

ASH WEDNESDAY

Old South Church in Boston
March 5, 2025 ❖ 6 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer
adapted for use on Ash Wednesday.
Setting by Marty Haugen.
See insert for musical settings

SERVICE OF LIGHT

*PROCESSION

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world;

All: the light no darkness can overcome.

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

All: and the day is almost over.

Leader: Let your light scatter the darkness,

All: and shine within your people here.

*EVENING HYMN

*EVENING THANKSGIVING

Leader: May God be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us sing our thanks to God.

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

Leader: 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. Please be seated.

SCRIPTURE

ANTHEM

PSALM 51

O faithful God, have mercy on your servant here;
in your love, remember not my sins.
In the waters of your grace, wash me clean of all disgrace;
raise me up to life from death and fear.

I know my deeds, I know my faults and failings well;
I have sinned and broken faith with you.
For the wrong that I have done, my transgressions, every one,
God your judgment would be just and true.

You long for truth, for wisdom dwelling deep within;
teach my heart to long for wisdom, too:
wash me clean and give me voice, so these bones you crushed rejoice;
turn my heart from sin to life in you.

Create in me a clean and righteous heart, O God,
put a willing spirit in my soul.
Let me sing with joy anew the salvation found in you,
singing praise to you who made me whole.

Silence for meditation.

SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 3:16-22

David Story

Reader: The light shines in the darkness—

All: but the darkness shall not overcome it.

HOMILY

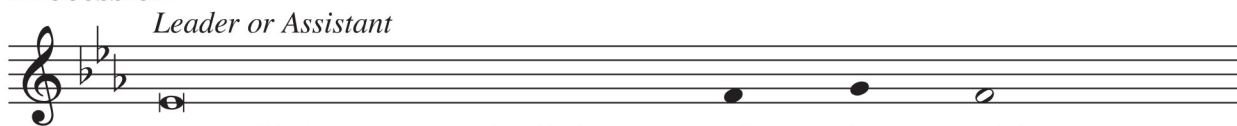
Here Under The Sun

Gracie Paterson

1. SERVICE OF LIGHT

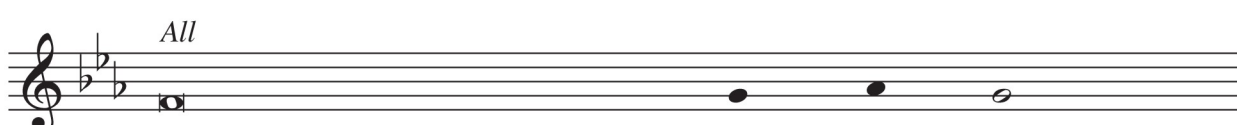
Procession

Leader or Assistant



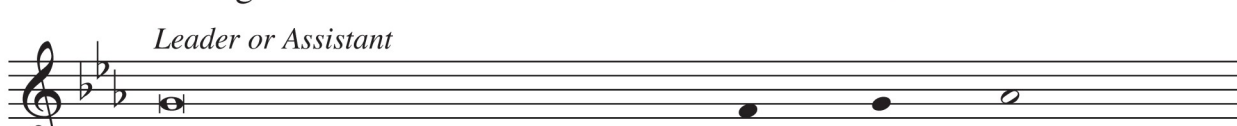
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All




the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Leader or Assistant



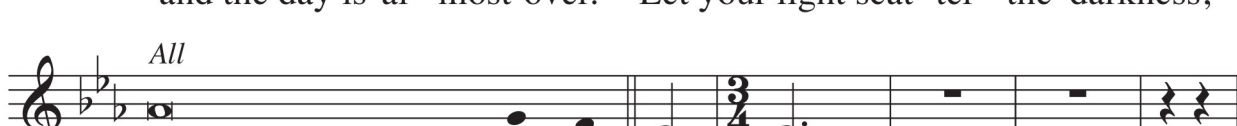
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All



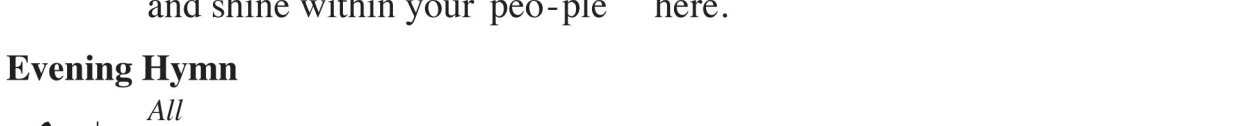
and the day is al - most over.

