

# WHITE MEMORIAL

— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

## Advent Evening Prayer

December 23, 2020 | 6:30 p.m.

### PRELUDE

### OPENING SENTENCES:

*ONE: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,*

**ALL: the light no darkness can overcome.**

*John 1:5, 8:12*

**Hymn 129 - Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**  
(see page 2)

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Parsons Family, leaders

Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen,  
to a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope.  
Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth,  
to a girl named Mary, with a light of joy.  
Mary went to a place called Bethlehem,  
to a stable called a nursery, with a light of love.

Mary proclaimed in her song to God,  
“You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the  
promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and  
his children for ever.”

*Luke 1:54-55*

*ONE: As we light our fourth Advent candle,*

**ALL: we rejoice with Mary, for Love has been born.**

*ONE: Come now, O Child of Mary.*

**ALL: Come now, O Prince of Love.**

*(brief silence)*

**ALL: Amen.**

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

*Psalms 89:1-4*

### NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

*Luke 1:48b-55*

### MEDITATION

**Hymn 314 - Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness**  
(see page 3)

### PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

### BENEDICTION

## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;  
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.  
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.  
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where.

It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of  
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a  
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he

win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.  
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

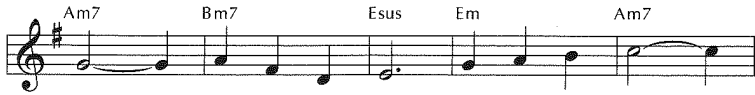
Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

# Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

## Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for  
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for  
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for  
 4 Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

### Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

**\* \* \***

### **Worship Leaders**

*Anne Galliher*, Pastoral Resident

*Grier Booker Richards*, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

*Eric Nanz*, Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts

*Karen Haneline*, videographer

### **Advent Wreath Lighters**

*The Parsons Family*

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Liturgies by Anna George Traynham (Atlanta, GA) as published in

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### **Music included in today's service**

Prelude – *Let All Mortal Flesh*/arr. J. Cotter, © 2020 GIA;

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*/arr. J. Weaver, © 1990

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*; music public domain

*Glory to God*, **Hymn 129** - *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

*Glory to God*, **Hymn 314** - *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

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