

*Holden Evening*

*Prayer*

**Please save this bulletin for Wednesday’s during Advent.**

**1. Service of Light:**

L: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

**ALL: the light no darkness can over-come;**

L: Stay with us now, for it is evening,

**ALL: and the day is almost over.**

L: Let your light scatter the darkness,

**ALL: and shine within your people here.**

**ALL: Joyous light of heav’nly glory, loving glow of God’s own face, you who sing creation’s story, shine on ev’ry land and race. Now as the evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to you, God of day-break, God of shadows, come and light our hearts a-new.**

**In the star that grace the darkness, in the blazing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and wisdom, we can hear your quiet song. Love that fills the night with wonder, love that warms the weary soul, Love that bursts all chains asunder, set us free and make us whole.**

**You who made the heaven’s splendor, ev’ry dancing star of night, make us shine with gentle justice, let us each reflect your light, Mighty God of all creation, gentle Christ who lights our way, Loving Spirit of salvation, lead us on to endless day.**

**Evening Thanksgiving**

L: May God be with you all,

**A: and also with you;**

L: Let us sing our thanks to God,

**ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

L: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe-from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

**ALL sing: Amen.**

**2. Psalmody, Readings and Canticles**

**Psalm 141**

**ALL: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lighting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

L: O God, I call to you, come to me now; O hear my voice when I cry to you.

**ALL**: **O God, I call to you come to me now O hear my voice when I cry to**

L: Let my prayer rise up like incense be- fore you, the lifting up of my hands

**ALL: you. Let my prayer rise up like in cense be - fore you, the lifting**

L: as an offering to you. Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart

**ALL: up of my hands as an offering to you. Keep watch with-in me**

L: may the light of your love be burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise up

**ALL: God; deep in my heart may the light of your love be burning bright. Let my**

L: like in-cense be fore you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to.

**ALL: prayer rise up like in- cencse be - fore you, the lifting up of my hands as an**

L: you. All praise to the God of all - Cre- a- to of life all praise be to

**ALL: offering to you. All praise to the God of all- Cre- a- tor of**

L: Christ and the Spirit of love. Let my prayer rise up like in-

**ALL: life; all praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love. Let my prayer rise up**

L: - cense be- fore you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

**ALL: like in cense be- fore you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

**(silence for meditation)**

L: May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

**ALL: Amen.**

*(Additional psalms and canticles may be sung or said. Silence for meditation follows each psalm or canticle. A psalm prayer appropriate to each psalm follows the silence.)*

**One or two lessons are read**

*(Silence for meditation follows each reading)*

L: The Light shines in the darkness

**ALL: and the darkness has not overcome it.**

**The Annunciation**

**Luke 1: 26-28, 30-32, 38**

26In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” 30The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 38Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

L: An angle went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chose One of God Most High.” And Mary said, “I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will.”

**The Magnificat**

**Luke 1:46-55**

**ALL: My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you. You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through. Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness ever-more. How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart. You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and up lifted the humble of heart, You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.**  **Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice strong you love, As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forever more.**

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.**

**3. Litany and Prayers**

**ALL: God on mercy, hold us in Love.**

L: In peace, in peace, we pray to you:

For peace and salvation, we pray to you:

For peace between nations, for peace between peoples;

For us who are gathered to worship and praise you:

For all of your servants who live out your gospel:

For all those who govern, that justice might guide them:

For all those who labor in service to others:

Grant weather that nourishes all of creation:

Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger:

For all the beloved who rest in your mercy:

Help us, comfort us, all of our days:

**ALL: Keep us, hold us, gracious God.**

L: Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

L: God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

**ALL: 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.**

**Final Blessing**

L: Let us bless our God:

**ALL: praise and thanks to you.**

L: May God, Creator bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever light for our lives, may the Spirit of Love be our guide and path, for all our days.

**ALL: Amen.**