Leader or Assistant



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All




and shine within your peo - ple here.

Evening Hymn

All



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



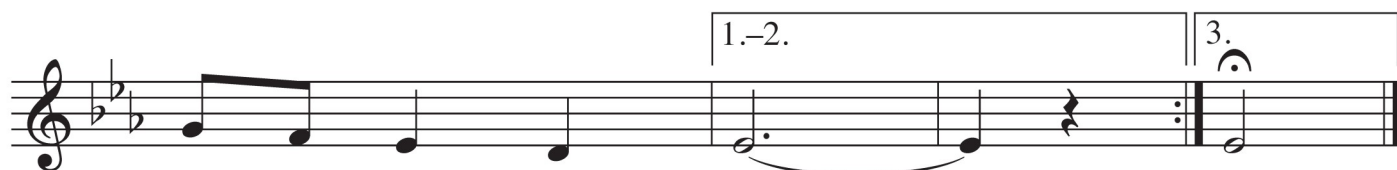
sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new.
free and make us whole.
on to end - less day.

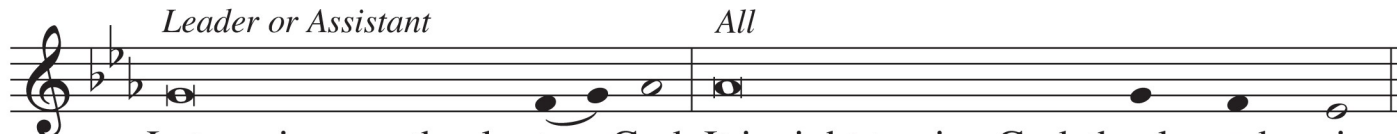
Evening Thanksgiving



Leader or Assistant

All

May God be with you all. And al - so with you.



Leader or Assistant

All

Let us sing our thanks to God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader 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.



A

men.

3. LITANY AND PRAYERS

Intercessions

All
[A] *repeat continuously* [B]

Hm. God of mer-cy, hold us in love.

[A] *Leader or Assistant* [B]

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:
2. For peace and sal - va - tion, we pray to you:
3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo - ples:
4. For us, who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos - pel:
6. For all those who gov - ern, that jus - tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la - bor in ser-vice to oth - ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan - ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer - cy:

[A] *Leader or Assistant*

Help us, com-fort us, all of our days:

All

Keep us, hold us, gra - cious God.

Closing Prayers

Leader 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.

Leader 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

Leader or Assistant *All*

Let us bless our God: Praise and thanks to you.

Leader or Assistant

May God, Cre - a - tor, bless us and keep us, may

Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the Spir - it of Love be our

guide and path for all of our days. *All* A - men.

ANTHEM

PSALM 141

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

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

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

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

Pastor: 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.**

LITANY AND PRAYERS *see insert*

Refrain: God of mercy, hold us in love.

Please join in the sung refrain after each verse

Leader:

- ❖ In peace, and longing for peace, we pray to you: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For peace and salvation, we pray to you: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For peace between nations, peace between peoples: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For we who are gathered to worship and praise you: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For all of your servants who live out your gospel: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For all those who govern that justice might guide them: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For all those who labor in service to others: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ Grant weather that nourishes all of creation: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger: **God of mercy...**
- ❖ For all the beloved who rest in your mercy: **God of mercy...**

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

All: **Keep us, hold us, gracious God.**

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Pastor: 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 you Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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

All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION *see insert*

Let us bless our God:

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.

Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

John Edgerton

We invite you to come forward and receive a cross of ashes on your forehead or on your hand.

In doing so, you will be marked with a reminder of mortality traditionally rendered

“Remember, O mortal, that you are dust and to dust you shall return.”

After receiving ashes, either light a candle for a prayer, return to your seat for silent meditation, or depart the chapel in silence.

An offering will be received as you depart the chapel.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday—April 13th, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Maundy Thursday—Service of Tenebrae, April 17th, 7 p.m.

Good Friday—April 18th, 12 p.m., and 7 p.m.

Easter & Marathon Sunday Festival Worship—April 20th, 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., & 1 p.m.