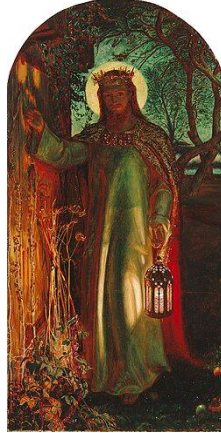


**A Service of Morning Prayer  
Wednesday, December 31, 2025**



**Jesus: "...light of the world..."**

First of three similar paintings by William Holman Hunt (1827–1910), now in the side chapel at Keble College, Oxford. A second, smaller version of the work, painted by Hunt between 1851 and 1856, is on display at Manchester City Art Gallery, which purchased it in 1912. Hunt was persuaded to paint a larger, life-sized version. He began it in about 1900 and finished in 1904. Charles Booth purchased the work and it was hung in St Paul's Cathedral, London.

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**CP 16 O Light, Whose Splendour Thrills**

1 O Light, whose splendour thrills and gladdens  
with radiance brighter than the sun,  
pure gleam of God's unending glory,  
O Jesus, blest Anointed One;

3 In all life's brilliant, timeless moments,  
let faithful voices sing your praise,  
O Son of God, our life bestower,  
whose glory lightens endless days.

2 as twilight hovers near at sunset,  
and lamps are lit, and children nod,  
in evening hymns we lift our voices  
to Father, Spirit, Son: one God.

**Gathering:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

May his grace and peace be with you.

**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**To you all hearts are open,  
 All desires known,  
 And from you no secrets are hidden.  
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
 That we may perfectly love you,  
 And worthily magnify your holy name.  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Trisagion: Holy God,  
 Holy and mighty,  
 Holy and immortal one,  
 Have mercy on us. (3x)

Psalm 20 *Refrain: God is our hope and our defence.*

- <sup>1</sup> The Lord answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you!
- <sup>2</sup> May he send you help from the sanctuary, and give you support from Zion.
- <sup>3</sup> May he remember all your offerings, and regard with favour your burnt sacrifices.
- <sup>4</sup> May he grant you your heart's desire, and fulfil all your plans.
- <sup>5</sup> May we shout for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God set up our banners. May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.
- <sup>6</sup> Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand.
- <sup>7</sup> Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses, but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.
- <sup>8</sup> They will collapse and fall, but we shall rise and stand upright.
- <sup>9</sup> Give victory to the king, O Lord; answer us when we call.

The Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

John 8:12-19

- <sup>12</sup> Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'
- <sup>13</sup> Then the Pharisees said to him, 'You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.'
- <sup>14</sup> Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going.'
- <sup>15</sup> You judge by human standards; I judge no one.
- <sup>16</sup> Yet even if I do judge, my judgement is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me.

<sup>17</sup> In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid.

<sup>18</sup> I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.'

<sup>19</sup> Then they said to him, 'Where is your Father?' Jesus answered, 'You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.'

### CP 460 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

1 Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness shining:  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

#### **Chorus**

**Shine, Jesus, shine;  
Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze:  
Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow:  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth Your word,  
Lord, and let there be light.**

2 Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness;  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

#### **Chorus...**

3 As we gaze on Your kingly brightness  
So our faces display Your likeness;  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story,  
Shine on me, shine on me.

#### **Chorus...**

Meditation: – Rev. Alison Westervelt

### CCLI 22324 Blessed Assurance

1 Blessed assurance Jesus is mine  
O what a foretaste of glory divine  
Heir of salvation purchase of God  
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

#### **Chorus**

**This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long**

2 Perfect submission perfect delight  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight  
Angels descending bring from above  
Echoes of mercy whispers of love

3 Perfect submission all is at rest  
I in my Savior am happy and blest  
Watching and waiting looking above  
Filled with His goodness lost in His love

### Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven.  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Healing Litany:

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers: Sandra.....  
Merle..... Mary..... Irene ..... Tony and Mary Jean..... Florence..... Lisa and Joe.....  
Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Ken.....  
Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Ruth..... Jody and  
Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Melody and her family..... Pauline.....Jorges  
and Janine..... Michael S..... Larry..... Christena..... Elsie..... Lynn..... Irvin and  
Margaret

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, Hear and have mercy.

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Blessed Jesus, your Holy name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Grant us your grace to heal those who are sick. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Give courage and faith to all who are disabled through injury or illness. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Give courage to all who await surgery. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Support and encourage those who live with chronic illness. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Strengthen those who endure continual pain and give them hope. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Grant the refreshment of peaceful sleep to all who suffer. We pray to you, O God,

#### **Hear and have mercy**

Uphold those who keep watch over the sick. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy**

Jesus, Lamb of God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

**Hear and have mercy**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

**Hear and have mercy**

Compassionate God, you so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fulness of your eternal life. Amen

Collect

Almighty God,  
 you have shed upon us the new light  
 of your incarnate Word.  
 May this light, enkindled in our hearts,  
 shine forth in our lives;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 who lives and reigns with you,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and for ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,  
 the power, and the glory,  
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 131 Love Came Down at Christmas

1 Love came down at Christmas,  
 love all lovely, love divine;  
 love was born at Christmas --  
 star and angels gave the sign.

2 Worship we the Godhead,  
 love incarnate, love divine;  
 worship we our Jesus --  
 what shall be our sacred sign?

3 Love shall be our token;  
 love be yours and love be mine;  
 love to God and neighbour,  
 love for prayer and gift and sign.

The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord, giving thanks for his living word.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**