

# EVENING PRAYER IN ADVENT



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## DAILY PRAYER

From the gathering around word and sacrament on the first day of the week, Christians are sent by God to continue their worship each day through lives of service. St. Paul's guidance to "pray without ceasing... for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thess. 5:17-18) suggests that the Christian life is prayer: openness to the presence of God, responsiveness to the word of God, recognition that all of life is in Christ, and engagement in care for one another and for the whole creation. Daily prayer is a gift that nourishes growth toward living all of daily life in prayer.

Evening and morning are primary times for common prayer in various faith traditions. For Christians, Evening Prayer and Morning Prayer have an additional dimension, calling to mind Christ's passage through death to resurrection. As evening comes, we look to the light of Christ that scatters the darkness, even as we anticipate the great awakening of the resurrection. With the rising sun, we praise God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and we ask the Holy Spirit's help in taking up the cross to follow Jesus into another day. Night Prayer offers a time to acknowledge both the gifts and the failings of each day, and we commend ourselves and the whole world into God's hands as night comes.

Although the patterns for these times of common daily prayer are not uniform, they have several common features: the church's song, especially the singing of psalms; the reading of and reflection upon the scriptures; and prayers in a variety of forms. This basic pattern is often preceded by an opening, whether brief or extended, and concluded with the blessing of God.

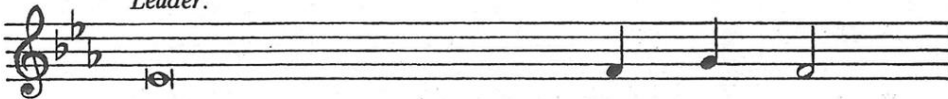
# Holden Evening Prayer

Setting by Marty Haugen

## 1. SERVICE OF LIGHT

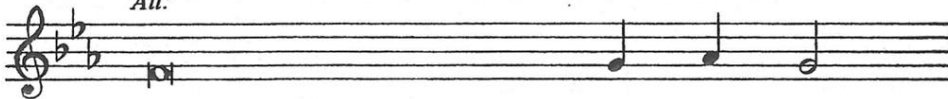
### Procession

*Leader:*



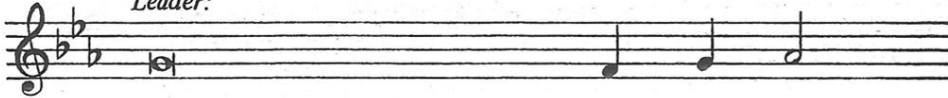
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

*All:*



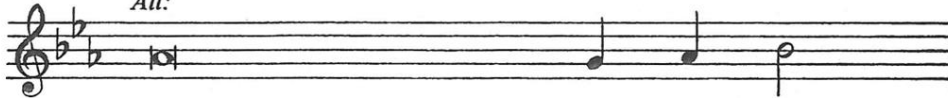
the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

*Leader:*



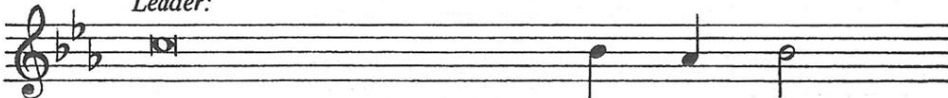
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

*All:*



and the day is al - most over.

*Leader:*



Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

*All:*



and shine within your peo-ple here. —

## Evening Hymn

*All: a tempo*



1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly 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

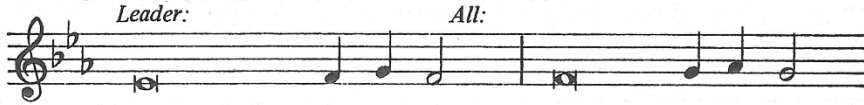


you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and  
soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us  
way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us

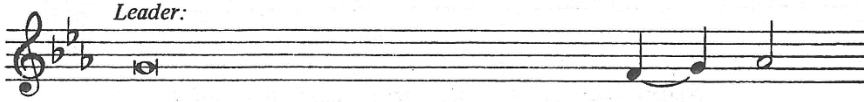


light our hearts a - new. \_\_\_\_\_  
free and make us whole. \_\_\_\_\_  
on to end - less day. \_\_\_\_\_

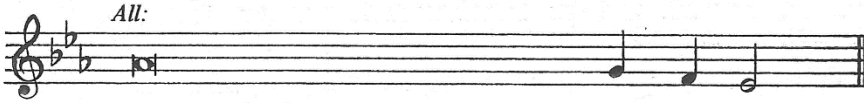
## Evening Thanksgiving



May God be with you all, and al - so with you;



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.

