

January 1, 2026



St. Columba's Evensong

Candlelight

Evening Prayer Circle

Céad Mìle Fàilte!
Welcome!

You are invited to light a candle
and please join in on the songs.
Please remain muted except
when you are reading or
voicing a prayer.



Amber:

*Create a pure heart within me; let my soul wake up in your light.
Open me to your presence; flood me with your holy spirit.
Then I will stand and sing out the power of your forgiveness,
I will teach your love to the ignorant; the lost will find their way home.
Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. **Amen.***

Psalm 51, Stephen Mitchell, A Book of Psalms

Ann: The Holy One is in our midst.

(All) O come, let us worship.

Ann: Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

Psalm 70:1, 4

(All) O God, make haste to help me!

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you!

May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

Let our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting
up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. *Psalm 141:2*

(All) *O Gracious Light ~ Phos hilaron*

1. O gra - cious Light, pure bright-ness of the ev - er - liv - ing
Fa - ther in heaven, O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and
bless - ed! 2. Now as we come to the set - ting of the
sun, and our eyes be - hold the ves - per light, we sing your
prais - es, O God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff introduces a second verse, marked with a '2.'. The fourth staff continues the melody and lyrics. The fifth staff concludes the piece with the words 'prais - es, O God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.'.

Music setting: McNeil Robinson II, The Hymnal 1982

(All) *A Child Is Born in Bethlehem*



1 A child is born in Beth - le - hem, Al - le - lu - ia! there-
2 The babe with - in a man - ger poor, Al - le - lu - ia! will
3 Up - on this joy - ful ho - ly night, Al - le - lu - ia! we
4 We praise you, Ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Al - le - lu - ia! a -



fore re - joice Je - ru - sa - lem, Al - le - lu -
rule the world for ev - er - more, Al - le - lu -
bless your Name, O Lord of Light, Al - le - lu -
dor - ing you e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu -



ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ia, al - le - lu - ia! Come, join the an - gel throng in songs of
ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ia, al - le - lu - ia!



joy, in one ac - cord a - dor - ing Christ the Lord.

Words: Latin, 14th C., tr. Ruth Fox Humes (1922-1980), Music: *Puer natus in Bethlehem*, 14th C.



Pause in silent examen:

- 1 Give thanks. Spend a few moments in gratitude for the gifts and blessings of the day.
- 2 Ask for light. ...
- 3 Examine the day. ...
- 4 Seek forgiveness. ...
- 5 Resolve to change.

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola

John: LORD God, we thank you for showing us your mercy today;
may that mercy extend to all those whom you entrust to our prayer;
and may it bring your peace to all people,
through Jesus Christ, our LORD. **Amen.**

John: LORD Jesus, support the sick, the dying,
and all for whom this coming night will be a trial.
Lead us with all our brothers and sisters
from darkness into your own wonderful light,
which shines for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Celtic Primer

Katherine: Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Meg: Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Bev: Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Amber: Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Katherine: Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes

But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Meg: Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Bev: Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

John: Ring in a valiant humankind and free,
with larger hearts and kindlier hands;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be. **Amen.**

In Memoriam (Ring out, wild bells), Alfred, Lord Tennyson - 1809-1892



Pause in silence.

(All) Jesus, Light of Joy

David Gambrell/Picardy



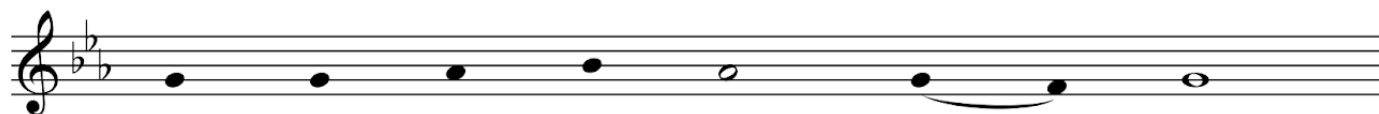
1. Je - sus, light of joy, sur - - round us,
2. When the shad - ows fall a - - round us,
3. With the saints we lift our _____ voic - es,



let your splen - did glo - - ry _____ shine:
when the dark - ness has be - - gun,
God of pow - er, God of _____ might.



