Order of Worship + April 8, 2020

Prelude

* Lenten Vespers

A: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

C: The light no darkness can overcome.

A: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

C: and the day is almost over.

A: Let your light scatter the darkness,

C: and illumine your Church.

*HYMN: "Hymn of Light"



- 1. Light e-ter-nal, pure and bril-liant, shin-ing like stars,
- 2. Hap-py voi-ces praise you al-ways, Giv-er of Life.



Light of Fa-ther, Light of Je-sus, shine near and far, Wor-thy of our praise e-ter-nal, through good and strife,



Day is dy-ing, sun de-scend-ing, on your light our eyes are set-tling, Je-sus Son of God most hol-y, hear your child-ren's prayers so low-ly,



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit, our bright - est star. U - ni - ver - ses glo - ri - fy you, Giv - er of Life. A: The Lord be with you,

C: and also with you.

A: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

A: 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.

First Reading

Ephesians 6:10-17

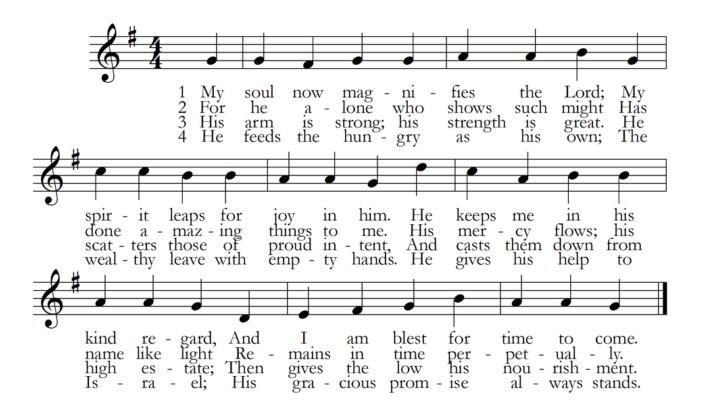
Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

A: 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.

*Gospel Canticle:

LBW 180 (tune @ LBW 278)



*Gospel Announcement

John 17:24-26

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

"Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

²⁵ "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

*Sermon Song

LBW #389



Sermon

Pastor Jerry Wittmus

Silence for Meditation

* Prayers of the Church

- P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
- P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: 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.
- P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For the Church, for pastors, teachers, evangelists, bishops, and for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For our 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.
- P: 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.
- P: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, 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.
- P: 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.
- P: For our deliverance from all affliction, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.

- P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

Silence for meditation.

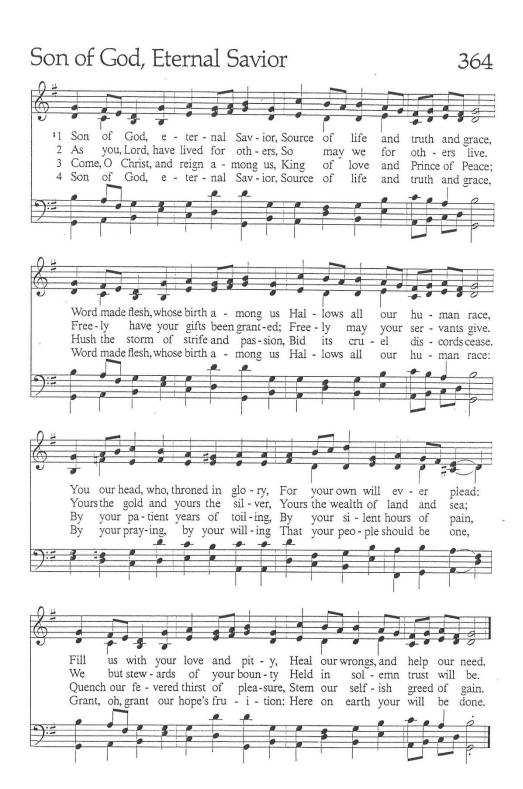
- P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.
- C: To you, O Lord.
- P: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, 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 the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.
- C: Amen

* Lord's Prayer

- P: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN LBW #364



*Blessing

- P: Let us bless the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.
- P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C: Amen.