*the assembly sits*

## LITANY

L: In this first week of Advent we take hold of the hope Jesus brings to our lives.

*Silence*

L: Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.

**C: You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake and watchful in the world.**

L: You show up in our lives at unexpected times.

**C: Bless us with hope-filled anticipation as keep vigil for your arrival.**

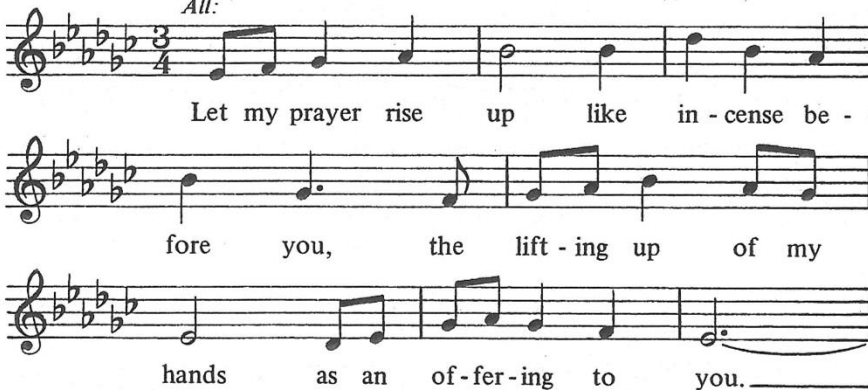
L: We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,

**C: you come to gather all people to your peace. Amen.**

## 2. PSALMODY, READINGS AND CANTICLES

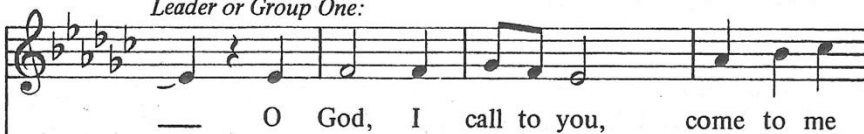
### Psalm 141

*All:*



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

*Leader or Group One:*



O God, I call to you, come to me

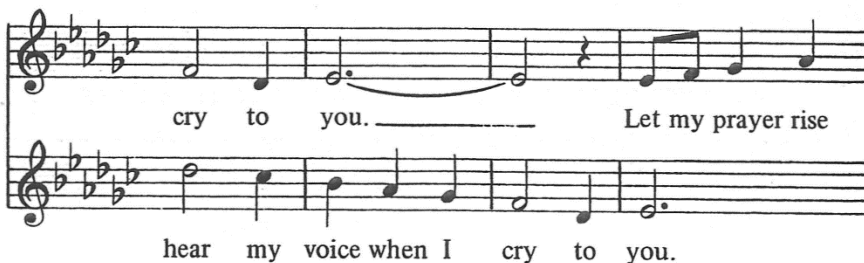
*All or Group Two:*



O God, I



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



cry to you. Let my prayer rise hear my voice when I cry to you.

up like in cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. Keep watch with - in me, God;

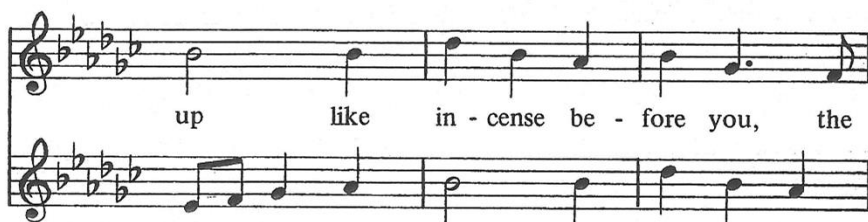
of-fer-ing to you. Keep

deep in my heart may the light of your love be

watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the

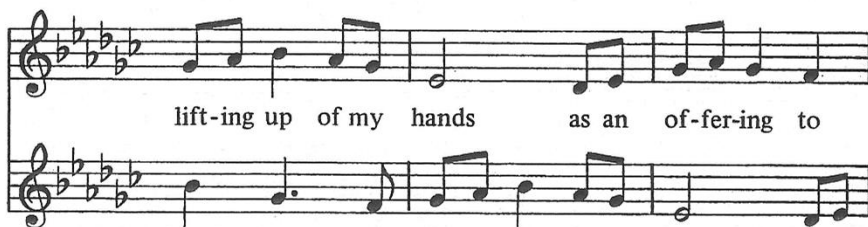
burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise

light of your love be burn - ing bright.



