

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

March 10, 2021

6:00 p.m.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE: CREATED FOR BELOVED COMMUNITY



IN COMMUNITY WITH OUR NEIGHBOR

WELCOME

SERVICE OF LIGHT

PROCESSIONAL

Leader or Assistant

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All

the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Leader or Assistant

Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All *Leader or Assistant*

and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All

and shine within your peo - ple here.

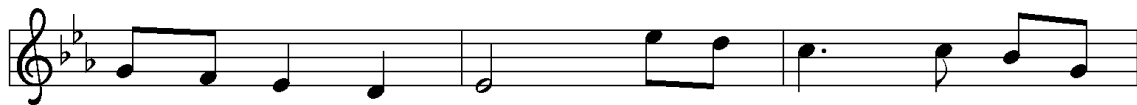
HYMN #561 *Joyous Light of Heav'nly Glory*



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



face, you who sing cre - a - tion's sto - ry, shine on
dawn, in the light of peace and wis - dom, we can
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 day - break,
won - der, love that warms the wea - ry soul, love that bursts all
a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our way, lov - ing Spir - it



God of shad - ows, come and light our hearts a - new.
chains a - sun - der, set us free and make us whole.
of sal - va - tion, lead us on to end - less day.

PRAYER

Blessed are you—holy, hidden God; Spirit of the deep winging wildly over the world's creation; majesty in darkness, guide upon our pathways. Joyful is the dark and brilliant the light—both belonging and leading us to you. **Amen.**

WORD

DIALOG

We are created for community

Drawn together across false divides

Friends and strangers

Neighbors and creatures

The voices from the margins

Intertwined with Christ's

Whose voice also calls from outside the city gates

And from beyond the grave

One with saints who have gone before
And with ones yet to arrive
Making of us one body
One community
Being drawn with others
Into the beloved community of God

READING *Mark 2:1-12*

¹When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ²So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone? ⁸At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the paralytic — ¹¹I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home. ¹²And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

We are created for community.
Jesus shows us the way.

REFLECTION

Pastor Denise Scheer

PRAYER

Neighbor to all people, you call us into human communities to serve and be served by one another. Open our hearts to the needs of all our neighbors, and teach us to recognize the gifts you have given each of us to use in service to others. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR WORLD HUNGER

video by Andrew and Trevor Engstrom

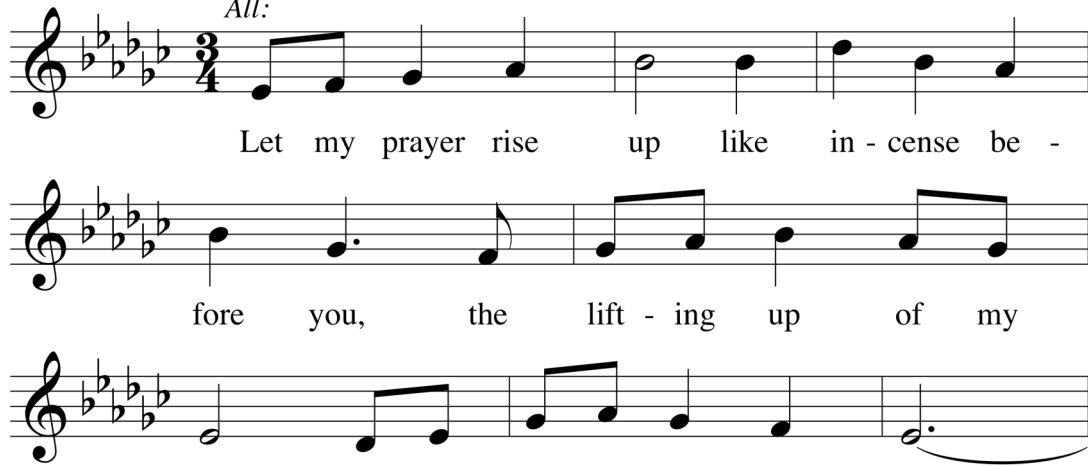
During this season of Lent, we remember the millions across the world who go hungry by gathering an offering for world hunger. Set aside a bowl to use on Wednesdays in Lent as we ask God to make of us a beloved community.

You are also invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to **218-325-9525** with contribution amount followed by the word **hunger**. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.

VESPER PSALM 141 *Let My Prayer Rise Up Like Incense*

Group One: high voices, Group Two: low voices

All:



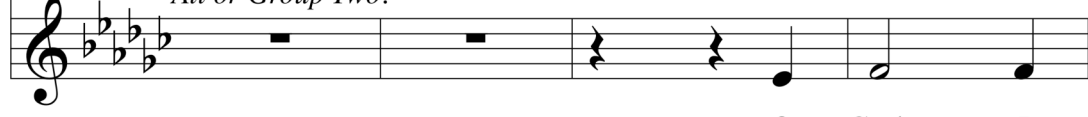
Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -
fore you, the lift - ing up of my
hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Leader or Group One:

