

VESPERS



Vespers is a sunset evening prayer service in the liturgies of the canonical hours. The word comes from the Greek σπέρα (hespera) and the Latin vesper, meaning "evening". It is also referred to as evening prayer or evensong.

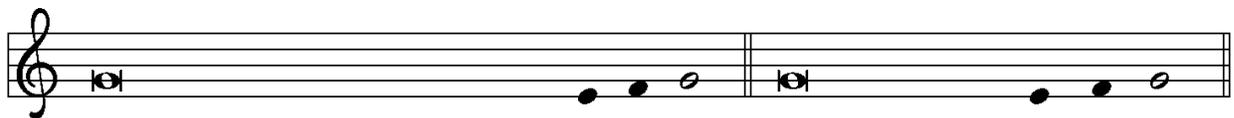
SERVICE OF LIGHT

DIALOGUE



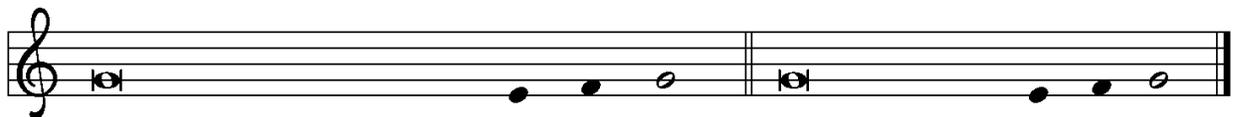
Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, alleluia, al - le - luia!



We are illumined by the brightness of his rising.

Alleluia, alleluia, al - le - luia!



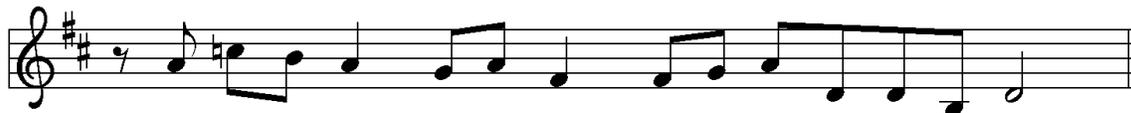
Death has no more dominion ov - er us.

Alleluia, alleluia, al - le - luia!

PSALMODY



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.



O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when



I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.



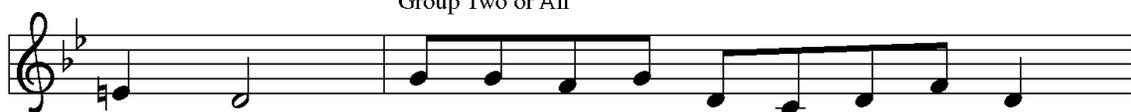
Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



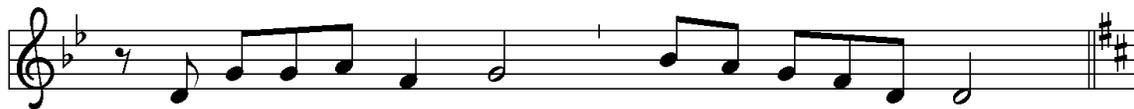
Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -



do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.



Glo-ry 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.

A time of silence is kept for meditation.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your loving kindness descend upon 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 and ever. **Amen**

An additional Psalm and Psalm Prayer is read

HYMN

O Light Whose Splendor Thrills

1 O Light whose splen - dor thrills and glad - dens
 2 As twi - light hov - ers near at sun - set,
 3 In all life's bril - liant, time - less mo - ments,

with ra - diancance bright - er than the sun,
 and lamps are lit, and chil - dren nod,
 let faith - ful voic - es sing your praise,

pure gleam of God's un - end - ing glo - ry,
 in eve - ning hymns we lift our voic - es
 O Son of God, our life - be - stow - er,

O Je - sus, blest A - noint - ed One:
 to Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, one God.
 whose glo - ry light - ens end - less days.

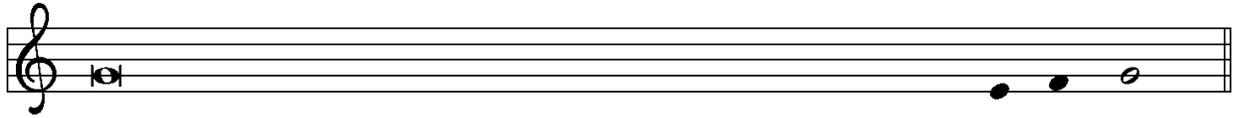
Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent.; para. Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
 Music: ST. CLEMENT, Clement C. Scholefield, 1839-1904
 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

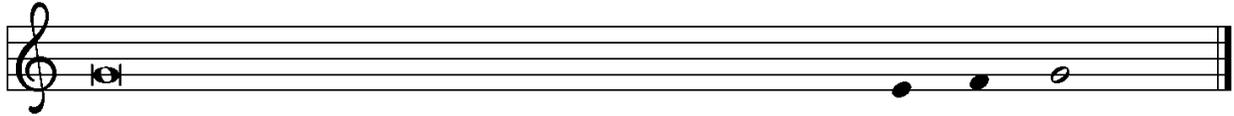
READING

A lesson is read. Silence for meditation follows each reading.

