

**Ascension Day**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2020**  
**Holden Evening Prayer**

Prelude *Magnificat*

Marty Haugen

Versicles

Solo Jesus Christ, You are the light of the world,

All **The light no darkness can overcome.**

Solo Stay with us now, for it is evening.

All **And the day is almost over.**

Solo Let your light scatter the darkness,

All **And shine within your people here.**

**Evening Hymn “Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory” (Tune: Joyous Light)**

Joyous light of heav’nly glory, loving glow of God’s own face,  
You 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.

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.

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.

**Evening Thanksgiving**

Solo May God be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Solo Let us sing our thanks to God.

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

Solo 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.**

### **Psalm 141**

#### **Refrain:**

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

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

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

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

#### **Silence for Meditation**

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. Amen.

#### **Reading: Acts 1:1-11**

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ...

The light shines in the darkness.

**And the darkness has not overcome it.**

#### **The Annunciation: Luke 1:26-28, 30-32, 38**

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."

### **Magnificat: Luke 1:46-55**

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! You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted 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.

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 Prayer (Congregation responds to the sung petition "God of mercy, hold us in love")**

All            **Help us, comfort us, all of our days.**  
Solo          Keep us, hold us, gracious God.

### **Collect of the Day**

O, Lord God, You led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of your church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **Closing Prayer**

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. Amen.

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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## **Final Blessing**

Solo        Let us bless our God.  
All         Praise and thanks to You.  
Solo        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.**