

JAZZ VESPERS

Wed. Nov. 15 7:00pm



**MUHLENBERG
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Welcome to Muhlenberg Lutheran Church for this evening's Jazz Vespers! We invite you to pray, celebrate, and sing at this worship service that combines the ancient Christian tradition of evening vespers with the musical idioms of jazz and gospel.

The Latin word *vesper* means “evening,” and Vespers services—held in the hours around sunset—are as old as Christianity itself. Jazz is a much newer tradition, emerging from a blend of ragtime, marches, and blues in the early 20th century, especially in the New Orleans area. Bringing together these two traditions, Jazz Vespers gives voice to the hopes, dreams, frustrations, and pain of human experience, while looking to the light of Christ that scatters the darkness and leads us to resurrection joy.

We are grateful for our guest musicians: Masayoshi Ishikawa is a pianist, composer, and educator and assistant professor of jazz piano at James Madison University. Just Jazzin' is a volunteer jazz and big band music group in Harrisonburg. Many thanks to Dr. Ishikawa, Bob Curry, and all the members of Just Jazzin' for sharing their many gifts with us this evening!

Worship will be live-streamed. Digital ministry is an essential part of our community with the Wellstream service allowing those at home to worship alongside our gathered community. The cameras will be primarily focused on our worship leaders and offer some wide-angle views of the sanctuary. If you have questions or concerns about appearing on camera, contact Pastor Alex or Communication Minister Christian Perritt (perritt@muhlenberglutheran.org).

NOTES

- **Amplification devices** for the hearing impaired are available at the Welcome Desk.
- A **restroom** is located at the north end of the Gathering Area (additional restrooms downstairs).
- We rely on donations to make special music programs happen! To contribute to Muhlenberg's ministry, please use the QR code at right or drop a gift in the basket at the rear of the Sanctuary.



MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD'S GRACE

Open ✝ *Authentic* ✝ *Relational* ✝ *Serving*

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Pastor Alex Zuber

281 E. Market Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

(540) 434-3496
www.muhlenberglutheran.org

Jazz Vespers ~ November 15, 2023

PRELUDE ~ *Down to the River*

(American Traditional, arranged by Larry Barton)

WELCOME

OPENING DIALOGUE

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, **the light no darkness can overcome.**
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, **and the day is almost over.**
Let your light scatter the darkness **and illumine your church.**

O gracious Light,
Pure brightness of the ever-living Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
And our eyes behold the evening light,
We sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
Your glory fills the whole world.

HYMN OF LIGHT ~ *Joyous Light of Glory*

ELW 230

~ see next page ~

Joyous Light of Glory

Refrain



Joy - ous light of glo - ry, shine a - mong your



peo - ple; show us the lov - ing face of God on high. *End*



Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior, bring us here to - geth - er as



set - ting sun gives way to eve - ning light.



We sing to God, Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it,



wor - thy of praise for - ev - er and ev - er.



O Son of God, you give us life e - ter - nal; the



u - ni - verse pro - claims your glo - ry. *Refrain*

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

PSALM 141 ~ Congregation sings "All"

All



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;




the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Group One or All



O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when

All



I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Group Two or All



Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Group One or All

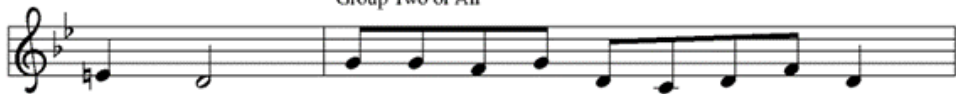


Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

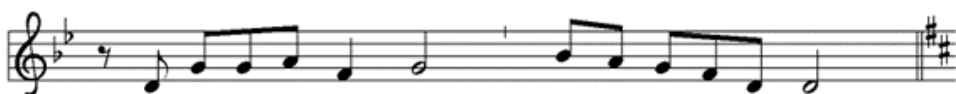


let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All



do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.

All



Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

The reading concludes:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE ~ Come Sunday

(Edward "Duke" Ellington, arranged by Chris McDonald, edited by Robert A. Curry)

*Lord dear Lord I've loved
God almighty, God up above
Please, look down and see my people through*

*God dear God I've loved
God almighty, God up above
Please, look down and see my people through*

*I believe the sun and moon
Will shine up in the sky
When the day is grey
I know it's just clouds passing by*

*He'll give peace and comfort
To every troubled mind
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday
That's the day*

*Often we feel weary
But he knows our every care
Go to him in secret
He will hear every prayer*

*Lilies on the valley
They neither toll nor spin
And flowers bloom in spring
And birds sing*

*Up from dawn till sunset
Man work hard all the day
Come Sunday, oh come Sunday
That's the day*

SECOND READING ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Pew Bible page 219

After the reading:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN ~ Great is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

THIRD READING ~ "Salvation" by Frederick Buechner

MAGNIFICAT

My Soul Does Magnify the Lord



1 My soul does mag - ni - fy the Lord; my spir - it
2 From this day all will call me blest, from now through
3 His mer - cy touch - es those who love, and those who
4 He cast the might - y from their thrones, and he has
5 He comes to all who seek his love, for he re -
6 All glo - ry be to God on high, and to his
7 Just as it was, it is to - day, and it shall



sings of God my Sav - ior, for he has looked with
all the com - ing a - ges. The Lord has done great
serve . . . one an - oth - er. And with great strength he has
lift - ed up the low - ly. He fills the hun - gry
mem - bers the prom - ise that he had made to
Son, . . . God the Sav - ior, and to the Spir - it of
last through all to - mor - rows, and so my soul mag - ni -



love and fa - vor on his low - ly ser - vant.
things for me and ho - ly is his name.
scat - tered all the proud in their con - ceit.
with good things while oth - ers turn a - way.
A - bra - ham and to the chil - dren of God.
life and truth that burns with - in our hearts.
fies the Lord; praise God for - ev - er. A - men.

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

HYMN ~ Just a Closer Walk with Thee

(American Traditional, arranged by Dean Sorenson)

Just A Closer Walk With Thee



I am weak, but you are strong - Je sus keep me from all wrong -
Just a clo- ser walk with Thee Grant it, Je- sus is my plea -



I'll be sa - tis - fied as long . As I walk let me walk close to Thee.
Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee - Let it be, dear Lord, - let it be.

BENEDICTION

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE ~ *Wade in the Water* (African American Jubilee Song, arranged by Rick Hirsch)

Please join us in the Gathering Area for a reception following worship.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICES

PRESIDING MINISTERS ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes and Pastor Alex Zuber

LECTORS Robert & Linda Alley

USHERS David & Susan Lawrence, Dave & Karen Barnes

**SOUND
TECH** Nathan Eanes

**LIVE
STREAM** Grover Saunders

MUSICIANS Dr. Masayoshi Ishikawa
Just Jazzin':

Woodwinds: Andy Connell, Vicki Curry, Robert Mann

Trumpets: Craig Hofstetter, Ray Hoaster, Andrea Early

Trombones: Tom McKenzie, Evan Knappenburger, Robert Curry

Rhythm: Richard Bolstein, piano; Michael Cseh, bass; Mike Tipton, drums

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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