

Advent Vespers

Wednesday, December 10 & 17, 2025





198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org
Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

2025 Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Midweek Advent Vespers | Wednesday, December 10 and 17, 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm |
| Sundays in December | 8:00 am and 10:30 am; Mondays, 6:30 pm <i>No Monday night service, December 29</i> |
| Children’s Christmas Service | Sunday, December 14, 4:00 pm |
| Christmas Eve | Wednesday, December 24, 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm |
| Christmas Day | Thursday, December 25, 9:30 am |
| New Year’s Eve | Wednesday, December 31, 4:30 pm |

Serving at Worship

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Presiding Ministers: | Pastor Kirk Lahmann (December 10) Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue (December 17) |
| Accompanists: | Cindy Klink (3:30 pm) Stephen Radsek (6:30 pm) |
| Chimers & Jr. Bells Director: | Beth Malliet |

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. The Prayer of the Day is reprinted from *Praying with the Readings...* © Paul C. Stratman. Used with permission. Artwork by Ian M. Welch, © Ian M. Welch, paramentics.com. Holden Evening Prayer, text and tune: © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709159. Tune: Marty Haugen.

Evening Prayer

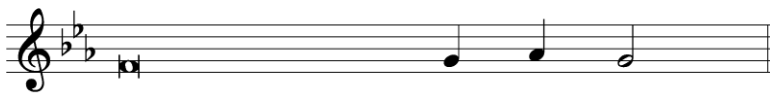
Vespers



Service of Light



Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;



the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



Stay with us now, for it is evening,



and the day is al - most over.



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,



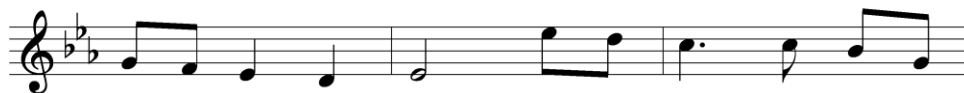
and shine within your peo - ple here.



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



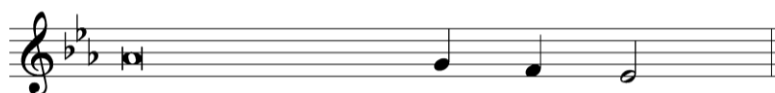
May God be with you all,



and al - so with you.



Let us sing our thanks to God;



it is right to give him thanks and praise.



Blessed are you, Cre - a - tor of the u - ni - verse—



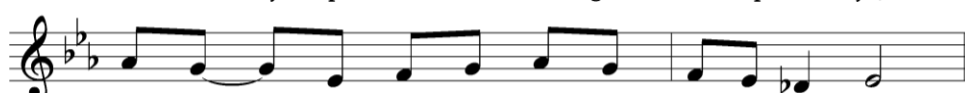
from old you have led your peo - ple by night and day. May the



light of your Christ make our dark-ness bright, for your



Word and your pres-ence are the light of our path - ways, and



you are the light and life of all cre - a - tion.



A - men.

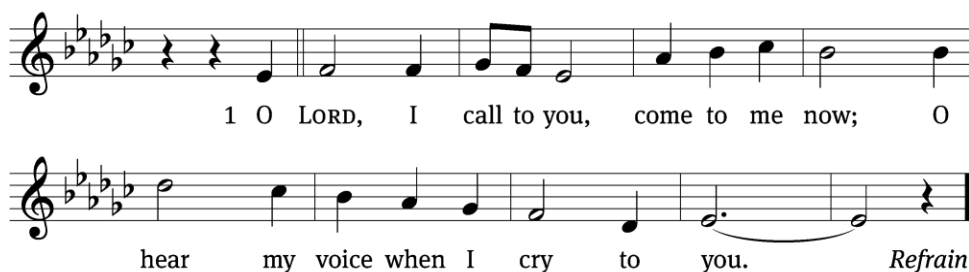
Psalm 141

Refrain




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.

