

A GUIDE FOR ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS

7:00 P.M.

9 December 2009

To Our Guests and Visitors

The members of Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church are glad to have you join with us as we gather around the proclaimed Word of our Lord Jesus Christ. Here it is that we find our source of forgiveness and life before God. It is our prayer that you also may rejoice in the precious message of the Gospel of our Lord: "But God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved!" [Ephesians 2.4-5]. **Please introduce yourself by name to our pastors as you leave today. Thank you!**

[We rise] **Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution** p. 185

THE OFFICE OF VESPERS

Opening Hymn "Once He Came in Blessing" #333

The Opening Sentences p. 229

The Psalmody



Psalm 141

Antiphon of the Day: Lord, I / cry unto / Thee: * Oh, / make haste / unto / me. Give ear / unto my / voice, * when / I cry / unto / Thee. (Ps. 141.10)

Let my prayer be set forth before / Thee as / incense; * and the lifting up of my hands as the / evening / sacri- / fice. Set a watch, O Lord, be- / fore my / mouth; * keep the / door_ / of my / lips.

Incline / not my / heart * to / any / evil / thing, To practice / wicked / works * with / men that/ work in- / iquity.

Our bones are scattered / at the grave's / mouth * as when one cutteth and cleaveth / wood up- / on the / earth. But mine eyes are upon Thee, O / God the / Lord: * In Thee is my trust; / leave not / my soul / destitute.(Ps. 141.2-4, 7-8)

Glory be to the Father and / to the / Son * and / to the / Holy / Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be, * world / without/ end. A- / men.

Lord, I / cry unto / Thee: * Oh, / make haste / unto / me. Give ear / unto my / voice, * when / I cry / unto / Thee.

[Brief Silent Meditation]

[Hymn Paraphrase]

Psalm 103 **My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker** #820

[Brief Silent Meditation]

Psalm 143.2-3, 10, 15

Antiphon: Lord, / what is / man, * that Thou / takest / knowledge of / him! Or the / son of / man, * that Thou / makest ac- / count of / him!

Blessed be the Lord, my strength, Who teacheth my hands to war, and my / fingers to / fight: * My goodness, and my fortress; My high / tower, and / my de- / liver-er; My shield, and He in / whom I / trust; * who subdueth my / people / under / me.

Lord, / what is / man, * that Thou / takest / knowledge of / him! Or the / son of / man, * that Thou / makest ac- / count of / him!

O Thou who giveth salvation / unto / kings: * Who delivereth David His servant / from the / hurtful / sword! Happy is that people that is in / such a / case: * Yea, happy is that people, / whose God / is the / Lord.

Glory be to the Father and / to the / Son * and / to the / Holy / Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be, * world / without/ end. A- / men.

Lord, / what is / man, * that Thou / takest / knowledge of / him! Or the / son of / man, * that Thou / makest ac- / count of / him!

[Brief Silent Meditation]

[We sit]

Chief Hymn "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" #514

The Readings from Holy Scripture p. 230

Isaiah 55.6-13 1 Corinthians 2.1-10 Romans 12.14-21

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

The Common Responsory for Advent p. 230

Sermon

"The Struggle for Peace with Your Neighbor"
Advent Midweek Series: "Preparing for Peace on Earth"

The offering is received

God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] **The Canticle** (Hymn Paraphrase of The *Benedictus*) #936

The Prayers

The Kyrie, The Our Father

The Collects

For the 2nd Week of Advent

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Thine only-begotten Son, so that by His coming we may be enabled to serve Thee with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen!**

For the Season of Advent

O God, who dost gladden us with the yearly anticipation of our redemption, grant that we who now joyfully receive Thine only-begotten Son as our Redeemer may also behold Him without fear when He cometh as our Judge; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen!**

The Collect For Peace:

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed, give unto Thy servants that peace that the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that we, being defended by Thee from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen!**

The Benedicamus, The Benediction

Final Hymn "The Day Thou Gavest" #886

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#886