source of ev - 'ry earth - ly _____ bless - ing,
still your gra - cious light is _____ with us,
All cre - a - tion shines with _____ glo - ry,



Heav - en's ev - er - last - - ing _____ sign.
bright - er than the morn - ing _____ sun.
sing - ing prais - es day and _____ night.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - - le - lu - - - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - - le - lu - - - ia,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - - le - lu - - - ia,



we a - dore you, light di - - vine
God of glo - ry, Three - in - - One.
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - - ly _____ Light.

Meg: Show us your mercy, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who revere him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Bev: Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

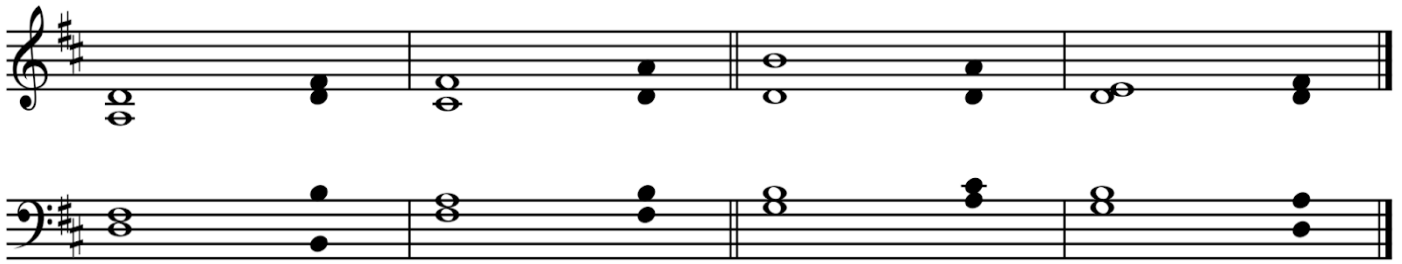
Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet. **Amen.**

Psalm 85

(All) PSALM 19 *Caeli enarrant*



- 1 The heavens declare the glory of /God, *
and the firmament shows his /handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to an/other, *
and one night imparts knowledge to an/other.
- 3 Although they have no words or /language, *
and their voices are not /heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all /lands, *
and their message to the ends of the /world.



- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the /sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; —
it rejoices like a champion to run its /course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens, —
and runs about to the end of it a/gain; *
nothing is hidden from its burning /heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the /soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure, —
and gives wisdom to the /innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just, and rejoice the /heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear, and gives light to the /eyes.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine /gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the /comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant en/lightened, *
and in keeping them there is great re/ward.

Second half:

- 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, —
be acceptable in your /sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my re/deemer.

Chant tone: Robert Knox Kennedy

(All)

Oculi Nostri / Our Eyes Are Turned

O - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num Je - sum,
Our eyes are turned to the Lord Je - sus Christ.

o - cu - li nos - tri ad Do - mi - num nos - trum.
Our eyes are turned to the Lord God, our Sav - ior.

Text: Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Bill: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.*
(2:22-40)

(All) *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

Bill: When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Meredith: Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

Bill: And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Meredith: There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Bill: When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

May the words of the Gospel be made flesh in us.

(All) Praise to you, Lord Christ.



*Silent contemplative prayer ~ 9 minutes
in memory of George Floyd,
and all who cry out for mercy, truth, justice, and peace;
for light and healing in our lives and for the earth.
Let us pray for our nation and for the nations of the world:
for wisdom and peace among all people,
for cooperation, understanding, compassion;
for an end to hatred, war, and genocide.*



Ann: Let us share our own prayers and thanksgivings,
and pray for the needs of the world.

All are invited to voice your own prayers (unmuted).

Our response: “O Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.”

