along when sung by Pastor)

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 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.

Other petitions may be added.

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.

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 our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Amen.

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.**

Blessing:

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Amen.

Almighty God, the Father, ✝ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

Hymn:

ELW 527, "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now" *(sing along at home as you desire, but kindly keep your device's microphone on mute)*

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; our
 2 Un - seal our lips to sing your praise in
 3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O
 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and

hearts in true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
 end - less hymns through all our days; in - crease our faith and
 ho - ly, ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of
 Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

light di - vine, and let your truth with - in us shine.
 light our minds; and set us free from doubt that blinds.
 that blest place we then shall see you face to face.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: attr. Wilhelm II, 1598–1662; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND, *Cantionale Germanicum*, Gochsheim, 1628

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Hymn #527:

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