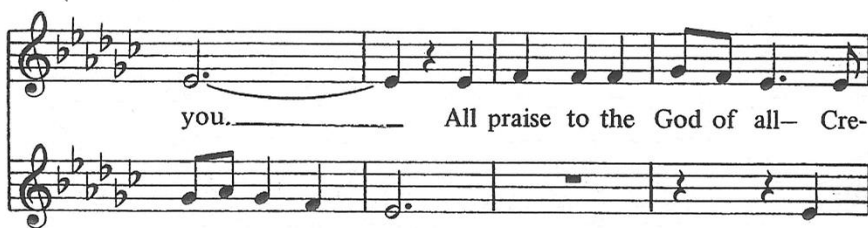
up like in - cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -



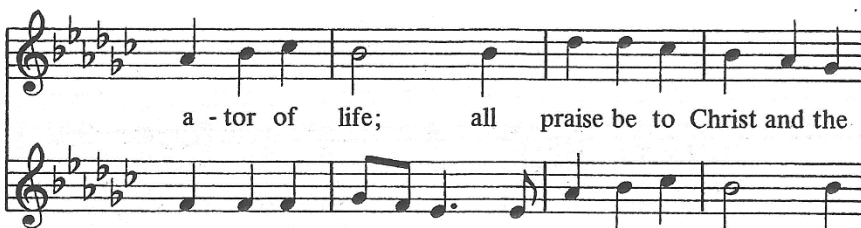
lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an



you. All praise to the God of all- Cre-

of-fer-ing to you. All



a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

praise to the God of all- Cre - a - tor of life; all



Spir - it of love. Let my prayer rise

praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.



up like in - cense be - fore you, the

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you.

of - fer - ing to you.

*Leader:* 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.



L: A reading from Philippians.

Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*the assembly stands*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 2:1-12

