

# **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*A North American Lutheran Church Congregation*

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[gracelutheranwc.org](http://gracelutheranwc.org)

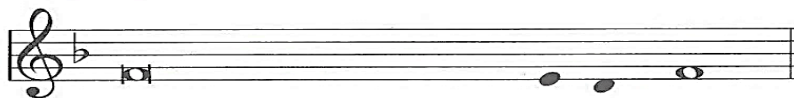


## **Vespers Service**

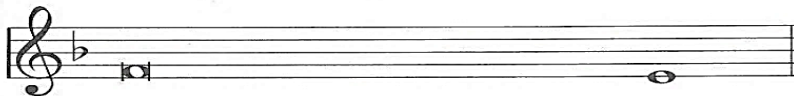
March 11, 2020

*Stand*

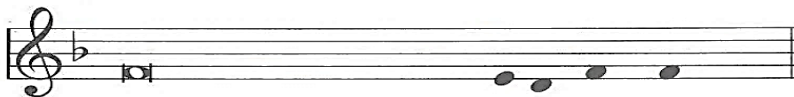
## SERVICE OF LIGHT: C – CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



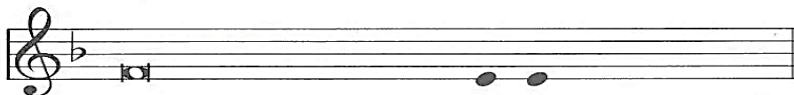
**L** Je-sus Christ is the Light of the world,



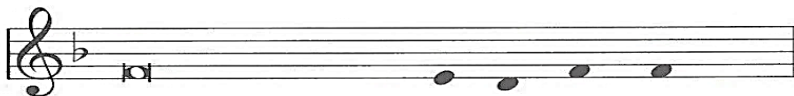
**C** the light no darkness can over-come.



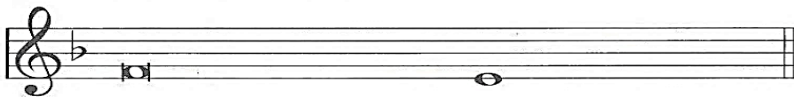
**L** Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning,



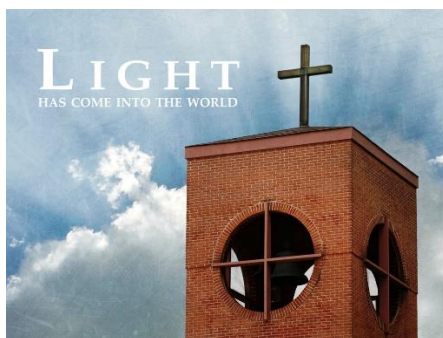
**C** and the day is almost o-ver.



**L** Let your light scat-ter the dark-ness,

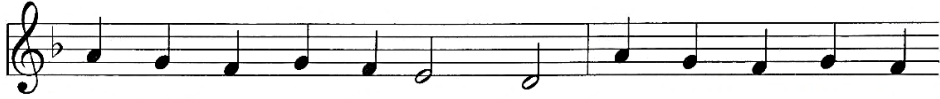


**C** and illumine your Church.

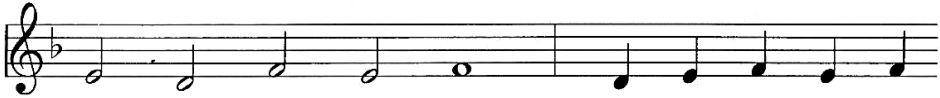




Joy-ous light of glo - ry:



of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



The u - ni - verse pro - claims your glo - ry.

## THANKSGIVING



**L** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.



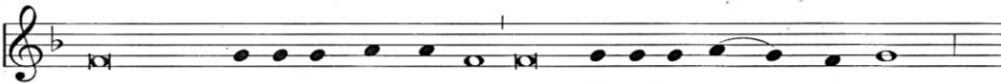
**L** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.



**L** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people



Israel by a pil-lar of cloud by day and a pil-lar of fire by night:



Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may his Word be a lamp



to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer-ci-ful, and you love



your whole cre-a-tion, and we, your crea-tures, glo-ri-fy you, Fa-ther,



Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it.



