

Westwood Holden Evening Prayer – Virtual Wednesdays, at 6:30 PM

Opening Dialogue

Solo: Jesus Christ, You are the light of the world,

All: The light no darkness can overcome.

Solo: Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All: And the day is almost over.

Solo: Let Your light scatter the darkness,

All: And shine within Your people here.

Evening Hymn

“Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory”

Joyous light of heav’nly glory, loving glow of God’s own face,
You who sing creation’s story, shine on ev’ry land and race.
Now as evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to You.
God of daybreak, God of shadows, come and light our hearts anew.

In the stars that grace the darkness, in the blazing sun of dawn,
In the light of peace and wisdom, we can hear Your quiet song.
Love that fills the night with wonder, love that warms the weary soul,
Love that bursts all chains asunder, set us free and make us whole.

You who made the heaven’s splendor, ev’ry dancing star of night,
Make us shine with gentle justice, let us each reflect Your light.
Mighty God of all creation, gentle Christ who lights our way,
Loving Spirit of salvation lead us on to endless day.

Evening Thanksgiving

Solo: May God be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Solo: Let us sing our thanks to God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Solo: 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.

All: Amen. (sung)

Psalm 141 (sung by all)

Refrain:

**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.
O God, I call to you, come to me now;
O hear my voice when I cry to you.**

Refrain

**Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart may the light
of your love be burning bright.**

Refrain

**All praise to the God of all, Creator of life;
All praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.**

Refrain

Pastor: Let us pray.

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.**

Reading + Reflection

The Annunciation (based on Luke 1:26-28, 30-32, 38)

Solo: An angel went from God
to a town called Nazareth
to a woman whose name was Mary.
The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored,
for God is with you.
You shall bear a child,
and His name shall be Jesus,
the Chosen One of God Most High."
And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God,
I live to do Your will."

Magnificat (based on Luke 1:46-55) – sung by all

**My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in You.
You have looked with love on Your servant here,
And blessed me all my life through.**

**Great and mighty are You, O Holy One,
strong is Your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one,
humbling the proud of heart!**

**You have cast the mighty down from their thrones,
and uplifted the humble of heart.
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things,
and left the wealthy no part.**

**Great and mighty are You, O Faithful One,
strong is Your justice, strong Your love,
as You promised to Sarah and Abraham,
kindness forevermore.**

**My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God,
and my spirit rejoices in You.
You have looked with love on Your servant here,
And blessed me all my life through.**

Litany and Prayer

Congregation responds to each petition: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Final Petition – Solo: Help us, comfort us, all of our days.

All: Keep us, hold us, gracious God.

Closing Prayer

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

All: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

God, remember us in Your love, and teach us to pray:

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.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

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.

Final Blessing

Solo: Let us bless our God.

All: Praise and thanks to You.

Solo: May God, Creator, 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.

All: Amen.

Go in peace, remember the vulnerable.

All: Thanks be to God.