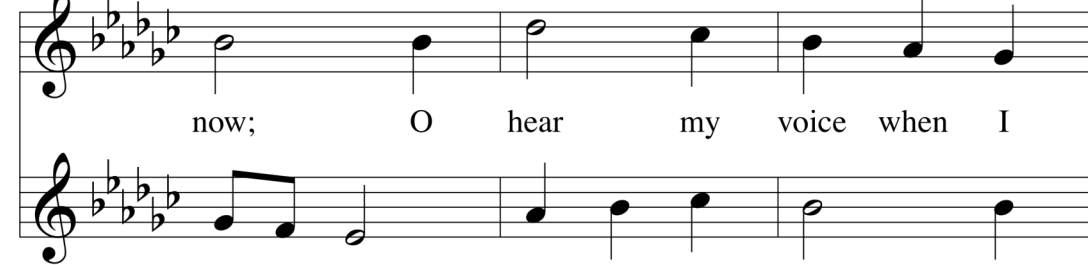


— O God, I call to you, come to me

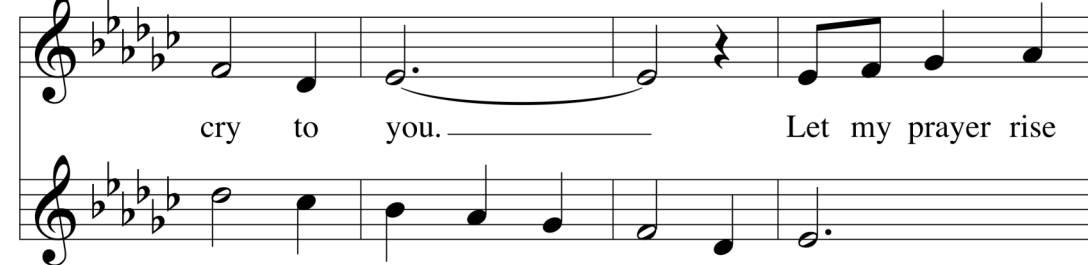
All or Group Two:



O God, I



now; O hear my voice when I
call to you, come to me now; O



cry to you. ————— Let my prayer rise
hear my voice when I cry to you.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to

fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an

you. Keep watch with - in me, God;

of - fer - ing to you. Keep

deep in my heart may the light of your love be

watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the

burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise

light of your love be burn - ing bright.

up like in-cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. All praise to the God of all- Cre-

of - fer - ing to you. All

a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

praise to the God of all- Cre - a - tor of life; all

Spir - it of love. Let my prayer rise

praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.

up like in - cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to

fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an

you.

of - fer - ing to you.

PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

INVITATION TO THE CROSS

Jesus, in his suffering and death, reveals the very heart of God, a heart of pure unspeakable love, a heart that risks everything for the sake of love, a heart open to the suffering of others and broken by the cruelty of others, a heart alive with love that death could not hold.

Come, to the cross, to the heart of God. Bring your own heart as it is—hardened or opened, empty or full, broken or mended, fearful or overflowing with love, unfaithful or filled with gratitude, God welcomes us as we are and brings to us the healing we need.

HYMN *Christ, Our Peace*

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

The first system of music features a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, and a quarter note C5. The bass clef staff provides accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are: "Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;"

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble clef staff concludes with a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The bass clef staff concludes with a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The lyrics are: "Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod-y in you."

HYMN #659 *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*



1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as



Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As we journey with Jesus to the cross, we pray:

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.**

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, joined together in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

MINISTERS All People of First Lutheran Church
PASTOR The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
PASTORAL INTERN Logan McLean Strike
PROGRAM STAFF Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate
 Karen Sande, Director of Music
 Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities
 Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship
MUSICIANS Mary Dontje, Liz Raduege, Andy Frey, Doug Frey,
 and Michael Fuchs, singers
VIDEO TEAM Shania Krause, David Sproat, Dale Stahl, Sam Weston
DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER Stacie Curnow

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS Evangelical Lutheran Worship texts and hymns ©2020 Augsburg Fortress. Portions of Holden Evening Prayer ©1990 by G.I.A. Pub. From worship supplement All Creation Sings *Christ, Our Peace*, words and music Marty Haugen. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009917 and One License #A-729428. CCS WorshipCast streaming License #13132.



Please join us for upcoming Wednesday services, livestreamed at 6:00 p.m., followed by zoom conversation "Acting Against Racism" at 6:30 p.m.:

- Wed, Feb. 24 ~ In Community with Creation (Reflection from the Rova family)
- Wed, March 3 ~ In Community with all the Saints (Colleen Birt)
- Wed, March 10 ~ In Community with our Neighbor (Denise Scheer)
- Wed, March 17 ~ In Community with those on the Margins (Cindy Monroe)
- Wed, March 24 ~ In Community with Christ (Brian Peterson & Paul Anderson)

FLC Community Conversations on Racism and Justice - Wednesdays from 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Immediately following each service at 6:30 pm will be an FLC community discussion via zoom, using the articles & conversation guide *Acting Against Racism* published by Christian Century. Please join in this important conversation as we learn and grow together!

The Zoom discussion group begins following the services at 6:30 pm. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88382398856?pwd=SkE4RkFJa1FPQ1IrVUUtIRXJPdlkxZz09>

Link to the *Acting Against Racism* document: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mrYOqNXABKJFrvnNJ-rZIjrr5mKEwwBl/view?usp=sharing>

Article Reading & Discussion schedule

- Feb 17 - "Becoming less defensive about White privilege"
- Feb. 24 - "James Baldwin reminds us not to be surprised by this"
- March 3 - "I believe racism is wrong. So what?"
- March 10 - "How do we know Black lives matter to God?"
- March 17 - "Why are so many White Americans standing up for racial justice?"
- March 24 - "Wearing down structural evil with the ministry of erosion"

*The Sanctuary is open for quiet prayer and reflection each Wednesday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Use the Superior St. entrance door leading directly into the Sanctuary.*

First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land.
We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

faithlovecommunity
First Lutheran Church

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