

# Evening Prayer with Lessons and Carols for Christmas

✠ *In Nomine Jesu* ✠

**Pre-Service Music** Two Settings on *We Praise You, Jesus, At Your Birth*

Timothy Shaw  
Samuel Scheidt

*Stand*

**Service of Light – LSB 243**

## Thanksgiving for Light

- L** We praise and thank You, O God, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, that You have enlightened us by revealing the Light that never fades. Night is falling, and day's allotted span draws to a close. The daylight which You created for our pleasure has fully satisfied us, and yet, of Your free gift, now the evening lights do not fail us. We praise You and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; through Him be glory, honor, and power to You in the Holy Spirit now and always and forever and ever.



**C** A - men.

## Service of Lesson and Carols

*Sit*

**Reading** *Genesis 3:8–15*

- P** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol** *The Truth from Above* from *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

This is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love;  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

Then after this, 'twas God's own choice  
To place them both in Paradise,  
There to remain from evil free  
Except they ate of such a tree.

The first thing, which I do relate,  
That God at first did man create  
The next thing, which to you I tell,  
Woman was made with him to dwell.

But they did eat, which was a sin,  
And thus their ruin did begin;  
Ruined themselves, both you and me,  
And all of their posterity.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose  
For so a promise soon did run  
That He'd redeem us with a Son.

**Reading** *Isaiah 9:2, 6–7*

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol** *Let Our Gladness Have No End*

*The text is at LSB 381.*

setting by Kenneth Kosche

**Hymn 382** *We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth*

Prelude – setting by Paul Grime

Stanza 1 – Choir

Stanza 2 – Choir, setting by Carl Schalk

Stanza 3 – All

Stanza 4 – Choir, setting by Carl Schalk

Stanza 5 – All

Stanza 6 – Choir

Stanza 7 – All

**Reading** *Isaiah 11:1–9*

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol** *As Your Coming Was in Peace*

*The text is at LSB 352, stanzas 1, 4, and 6.*

setting by Matthew Machemer

**Hymn 359** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Prelude – choir, setting by Melchior Vulpius  
Stanza 1 – All  
Stanza 2 – All, in harmony  
Stanza 3 – All, in harmony  
Stanza 4 – All

**Reading** *Luke 1:26–38*

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol** *Over the Hills Young Mary Hastes*

Johannes Eccard

Over the hills young Mary hastes  
To see her kin Elizabeth.  
As Mary greets her, hands upraised,  
Elizabeth sing's Mary's praise  
And calls her Mother of the Lord.  
Then Mary's heart joyfully soared:  
My soul proclaims God's greatness;  
My spirit now rejoices;  
He is my Savior and my God;  
He evermore is merciful.

Why sit we idly then about?  
Let us go also to the mount  
So that our greeting may impart  
The Spirit's entrance to each heart,  
Whereby the heart glad songs shall raise  
And lips exult in faithful praise:  
My soul proclaims God's greatness;  
My spirit now rejoices;  
He is my Savior and my God;  
He evermore is merciful.

**Hymn 356** *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

Stanza 1 – All  
Stanza 2 – Choir, setting by Phillip Gehring  
Stanza 3 – All  
Stanza 4 – All

**Reading** *Luke 2:1–7*

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**



**Hymn 389** *Let All Together Praise Our God* (stanzas 1, 4, 5)

Prelude – setting by Paul Manz

*All*

Let all together praise our God  
Before His glorious throne;  
Today He opens heav'n again  
To give us His own Son,  
To give us His own Son.

*Choir–setting by Michael Praetorius*

He undertakes a great exchange,  
Puts on our human frame,  
And in return gives us His realm,  
His glory, and His name,  
His glory, and His name.

*All*

He is a servant, I a lord:  
How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
No truer friend than He,  
No truer friend than He.

**Reading** *Luke 2:8–14*

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol** *The Great God of Heaven*

setting by Carl Schalk

The great God of heaven is come down to earth,  
His mother a virgin, and sinless His birth;  
The Father eternal, His Father alone;  
He sleeps in the manger; He reigns on the throne.

*Refrain:* Then let us adore Him and praise His great love  
To save us poor sinners, He came from above.

Lo, here is Emmanuel, here is the Child,  
The Son that was promised to Mary so mild;  
Whose power and dominion shall ever increase,  
The Prince that shall rule o'er a kingdom of peace. *Refrain*

The Word in the bliss of the Godhead remains,  
Yet in flesh comes to suffer the keenest of pains:  
He is that He was and forever shall be,  
But becomes that He was not for you and for me. *Refrain*

## Hymn 358 *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Stanza 1 – Solo  
Stanza 2 – All  
Stanza 3 – Choir, setting by J.S. Bach  
Stanza 4 – All  
Stanza 5 – Choir, setting by J.S. Bach  
Stanza 6 – All

## Reading *John 1:1–14*

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn 362 *O Sing of Christ*

setting by Kevin Hildebrand

Stanza 1 – All  
Stanza 2 – Choir  
Stanza 3 – Choir  
Stanza 4 – All

## Homily

*Stand*

### Magnificat

Matthew Macheimer

*The refrain is sung first by the choir, then repeated by all.*



My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my  
spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden  
For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.  
For the Mighty One has done great things to me and holy is His name;  
And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. **Refrain**

He has shown strength with his arm;  
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.  
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

**Refrain**

My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my  
spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen. **Refrain**

*Kneel*

**Litany – LSB 249**

*The congregation is invited to sing the response in harmony, with the last note of the response hummed by all as the next prayer bid is sung.*

*Following the Lord's Prayer, all stand, leaving the kneelers in place until the conclusion of the service.*

**Benedicamus and Benediction – LSB 252**

**Hymn 380** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**Postlude** *In Dulci Jubilo* (BWV 751)

J. S. Bach

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

# Participants

## Preacher

Reverend Professor Arthur A. Just  
Professor of Exegetical Theology

## Officiant

Reverend Professor Paul J. Grime  
Dean of the Chapel

## Organist

Kantor Kevin J. Hildebrand

## Director

Kantor Matthew A. Machemer

## Choir

Members of the Seminary Schola Cantorum  
and the Seminary Kantorei

## Instrumentalists

Mrs. Andrea Machemer, flute  
Seminarian Josef Muench, trumpet  
Seminarian Berett Steffen, violin

---

*The alternate text for the Thanksgiving for Light is in the LSB Altar Book, p. 337.*