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

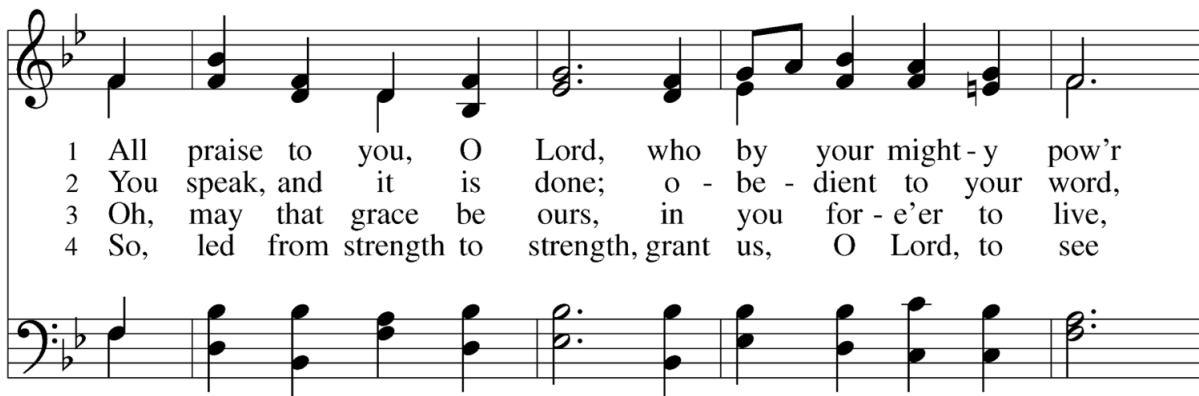
*the assembly sits*

MEDITATION

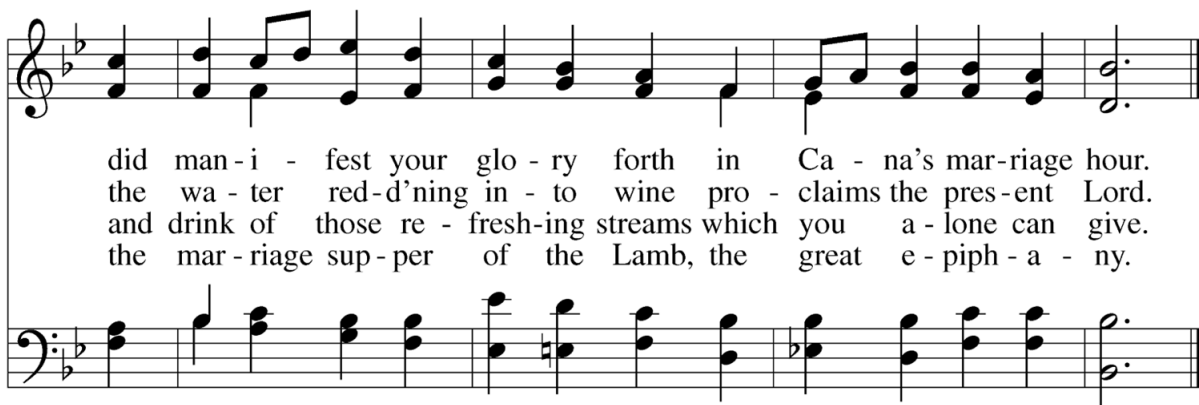
*“Seeing God in the mundane and in the miraculous”*

HYMN

# All Praise to You, O Lord



1 All praise to you, O Lord, who by your might - y pow'r  
 2 You speak, and it is done; o - be - dient to your word,  
 3 Oh, may that grace be ours, in you for - e'er to live,  
 4 So, led from strength to strength, grant us, O Lord, to see



did man - i - fest your glo - ry forth in Ca - na's mar-riage hour.  
 the wa - ter red-d'ning in - to wine pro - claims the pres - ent Lord.  
 and drink of those re - fresh-ing streams which you a - lone can give.  
 the mar - riage sup - per of the Lamb, the great e - piph - a - ny.

Text: Hyde W. Beadon, 1812–1891

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness

All: and the darkness has not overcome it.

### The Annunciation

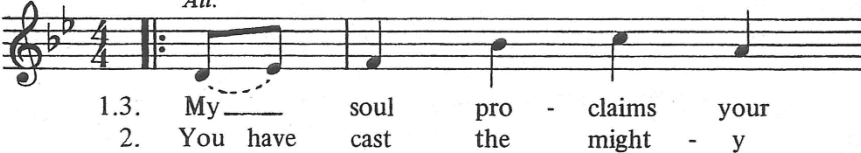
Luke 1: 26-28, 30-32, 38

Leader: 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."  
(immediately to "The Magnificat")

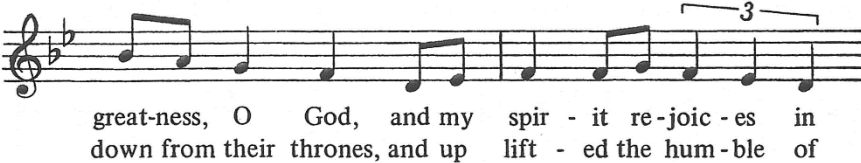
### The Magnificat

Luke 1: 46-55

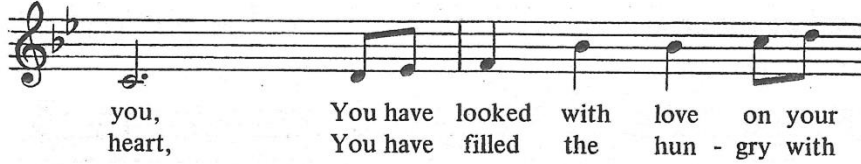
All:



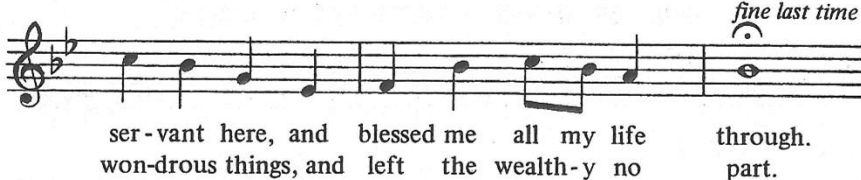
1.3. My soul pro - claims your  
2. You have cast the might - y



great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in  
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of