**C** A - men

*Kneel/Sit*

## PSALMODY



*Silence for meditation*

**L** Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your loving kindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

**C Amen.**



## *The Woman with Ointment*

### **SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 7:36-50**

<sup>36</sup> When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. <sup>37</sup> A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. <sup>38</sup> As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

<sup>39</sup> When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

<sup>40</sup> Jesus answered him, “Simon, I have something to tell you.”

“Tell me, teacher,” he said.

<sup>41</sup> “Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii,<sup>[a]</sup> and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup> Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?”

<sup>43</sup> Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.”

“You have judged correctly,” Jesus said.

<sup>44</sup> Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. <sup>45</sup> You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. <sup>46</sup> You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. <sup>47</sup> Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”

<sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

<sup>49</sup> The other guests began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?”

<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

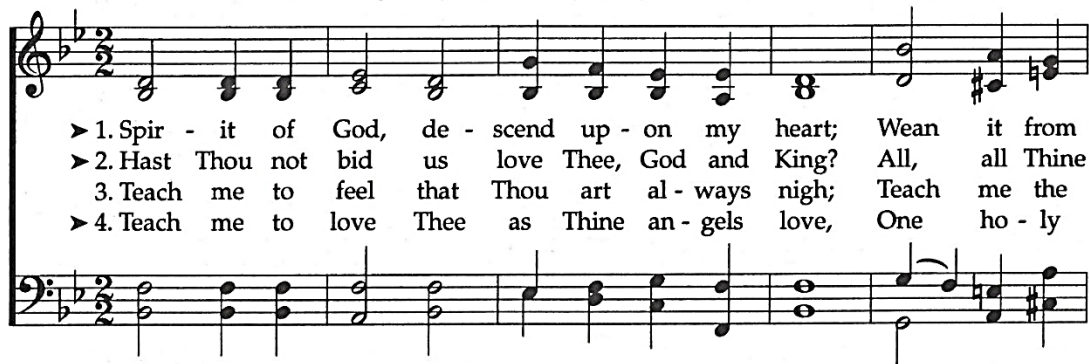
*Be seated*

## **DRAMATIC READING**

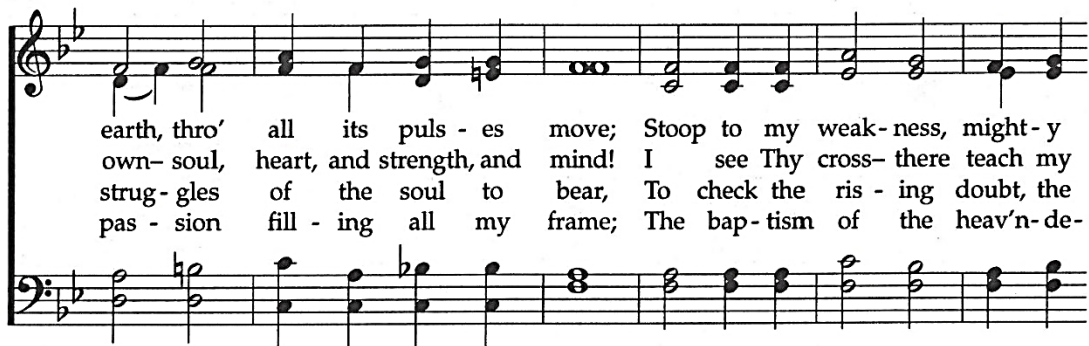
“Diary of a Prostitute Who Loved Much”  
*Portrayed by Cynthia Michael*

# Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 390

*Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Galatians 5:25*



1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; Wean it from  
2. Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King? All, all Thine  
3. Teach me to feel that Thou art al - ways nigh; Teach me the  
4. Teach me to love Thee as Thine an - gels love, One ho - ly



earth, thro' all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y  
own - soul, heart, and strength, and mind! I see Thy cross - there teach my  
strug - gles of the soul to bear, To check the ris - ing doubt, the  
pas - sion fill - ing all my frame; The bap - tism of the heav'n - de -



as Thou art, And make me love Thee as I ought to love.  
heart to cling; O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!  
reb - el sigh; Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
scend - ed Dove - My heart an al - tar, and Thy love the flame.

