

## **SONGS OF THE SEASON**



**HOPE ✦ PEACE ✦ JOY**

**Midweek Advent 2018**

# PRAYER AT THE CLOSE OF DAY

## *Compline: Setting II*

*Remain seated*

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| <b>L: Leader</b><br><b>G: Group</b> |
|-------------------------------------|

### **COME, CHILD OF LIGHT**

- *The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing this song.*
- *Hope (week 1), Peace (week 2), Joy (week 3)*
- *The Advent candles are lit.*

### **NARRATION**

#### **Week 1 — HOPE**

The promises of God are promises of hope: “For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” *(Jeremiah 29:11)*

*Continued...*

O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek,  
To those who fall, how kind Thou art! How good to those who seek!

*(Attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux, 12th c.; translated by Edward Caswall, 1849)*

#### **Week 2 — PEACE**

The prophets promised that the coming Messiah would bring the presence and peace of God: “His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end.” *(Isaiah 9:6b-7a)*

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

*(12th c. Latin hymn; translated by John M. Neale, 1851)*

#### **Week 3 — JOY**

The Messiah's coming was punctuated by joy: "The angel said to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:9b-12)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King!

*(Isaac Watts, 1719, paraphrased from Psalm 98)*



## CONFESSION OF SINS

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

G: **Who made heaven and earth.**

L: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for self-examination*

L: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed  
by my fault,  
by my own fault,  
by my own grievous fault;  
wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,  
forgive me all my sins,  
and bring me to everlasting life.

G: **The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.**

L: Amen.

G: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed  
by my fault,  
by my own fault,  
by my own grievous fault;  
wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,  
forgive me all my sins,  
and bring me to everlasting life.**

L: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

G: **Amen.**

## PSALM 91

### *Refrain*

He who dwells in the shelter of the / Most High  
will rest in the shadow of the Al- / mighty.

I will say / of the LORD,

“He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in / whom I trust.”

Surely he will save you from the / fowler’s snare  
and from the deadly / pestilence.

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you  
will find / refuge;

his faithfulness will be your shield and / rampart.

### *Refrain*

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that / flies by day,  
nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that  
destroys at / midday.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at / your right hand,  
but it will not come / near you.

### *Refrain*

If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the LORD, who is my / ref-  
uge—

then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come / near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard  
you in / all your ways;

they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike  
your foot a- / gainst a stone.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

*Refrain*

*Silence for meditation*

**L:** Lord God, our refuge and fortress, your faithfulness has protected us through this day. Now send your holy angels to guard us from danger through this night. Give us peaceful rest, free from fear, that we may wake refreshed to serve you, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**G: Amen.**

## LESSON

### **Week 1 – HOPE – Titus 2:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup>It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

### **Week 2 – PEACE – Isaiah 40:1-2**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.

### **Week 3 – JOY – Psalm 24**

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; <sup>2</sup>for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters. <sup>3</sup>Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? <sup>4</sup>The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. <sup>5</sup>They will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God their Savior. <sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, God of Jacob. <sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. <sup>8</sup>Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. <sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. <sup>10</sup>Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty — he is the King of glory.

*The following response is sung or said.*

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

## PRAYER

## HYMN

Week 1 — HOPE #9 Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes

Week 2 — PEACE #11 Comfort, Comfort All My People

Week 3 — JOY #3 Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

*The following prayers are sung or said.*

### Week 1 — HOPE

L: Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may rest in your eternal changelessness,

### Week 2 — PEACE

L: O Lord, support us all day long, till 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 mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last,

### Week 3 — JOY

L: Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illuminate this night with your celestial brightness, that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy name,

*Each prayer concludes:*

**L:** through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**GOSPEL CANTICLE**



**IN PEACE AND JOY I NOW DEPART**

*Song of Simeon*

## **BLESSING**

**L:** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit,  
bless us and keep us.

**G: Amen.**

*Please return this worship folder to an usher  
so that it can be reused. Thank you!*

---

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Scripture is taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NIV. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Prayer at the Close of Day Setting II from *Christian Worship: New Service Settings* (also *CW: Occasional Services*). Music by Dale Witte. © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-720004. Text for “Confession of Sins” reprinted from *Lutheran Book of Worship, Ministers Desk Edition* © 1978 by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Come, Child of Light. Words and music by Lloyd Larson. © 1999 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. All rights reserved.

In Peace and Joy I Now Depart. Tune and setting © 2014 Ian M. Welch. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.



Pastor Benjamin Zamzow  
2220 Anne St NW, Bemidji, MN 56601  
(218) 444-3939  
[www.stmarksbemidji.org](http://www.stmarksbemidji.org)