The leader then continues:



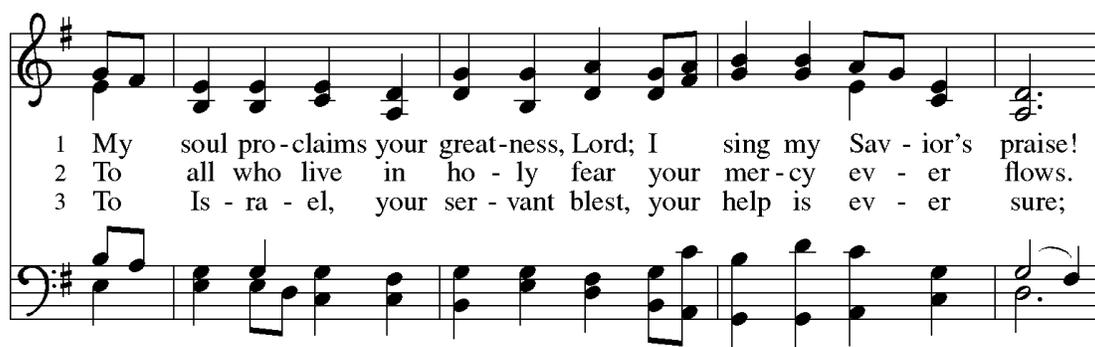
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,



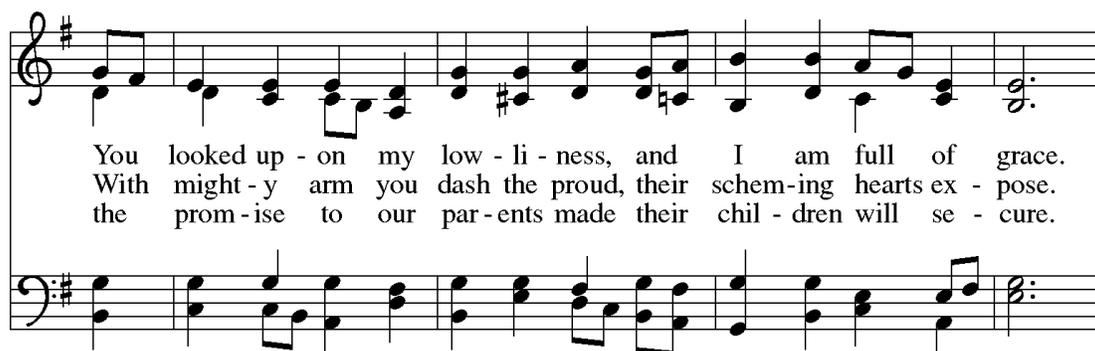
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

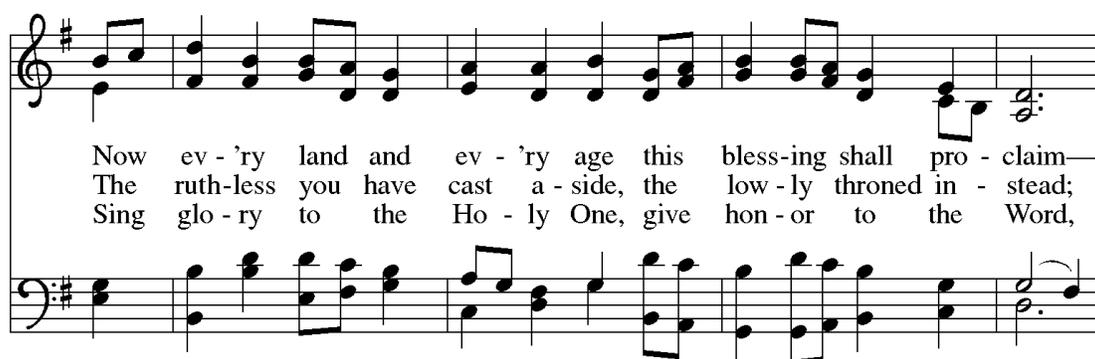
My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



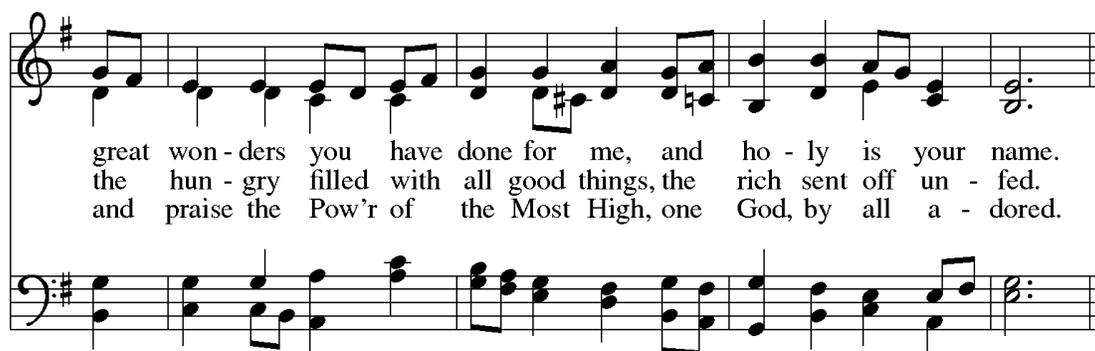
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

THE LITANY

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below it. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. The music is in 4/4 time and features a simple, hymn-like melody.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us | pray to the Lord.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us | pray to the Lord.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us | pray to the Lord.

For those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us | pray to the Lord.

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

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,

through Christ our Lord. To you, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major (one flat) with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below it. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. The music is in 4/4 time and features a simple, hymn-like melody.

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 LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **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 forever. Amen**

BENEDICTION