Amber (All): Eternal Spirit,

Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God in whom is heaven:

May the hallowing of your name echo throughout the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by all the people of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

May your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the harm we cause one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and stress, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love,

now and forever. **Amén.**

New Zealand Lord's Prayer, Jim Cotter

(All) *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

O, Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:

The first system of music is in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a half note B-flat, followed by a half note D, then a half note E, and a half note F. The accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a half note B-flat, followed by a half note D, then a half note E, and a half note F. The lyrics are: "O, Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:".

when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O

The second system of music continues the melody. The vocal line (treble clef) has a half note G, a half note A, a half note B-flat, and a half note C. The accompaniment (bass clef) has a half note B-flat, a half note D, a half note E, and a half note F. The lyrics are: "when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O".

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

The third system of music concludes the piece. The vocal line (treble clef) has a half note D, a half note E, a half note F, and a half note G. The accompaniment (bass clef) has a half note B-flat, a half note D, a half note E, and a half note F. The lyrics are: "Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me."

Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community

Katherine: You are generous to me, dear LORD;
you have taught my soul to trust you,
I have crept beside you and found shelter
in the shadow of your wings.
My great joy, LORD, is to praise you;
I will sing and awaken the dawn.
Wake up, my soul, wake up,
music in the depths of my heart.
I will praise you, LORD, to all people
and inspire them with my joy.
For your light is higher than the heavens,
deeper than the mind can plunge.
You are truth itself, and your grandeur
is spread over all the earth. ***Amen.***

Psalm 57, A Book of Psalms, Stephen Mitchell

(All) *Let me Hear Your Loving Kindness*

Twice first time:



Let me hear your lov -ing kind -ness in the morn -ing,



let me feel your lov -ing kind -ness in the night.



Let me know your lov -ing kind -ness every hour,—



let it flow from me in -to the world.

Twice last time:



For I trust in you; show me the road that I must walk.



For I trust in you; I lift up my soul to you.

Psalm 143:8, setting by Ann McChesney-Young

Meg: May we do the will of God, sharing in the death of Christ,

(All) and rise in the light of heaven.

Katherine: May we rest safely this night, sleep in perfect peace,

(All) and rise with the morning light.

Meredith: May the Father watch over our beds, Christ fill our dreams,

(All) and the angels guard our souls.

Bill: May the peace of the Spirit be mine this night,

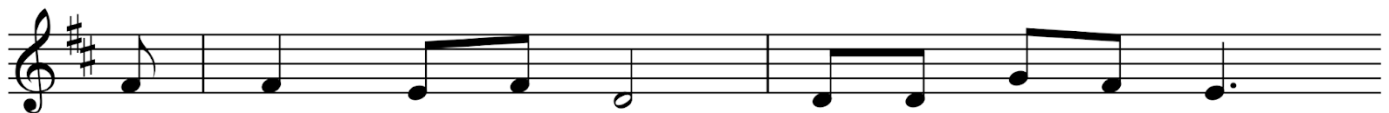
the peace of the Son be mine this night

and the peace of the Father be mine this night;

(All) each morning and evening of my life. **Amen.**

Gaelic Prayer

(All) *O God, Keep Me Safe*



O God, keep me safe, for I trust in you.



The path - way to life you teach me.



With you is peace and joy in all full - ness.

Taizé Community

Bev: Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. **Amen.**

Jude 1:24-25

Amber: O Lord, support us all the day long,
until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then, in your great mercy, grant us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

Cardinal John Henry Newman

(All) Nunc Dimittis

Suzanne Toolan

Now in peace, O God, let your ser - vant go.

Al - - le - - lu - - ia, Al - - le - - lu - - ia!

For my eyes have seen your sal - va - - tion;

Al - - le - - lu - - ia, Al - le - lu - - ia!

(All) Dismissal ~

*And now, may God's deep blessing abide upon us,
as we go forth in the peace of Christ,
carrying Christ's light, love, and hope into the world.*

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!



Thank you for coming together in prayer tonight!

*We will meet again next month on Thursday, **February 5, 2026.***

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