



THE
Table

Winter 2023-2024

Sunday Evening Communion Service
Epiphany Vespers

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.
Let your light scatter the darkness
and illumine your church.

HYMN OF LIGHT

Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory (see screen)

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God,
**for in the beginning you called light into being,
and you set light in the sky to govern night and day.
In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by
night you led your people into freedom.
Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ:
may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to**

our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

PSALMODY

Bold – ALL

Regular – Group 1

Italics – Group 2

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to you.

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

*Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.*

Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

*But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
in you I take refuge.
Strip me not of my life.*

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense;
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**Glory 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.**

**READINGS— *each reading concludes with the
following response***

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

SERMON

EVENING HYMN – (see screen)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

A time of silence follows.

Let us pray:

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always

And also with you

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

**Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
Meet us at this table,
that we receive what we seek
and follow your Son, Jesus,
in whose name we pray.**

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise

PROPER PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... ..we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY –

***Holy, Holy, Holy* v. 4 (see screen)**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION– On the night in which he was betrayed...

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION— At Jesus' table,
heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see!

LAMB OF GOD— (see screen)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace, † now and forever.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
† bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – (see screen)