

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICE  
HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER  
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

*Note: Pastor White will ask for prayer requests at the start of this evening's service. Worshipers are also invited to add their own prayers during Prayers of the People. We invite you to text a message of peace and love to someone not attending this evening's service.*

## GATHERING

### **Holden Evening Prayer - The Procession (*Sung*)**

JESUS CHRIST, YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD;

**the light no darkness can over come;**

STAY WITH US NOW, FOR IT IS EVENING,

**and the day is almost over.**

LET YOUR LIGHT SCATTER THE DARKNESS

**and shine within your people here.**

### *The Evening Hymn (*Sung by all*)*

**Joyous light of heav'nly glory, loving glow of God's own  
face,**

**You who 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,**

**of 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.**

Welcome – Pastor Cindy White

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Sharing by text

We invite you to take out your cell phone now and send a text message of joy and love to someone who isn't in worship this evening.

Godsightings

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

**Holden Evening Prayer - The Evening Thanksgiving  
(Sung)**

MAY GOD BE WITH YOU ALL,

*(Sung) And also with you;*

LET US SING OUR THANKS TO GOD,

**It is right to give God thanks and praise,**

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.

**Amen.**

## The Psalm #141

*The Psalm is sung as a canon (round). Congregation and lead vocal sing the first two lines together. At the beginning of the third line ("O God, I call to you ...") the congregation begins to sing the same words two measures later. Pastor White will lead the congregation.*

**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.**  
**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the  
lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**  
**Keep watch within me, God; deep in my heart may  
the light of your love be burning bright.**  
**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the  
lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**  
**All praise to the God of all, Creator of life; all praise  
be to Christ and the Spirit of love.**  
**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you, the  
lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

*(Silence for meditation)*

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.

*(Spoken) Amen.*

## The Reading

*(Silence for Meditation)*

LEADER: THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS  
*(Spoken) and the darkness has not overcome it.*

## The Message – Pastor Cindy White

## The Giving Moment

Let us pray together: **God of steadfast love and faithfulness, thank you for the gift of your love and the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Thank you for the gifts we return to you, this day and every day. Help us share as generously with others as you have shared with us, that your love might be known throughout all the world. Amen.**

## Announcements

### Share text responses

## The Annunciation

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."

## The Magnificat (*Sung by all*)

**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 ever more.  
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.**

The Litany

**R/(Sung) God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
IN PEACE, IN PEACE, WE PRAY TO YOU:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR PEACE AND SALVATION, WE PRAY TO YOU:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR PEACE BETWEEN NATIONS, FOR PEACE BETWEEN  
PEOPLES:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR WE WHO ARE GATHERED TO WORSHIP AND PRAISE  
YOU:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR ALL OF YOUR SERVANTS WHO LIVE OUT YOUR  
GOSPEL:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR ALL THOSE WHO GOVERN, THAT JUSTICE MIGHT  
GUIDE THEM:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR ALL THOSE WHO LABOR IN SERVICE TO OTHERS:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
GRANT WEATHER THAT NOURISHES ALL OF CREATION:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
KEEP WATCH ON OUR LOVED ONES AND KEEP US FROM  
DANGER:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
FOR ALL THE BELOVED WHO REST IN YOUR MERCY:  
**God of mercy, hold us in love.**  
HELP US, COMFORT US, ALL OF OUR DAYS:  
**Keep us, hold us, gracious God.**  
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.

*(Spoken) Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayers**

LEADER: GOD, REMEMBER US IN YOUR LOVE, AND TEACH US TO PRAY: (SPOKEN)

**Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

The Final Blessing

LET US BLESS OUR GOD:

*(Sung) Praise and thanks to you.*

PASTOR WHITE: 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.

*(Sung) Amen.*

*A moment of reflection as candles are extinguished.*

SENDING

And all God's people say ...

**Thanks be to God.**

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