



“Advent-ually: Zechariah’s Wait”

**Advent One: Wednesday, December 1, 2021
5:30 pm**

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER ~ Marty Haugen

Welcome and Announcements

Service of Light — Procession *(Sung)*

L: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All: the light no darkness can overcome;

L: Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All: and the day is almost over.

L: Let your light scatter the darkness,

All: and shine within your people here.

Service of Light — Evening Hymn *(Sung)*

¹ Joyous light of heav’nly glory, Loving glow of God’s own face,
You who sing creation’s story, Shine on ev’ry land and race.
Now as evening falls around us, We shall raise our songs to you,
God of daybreak, God of shadows, Come and light our hearts anew.

² In the stars that grace the darkness, In the blazing sun of dawn,
In the light of peace and wisdom, We can hear your quiet song.
Love that fills the night with wonder, Love that warms the weary soul,
Love that bursts all chains asunder, Set us free and make us whole.

³ You who made the heaven’s splendor, Ev’ry dancing star of night,
Make us shine with gentle justice, Let us each reflect your light.
Mighty God of all creation, Gentle Christ who lights our way,
Loving Spirit of salvation, Lead us on to endless day.

Service of Light — Evening Thanksgiving *(Sung)*

L: May God be with you all,

All: and also with you;

L: Let us sing our thanks to God,

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

L: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe - from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

All: Amen.

Psalmody, Readings and Canticles — Psalm 141 *(Sung)*

All: Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

Group 1:

O God, I call to you, come to me now;
O hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart
may the light of your love be burning bright.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

All praise to the God of all – Creator of life;
All praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

Group 2 (begins a phrase behind Group 1):

O God, I call to you, come to me now;
O hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart
may the light of your love be burning bright.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

All praise to the God of all – Creator of life;
All praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.

Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.

(Spoken)

L: May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

All: Amen.

The Annunciation — Luke 1:26-28, 30-32, 38 *(Sung)*

L: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

The Magnificat — Luke 1:46-55 *(Sung)*

¹ My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you,
You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart.

² You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and up lifted the humble of heart,
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.
Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice strong your love,
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.

³ My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you,
You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.

Litany and Prayers (*Hum while Leader prays, then respond.*)

All: Hmmm. God of mercy, hold us in love.

Repeat until Leader sings:

L: Help us, comfort us, all of our days:

All: Keep us, hold us, gracious God.

Video/The Lesson:

Luke 1:5-25

⁵In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. ⁸Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." ¹⁹The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur." ²¹Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. ²²When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. ²³When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. ²⁴After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, ²⁵This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.

Meditation

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Pastor Karna Moskalik

Offering

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(Spoken)

L: Great and merciful god, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

L: God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Final Blessing (*Sung*)

L: Let us bless our God:

All: praise and thanks to you.

L: May God, Creator bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever light for our lives, may the Spirit of Love be our guide and path, for all of our days.

All: Amen.