

Soak In To Share With Others

How Do You Christmas?, part 8

AS WE GATHER

Remember having to crawl under a "live" Christmas tree in order to add water? To be able to share the beauty of a Christmas tree--or any of God's love, peace, and joy, we soak it in ourselves. Join us for one last night of singing beloved carols and soaking in God's Word to be filled up for sharing with others at this Christmas time.

HYMNS & CAROLS

Member choice!

+ SERVICE OF LIGHT +

OPENING SENTENCES

P Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**

P By the Holy Spirit we cry out with the whole Church,
C **“Prepare the way of the Lord.”**

P All who wait for Jesus to return pray,
C **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

LSB, p. 245

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar 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 merciful, and

You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures,
glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LSB 873 CHRIST, WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise;
Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88

Text: Public domain

**C Oh that You would rend the heavens and come
down, that the mountains might quake at Your
presence.**

P *I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.*

P *O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.*

C **Glory be 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.**

Oh that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence.

LSB 332 SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME sts. 1, 6–7

1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.

By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 1): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (st. 5): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973
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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Heavenly Father, Jesus told us that if we remain in Him and in His Holy Word we would bear much fruit. Help us today and always to soak in all the grace and wisdom You offer us so that we might be filled with hope and joy and share it with others—all to Your glory! In the name of Jesus we ask this.

C Amen.

¹⁰ Pass through, pass through the gates!

Prepare the way for the people.

Build up, build up the highway!

Remove the stones.

Raise a banner for the nations.

¹¹ The Lord has made proclamation
to the ends of the earth:

“Say to Daughter Zion,

‘See, your Savior comes!

See, his reward is with him,

and his recompense accompanies him.”

¹² They will be called the Holy People,

the Redeemed of the Lord;

and you will be called Sought After,

the City No Longer Deserted.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our

Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:15–20 NIV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”
¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

LSB 392 GOD LOVES ME DEARLY

sts. 1, 2, 4, 5

1 God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me. **Refrain**

**ref Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.**

2 I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working To make me free. **Refrain**

4 Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. **Refrain**

5 Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You All my life long. **Refrain**

Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. composite

Text: Public domain

MESSAGE: Soak In To Share With Others

OFFERING

HWC 82 O Come, Let Us Adore Him

sts. 1, 3, 4

1 O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

3 We'll give Him all the glory,
We'll give Him all the glory,
We'll give Him all the glory, Christ the Lord.

4 For He alone is worthy,
For He alone is worthy,
For He alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.

38xt: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.

Text: Public domain

+ PRAYERS +

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and
the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
C Amen.

LSB 338 COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS (tune: *Hyfrydol*)

1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

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