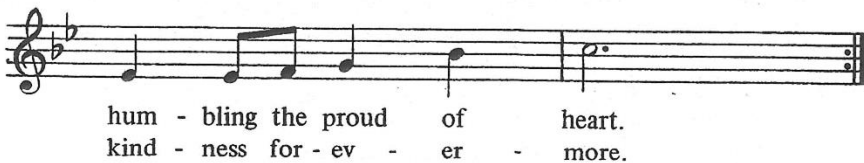
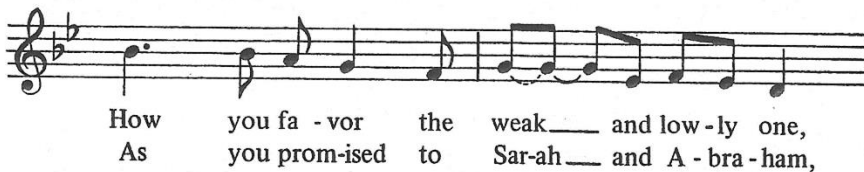
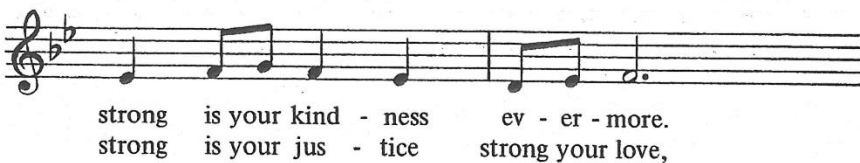
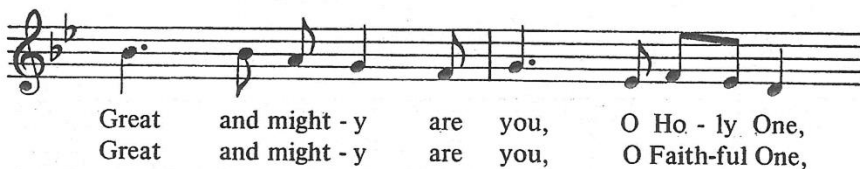


you, heart, You have looked with love on your  
You have filled the hun - gry with



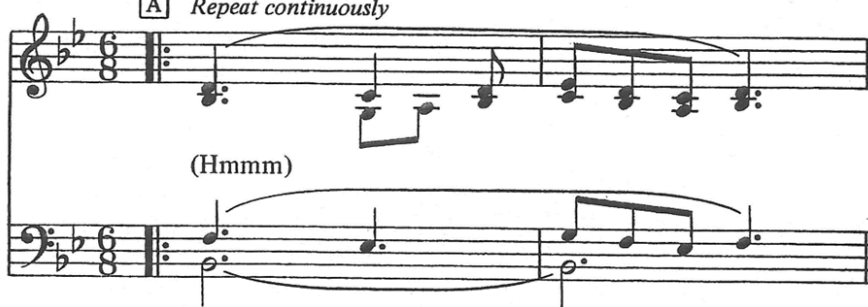
ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
won-drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

*fine last time*




### 3. LITANY AND PRAYERS

**A** *All:*  
*Repeat continuously*



(Hmmm)

**B**




God of mer - cy, hold us in love.

*Leader:* **A** **B**




1. In peace, in peace, we pray\_ to you:

*Leader:* **A** **B**

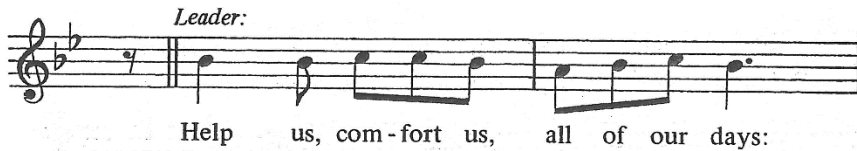


2. For peace and sal-va-tion, we pray to you:

*Leader:* **A** **B**



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:



*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.

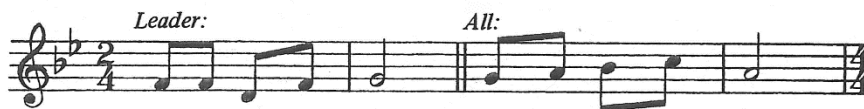
*All:* Amen.

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

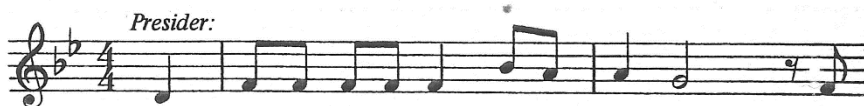
*All:* Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your Kingdom come: your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



### Final Blessing



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



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. \_\_\_\_\_



A

men.

*Leader:* Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.