Verse



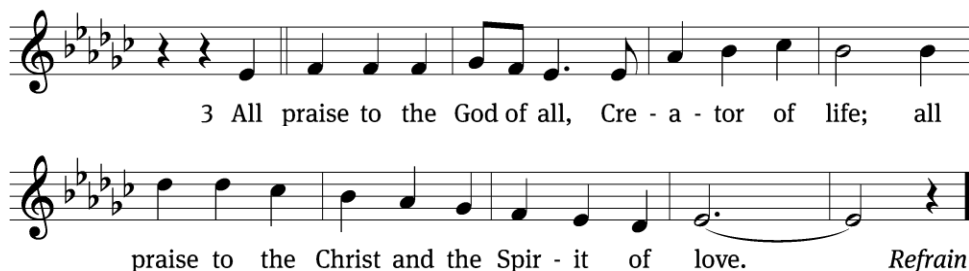
1 O LORD, I call to you, come to me now; O
hear my voice when I cry to you. *Refrain*

Verse



2 Keep watch with - in me, LORD; deep in my heart may the
light of your love be burn - ing bright. *Refrain*

Verse



3 All praise to the God of all, Cre - a - tor of life; all
praise to the Christ and the Spir - it of love. *Refrain*

Prayers

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.

Amen.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Keep us watchful and ready for the signs of your return, keep us from being overcome with anxiety and sorrow, and keep us faithful to the end; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel (December 10)

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ² and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” ⁴ John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Gospel (December 17)

Matthew 11:2-11

² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

⁴ Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

⁷ As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written: ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Psalm of the Day (December 10)

Out of the Depths | 130-A

Psalm Prayer (December 10)

Psalm 130

God our Father, you are rich in mercy, and there is forgiveness with you that you may be feared. Do not remember our sins, but blot them out for the sake of Jesus, who has redeemed us by his precious blood and his innocent suffering and death. Lead us to put our hope in you, for with you is unfailing love.

Amen.

Psalm of the Day (December 17)

I Will Praise the LORD All My Life | 146-A

Psalm Prayer (December 17)

Psalm 146

Lord, help me put my trust in you. When I am tempted to trust in wealthy or influential people instead, remind me that you made the heavens and the earth. Give me confidence that everything I am and have comes from you; through Christ my Savior.

Amen.

Hymn of the Day (December 10)

From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry | 650

Hymn of the Day (December 17)

Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him | 619

Sermon

Psalm 130 (December 10)

Psalm 146 (December 17)

Stand

Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

1, 3 My soul pro - claims your great-ness, O God, and my
2 You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -

spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift - ed the hum - ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through. *Fine (Last time)*
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might-y are you, O Ho - ly One, strong is your
Great and might-y are you, O Faith-ful One, strong is your

kind - ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the
jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom-ised to

weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart. st. 2
Sar - ah and A - bra-ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more. st. 3

Be seated

Offertory

Long Ago the Prophets Knew | Chimers Choir (3:30 pm, December 10)
Gesù Bambino | Jr. Bells Choir (3:30 pm, December 17)

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

Litany

1 Timothy 2:1-4



Response



God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

Leader



Response

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

Leader



Response

2 For peace and sal - va - tion, we pray to you:

Leader



Response

3 For peace be - tween na - tions, for peace be - tween peo - ples:
4 For us who are gath - ered to wor - ship and praise you:
5 For all of your ser - vants who live out your gos - pel:
6 For all those who gov - ern, that jus - tice might guide them:
7 For all those who la - bor in ser - vice to oth - ers:
8 Grant weath - er that nour - ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9 Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan - ger:
10 For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer - cy:

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

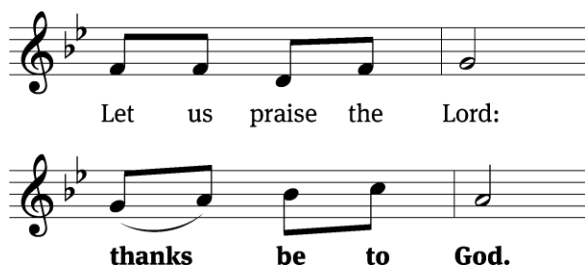
Closing Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, turn our hearts to you, and enter. Move us to repentance, change our hearts with your eternal Word, and dwell with us forever; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

Amen.

Let Us Praise the Lord *Benedicamus*

1 Corinthians 15:57



Blessing

2 Corinthians 13:14



Closing Hymn

O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort | 326