

# Midweek Advent



Jesus, your Church  
with longing eyes  
for your expected  
coming waits.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Tucson, AZ

December 6, 2017

# With Longing Eyes

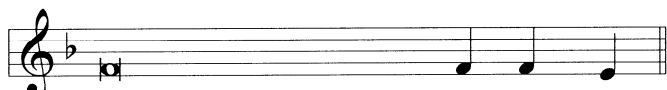
## WELCOME

*Please stand*

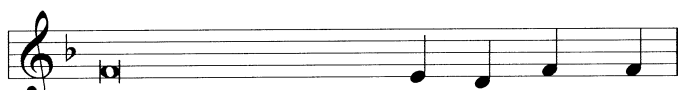
M: Minister C: Congregation



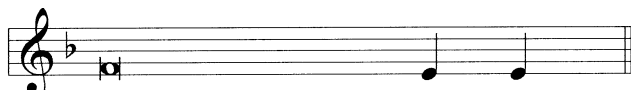
M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



C: the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C: and the day is almost o - ver.



M: Be our light and scat - ter the dark - ness,



C: and hear our evening hymn of praise.



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, In you the  
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth; The lamps are  
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of



Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly, blest is he,  
lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it: God  
God, life - giv - ing Lord; Where - fore you are through all the earth



And blest are you, his on - ly Son.  
Who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.  
And in the high - est heav'n a - dored.

M: Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*Please be seated*

### LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU *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.



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.

M: Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

### HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come  
*Christian Worship #2*

### PSALM 72

M: Endow the King with your justice O God,

C: the royal Son with your righteousness.

M: He will defend the afflicted among the people

C: and save the children of the needy.

M: He will endure as long as the sun,

C: as long as the moon, through all generations.

M: He will be like rain falling on a mown field,

C: like showers watering the earth.

M: All kings will bow down to him,  
C: and all nations will serve him.

M: All nations will be blessed through him,  
C: and they will call him blessed.

M: Praise be to the LORD God, who alone does marvelous deeds.  
C: May the whole earth be filled with his glory.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## PSALM PRAYER

M: Almighty God, we praise you for the gracious rule of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let his kingdom come to us and to all people so that the whole earth may know his saving help and be filled with his glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:1-25 (NIV 2011)

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. He will be a joy and

delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years." The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time." Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak. When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. "The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people."

## SERMON

Isaiah 7:10-17 (NIV 2011)

## With Longing Eyes We Welcome Your Christmas Coming

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him

Immanuel. He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah—he will bring the king of Assyria.”

*Please remain seated after the sermon*

## SONG OF MARY (The Song of Mary continues on page 5)

Magnificat



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-joic-es in God my Sav-ior,



for he has looked with fa-vor on his low-ly ser-vant.



From this day all gen-er-a-tions will call me bless-ed.



The Al-might-y has done great things for me, and ho-ly is his name.



He has mer-cy on those who fear him in ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the proud in their con-keit.

He has cast down the might - y from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.

He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way emp - ty.

He has come to the help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el,

for he has re - mem - bered his prom - ise of mer - cy,

the prom - ise made to our fa - thers, to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

## OFFERING

*Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.*

*Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass along. Thank You!*



*If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.*

*Please stand*

## LORD, HAVE MERCY Kyrie

M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:

C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

C: Thanks be to God.

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

C: Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

## PRAYER FOR PEACE

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## SONG OF SIMEON

*Nunc Dimittis*



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word.



For my eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## BLESSING



M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C: A - men.

*Please be seated*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CLOSING HYMN

**Come, O Long-Expected Jesus**  
*Christian Worship #6*

## THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS EVENING

Worship Leader ..... Pastor Ryan Heiman  
Accompanist..... Elaine Goldie  
Acolyte ..... Naomi Kassulke  
Sound & Recording Tech..... Jeremy Snavelly

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- Let My Prayers Rise Before You: Music by David Schack. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

## Grace-Tucson Holiday Worship Schedule

Please join us for our next two Midweek Advent Services on Wednesdays, December 13 & 20 at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM (Advent Supper at 6:00 PM).

The Children's Christmas Service is on Sunday, December 10 at 4:00 PM.

Christmas Eve Worship is on Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 PM and Christmas Day Worship is on Monday, December 25 at 10:00 AM. Our New Year's Eve Worship Service is Sunday, December 31 at 7:00 PM. We hope you will join us!

**Grace-Tucson**

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