



Christmastide Evening Prayer

December 30, 2020 and

January 6, 2021

7:00 PM

Join us for our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/>
or <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ>

OPENING DIALOGUE

The light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,

and we have beheld Christ's glory.

To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As we end this day, let us repent of our sins and turn to God, who is merciful and abounding in steadfast love.

Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, in whom we are forgiven. We rest now in the peace of Christ and rise in the morning to serve..

EVENING HYMN ELW 295 Of the Father's Love Begotten



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan to be,
2. Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin, full of grace,
5. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost to thee,



he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the source, the end - ing he,
by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race,
hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing and un - wea - ried prais - es be:



of the things that are, that have - been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
and the babe, the world's re - deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

(after final verse)



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

PRAYER

Let us pray. Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PSALM 96

1 Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to God, all you
2 Let earth and heav - en glo - ry; let o - cean depths re -

lands. Sing of sal - va - tion al - ways; God's
joyce. Let hills and plains and for - ests sing

glo - ry now at hand. God's love shall nev - er cease.
prais - es with one voice. God's love shall nev - er cease.

God comes to rule with jus - tice; God comes to rule with peace.
God comes to rule with jus - tice; God comes to rule with peace.

PSALM PRAYER

Let us pray. Ever-living God, the heavens were glad and the earth rejoiced when you sent your Son, the incarnate Word, to dwell with us. Help us to proclaim your glory to those who do not know you, until the whole earth sings a new song to you, with your Son and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

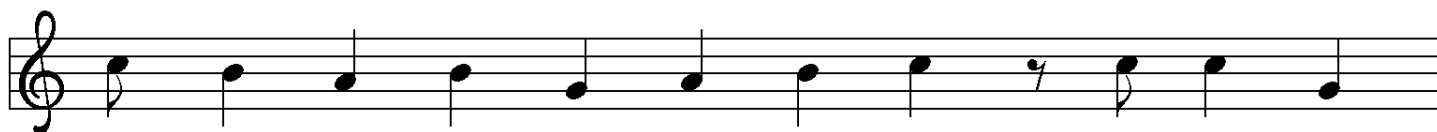
One or two scripture lessons are read. Silence for reflection follows the lessons.

RESPONSORY

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, **but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.**

CANTICLE ELW 268 From Heaven Above

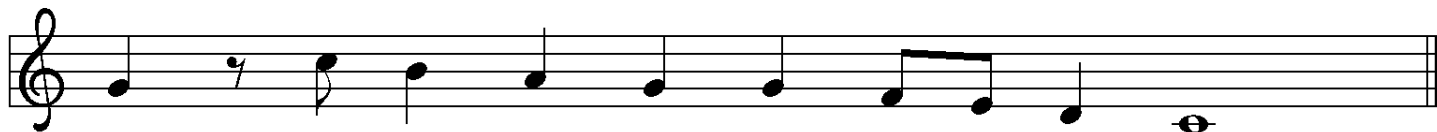
Verses 12–14



12 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre - pare a
13 My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no
14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to



bed, soft, un - de - filed, a qui - et cham - ber in my
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous



heart, that you and I may nev - er part.
tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: VOM HIMMEL HOCH, attr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1539
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS

O Lord hear my prayer,
And let my cry come before you, O God.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us pray.

COLLECT

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

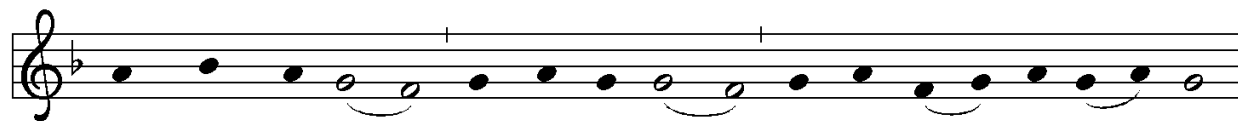
THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all worship and praise, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER



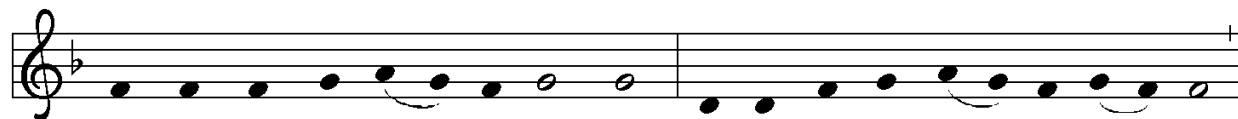
Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

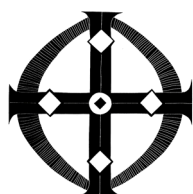
BLESSING

God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. God grant you grace and peace at the dawn of this new year. **Amen.**

All flesh is grass, but the word of God remains forever. God who is eternal keep you in hope of the resurrection. **Amen.**

The past, the present, and the future rest in God's hands. God guard your coming in and your going forth, this new year and forevermore. **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



The peace may be shared by all.

All depart in silence.

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