TEXT: George Croly  
MUSIC: Frederick C. Atkinson;  
Fourfold Amen by William David Young

MORECAMBE  
10.10.10.10.



**L** In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

**C** But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

*Stand*

### **GOSPEL CANTICLE** (*Spoken*)

**C** My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

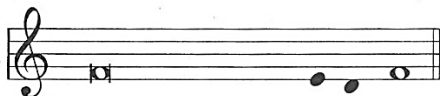
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Kneel/Stand*

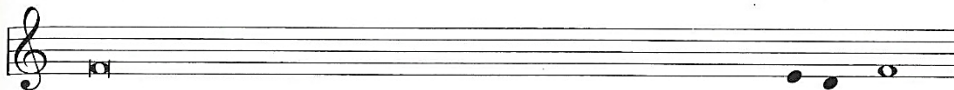
### **LITANY**



**L** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



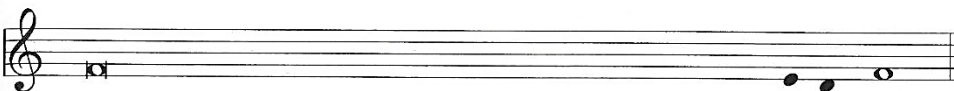
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray. . . to the Lord.



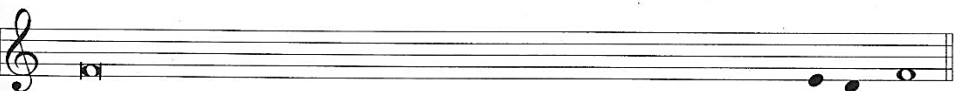
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray . . . . . to the Lord.



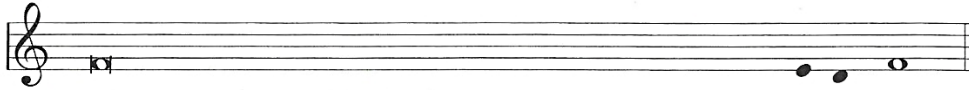
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



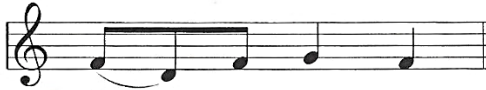
**L** For \_\_\_\_\_ names \_\_\_\_\_, for our *pastor/pastors* in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.



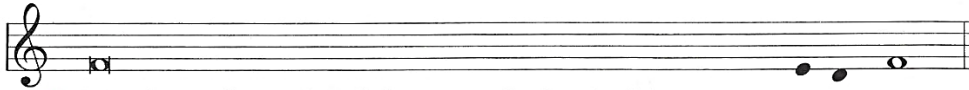
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For our public servants, for the government  
and those who protect us, that they may be  
upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray . . . to the Lord.



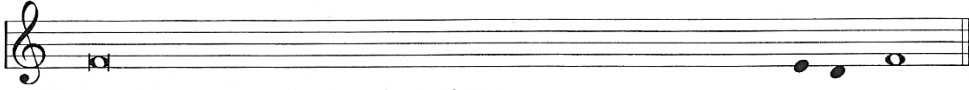
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health,  
and protection in this and every place, let us pray . . . to the Lord.



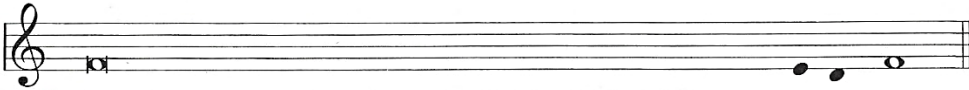
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For those who bring offerings, those  
who do good works in this congregation,  
those who toil, those who sing, and  
all the people here present who await  
from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray . . . to the Lord.



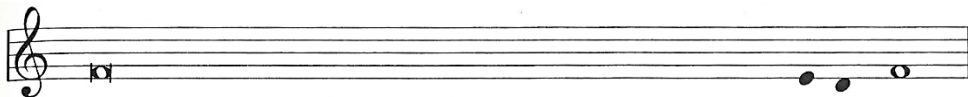
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits  
of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray . . . to the Lord.



