

Joint Advent Service

December 6, 2023

Stand

Service of Light

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us now, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness,
and shine within your people here.

Evening Hymn

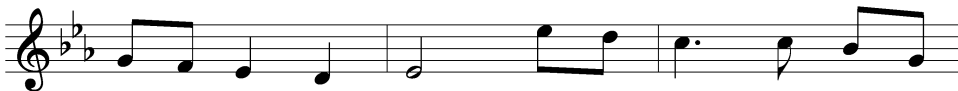
Joyous Light of Heav'nly Glory



1 Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing glow of
2 In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the blaz - ing
3 You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry danc - ing



God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
sun of dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
star of night, make us shine with gen - tle jus - tice, let us



ev - 'ry land and race. Now as eve - ning falls a -
hear your qui - et song. Love that fills the night with
each re - flect your light. Might - y God of all cre -

round us we shall raise our songs to you, God of
 won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that
 a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov - ing
 day - break, God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
 bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
 Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

Evening Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God;
it is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.

Amen.

Be seated

St. John's Choir 🎵 **Call the Baby Jesus**

Reading: Numbers 24:17

Pastor Brandt

¹⁷“I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near.

A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel.

He will crush the foreheads of Moab, the skulls of all the people of Sheth.

The Light shines in the darkness

and the darkness has not overcome it.

Good Shepherd Choir 🎵 **Lovely Child, Holy Child**

Reading: Isaiah 49:6

Pastor Reichert

“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

The Light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.

St. Stephen's Choir 🎵 ***Advent Alleluia***

Reading: Daniel 7:13–14

Pastor Heyer

¹³“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

The Light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.

Joint Choir 🎵 ***Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room***

Reading: Malachi 4:2–3

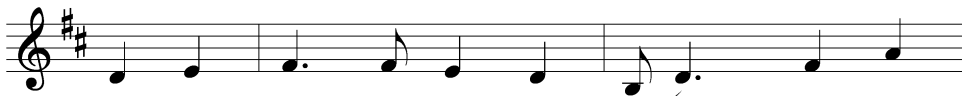
Pastor Stratman

²But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. ³Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,” says the LORD Almighty.

The Light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.

Magnificat

956 Holy Is Your Name



1 My — soul is filled with joy as I
2 I am low - ly as a child, but I
3 I pro - claim your pow'r, O God! You work
4 To the hun - gry you give food, send the
5 In your love you now ful - fill all you



sing to God, my Sav - ior. You have looked up - on your
know from this day for - ward that my name will be re -
won - ders for your ser - vants; you have scat - tered the proud -
rich a - way with noth - ing. In your mer - cy you are
prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will praise you, God, my



ser - vant, you have vis - it - ed your peo - ple.
mem - bered, and the world will call me bless - ed.
heart - ed, you have lift - ed up the low - ly.
mind - ful of the peo - ple you have cho - sen.
Sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.

Refrain



And ho - ly is your name through all gen - er -



a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the



peo - ple you have cho - sen, and ho - ly is your name!

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Offering

Undesignated offerings will be given to Martin Luther College, in appreciation for spreading the Gospel of Jesus with their Advent devotions.

Stand

Prayer

Great and merciful God, source and ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes understanding, and the will to live your gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

Final Blessing

Let us praise the Lord:
thanks be to God.

May God the Father 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 of our days.

Amen.

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Closing Hymn

796 Lord, Support Us All Day Long



1 Lord, sup - port us all day long, guide and strength - en.
2 Be our light in dark - ness, Lord, our de - fend - er;
3 With your pres - ence, Lord, draw near those who la - bor
4 Gra - cious Lord, we give you thanks, praise and bless you,



Eve - ning comes, the world is hushed, shad - ows length - en,
in your pres - ence per - ils all must sur - rend - er.
thro' the night - time on be - half of their neigh - bor.
as the giv - er of all good we con - fess you.



work is done, life's fe - vered pace now has end - ed;
Drive all dark sa - tan - ic snares from each dwell - ing;
Grant them cour - age for each fear, faith - ful car - ing;
This past day we now com - mit to your keep - ing



Christ, to you, our fi - nal rest is com - mend - ed.
then, at peace, our hearts your praise will be tell - ing.
your com - pas - sion and your love tru - ly shar - ing.
and en - trust to you the hours of our sleep - ing.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

Tune: Joseph D. Jones, 1827–1870, alt.

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Tune: Public domain



Thank you to our **pastors** for sharing God's Word with us and reminding us of the joy found in this Advent Season! Thank you to our **choirs** and their **directors** for beautifying our services tonight! Thank you also to our **volunteers** who brought treats for us all to enjoy in the church basement.

Please join us in the basement before and after the service for treats and fellowship!

Acknowledgments

Pastors

David Brandt and Nicholas Mount, St. John's
Mark Reichert, Good Shepherd
Phil Heyer and Paul Stratman, St. Stephen's

Organist

Becky Schultz

Evening Prayer (alternate) from Christian Worship

Evening hymn: Tune: Marty Haugen Text and tune: © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712959

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