

Advent Prayer

Saint John Hattiesburg

December 5, 2018



We gather in silence.

When the Night Becomes Dark

When the night be - comes dark, your love, O Lord,

is a fire; your love, O Lord, is a fire.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "When the Night Becomes Dark". It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "When the night be - comes dark, your love, O Lord, is a fire; your love, O Lord, is a fire." The first system covers the first two lines of the score, and the second system covers the next two lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Thanksgiving for Light

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

L Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Psalmody

Psalm 141

C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice
when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;
let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.
 Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in
 the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.
 Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,
 the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

L Let us pray.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Scripture

Isaiah 9:1-7

¹ But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his

shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

L In many and various ways, God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

780 O Lord, Hear My Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
 When I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O
 Lord, hear my prayer; Come and lis - ten to me. O

Litany

L In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For Matt, Eric, Gary, and John, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For Donald our president, Phil our governor, and Toby our mayor, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who mourn, that they may be comforted in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection when Jesus returns in glory, in particular our nation and the family of President George H.W. Bush, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Alleluia.

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

C To You, O Lord.

Collect Prayers

L Most loving Father, whose will it is for us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our cares on you who care for us: Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which you have manifested to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

L Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

L Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?
2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;
3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.
4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!
And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast
My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new
A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.
And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.
That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.
In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.

Collect for Guidance in Our Calling, Benedicamus, and Benediction

G Lord 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.

L Let us bless the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

G Amen.

We greet one another in the peace of Christ.

 Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule 	
Sundays in Advent , 10:30am	December 2, 9, 16, 23
Wednesday Advent Prayer , 1:15pm	December 5, 12, 19
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services , 1:15pm and 6pm	Monday, December 24
The Christ Mass , Christmas Day Worship, 10:30am	Tuesday, December 25
Christmas Program , Date and Time TBA	

Surprise the World!

Love. Like. Jesus. + Hope for the City.



Saint John Lutheran Church

2001 Hardy Street
Hattiesburg MS 39401

Telephone: 601.583.4898

Website: www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com

Email: stjohnlutheranchurch@gmail.com

Like Us on Facebook: [USM Campus Mission](#)

Like Us on Facebook: [Oktoberfest Hattiesburg](#)

Like Us on Facebook: [Saint John Church Hattiesburg](#)

Like Us on Facebook: [Longleaf Heights Neighborhood Association](#)