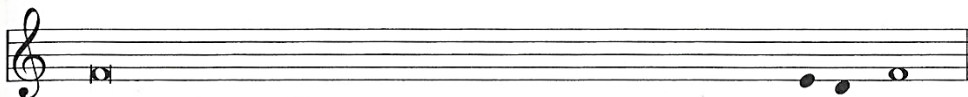
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For our deliverance from all affliction,  
wrath, danger, and need, let us pray . . . . . to the Lord.



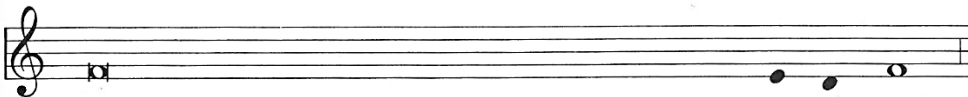
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**L** For the faithful who have gone  
before us and are at rest, let us give thanks . . . . . to the Lord.

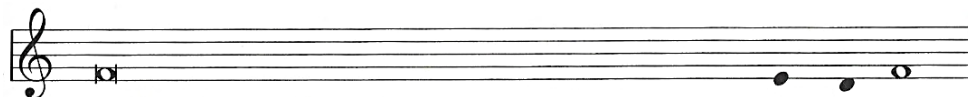


**C** Thanks be to - God.



**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, . . . . . gra-cious Lord.

*Silence for meditation*



**L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us  
commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



**C** To you, O Lord.

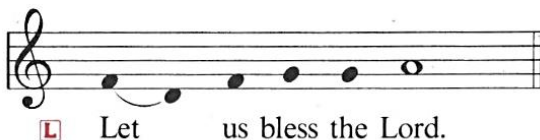
- L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.
- C Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

- C **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.**

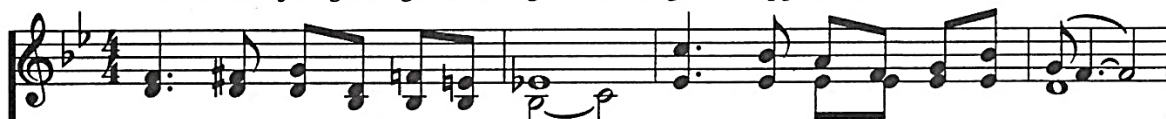
*Stand*



SENDING HYMN

# 564 Just a Closer Walk with Thee

*I can do everything through Him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13*



1. I am weak but Thou art strong;

Je - sus, keep me from all wrong.

2. Thro' this world of toil and snares,

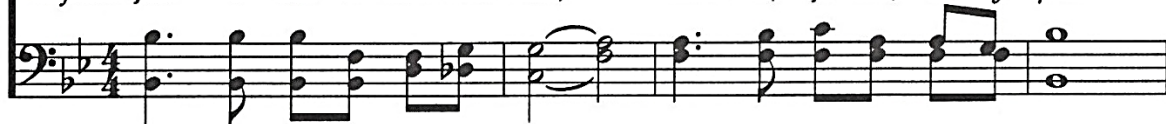
If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?

3. When my fee - ble life is o'er,

Time for me will be no more;

*Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with Thee,*

*Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea.*



D.C. for Refrain



I'll be sat - is - fied as long

As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Who with me my bur - den shares?

None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er

To Thy king - dom shore, to Thy shore.

*Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee,*

*Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*



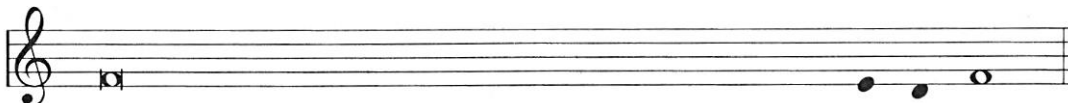
TEXT: Anonymous

MUSIC: Anonymous

CLOSER WALK

Irregular meter

## BENEDICTION



**L** The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless . . . and pre-serve us.



**C** A - men



As a congregation of the  
*North American Lutheran Church*  
we are guided by four core values:

1. Christ Centered
2. Mission Driven
3. Traditionally Grounded
4. Congregationally Focused

