



*New Year's Eve Worship*

*2025*

**New Year's Eve**  
**Holden Evening Prayer**  
**Wednesday, December 31, 2025**

**Service of the Light**

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# Though the Earth Shall Change



Though the earth shall change,            though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa - ters rage,            you, God, are here.



Though the na - tions war,            though the peo - ples bat - tle,



though the em - pire fal - ters,            we will not fear.

Text: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, and Tom Witt, b. 1957, based on Psalm 46


Music: WE WILL NOT FEAR, Tom Witt

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# Prayers

## Refrain



God of Hope, come strengthen us.

## Verses (Leader)



1. That grace and love will fill our hearts:
2. For all who gather to worship you:
3. To work for peace in every land:
4. For health and healing we pray to you:
5. To help our neighbour in distress:
6. That all creation is held in care:
7. To listen through our deepest fear:
8. For sighing when we have no words:
9. For all who rest with you in peace:
10. To follow you in all we do:

# Nothing Can Trouble

*Nada te turbe*

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te\_es - pan - te.  
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melody of eighth notes. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line of eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,  
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

The second system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melody of eighth notes. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line of eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

na - da te\_es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.  
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

The third system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melody of eighth notes. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a bass line of eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the upper staff.

Text: Teresa of Avila, 1515–1582; adapt. Taizé Community

Music: NADA TE TURBE, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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## Leading Worship Today

**Minister:** Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

**Diaconal Minister of Music:** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Communion Server:** Linda McLellan

**Building Monitor:** Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

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## Worship Notes

In our prayers, Marjorie, Kevin, Betty, Anneke, Judy, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Maureen, and John.

### Information for this afternoon's worship

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- **Downstairs Washrooms** can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.

## General Announcements

**Please have your 2025 donations** to the office before 11:00 am on December 31, 2025. If you need to be reimbursed for expenses, please submit receipts by December 31, 2025.

**Join us for a Christmas Ice Skating Party** on Friday, January 2nd from 2- 3 pm at Activa Sportsplex located at 135 Lennox Lewis Way. Come to skate or socialize.

## Contact Information

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Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



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### Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

**Friday, January 2:** Ice Skating Party, January 2, 2-3 pm, Activa Sportplex

**Wednesday, January 7:** Noontime Oasis Resumes

**Sunday, January 18:** Special Congregational Meeting

**The St. Matthews Centre**, our community hub, has a website which links all upcoming events, especially concerts of the KW Symphony and the Grand Philharmonic Choir.

Scroll down to “Upcoming Events” at  
<https://www.stmatthewscentre.ca>

The St. Matthews Centre also has a Facebook page, which you can “follow” to get updates.





# St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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[stmattskw.com](http://stmattskw.com)  
[info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com)



The book cover features a dark gray background. In the upper left, there are white, stylized pine branches with starburst-like tips. A large, solid white circle is positioned in the upper right, partially overlapping the pine branches. Below the circle and branches, a dark gray silhouette of a mountain range is visible. The title and author's name are printed in white serif font.

ASSEMBLY EDITION

Holden  
Evening  
Prayer

MARTY HAUGEN

# Holden Evening Prayer

Setting by Marty Haugen

## 1. SERVICE OF LIGHT

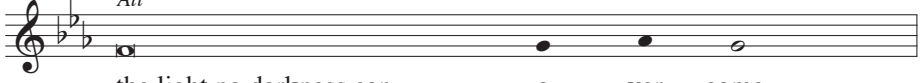
### Procession

*Leader or Assistant*



Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

*All*



the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

*Leader or Assistant*



Stay with us now, for it is evening,

*All* *Leader or Assistant*



and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,


*All*



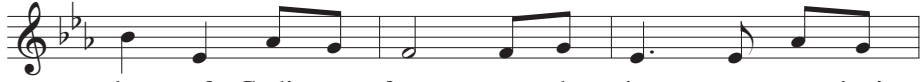
and shine within your peo - ple here.

### Evening Hymn


*All*



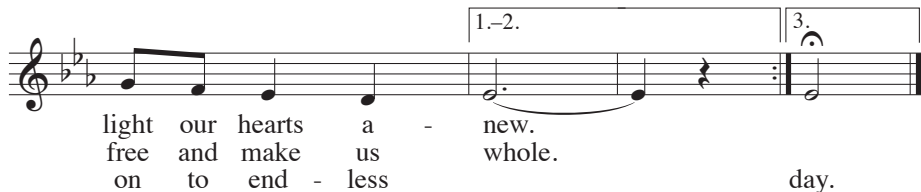
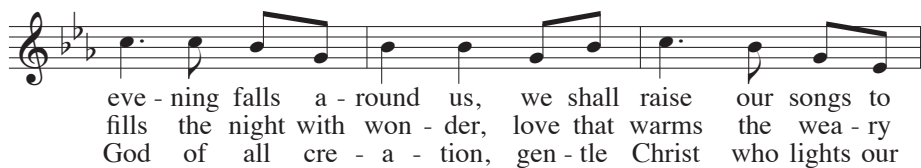
1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing  
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the  
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



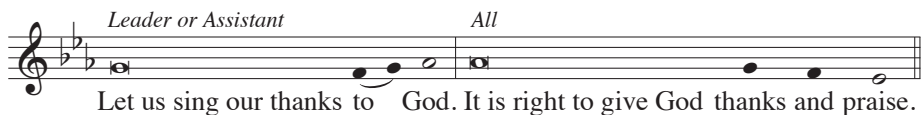
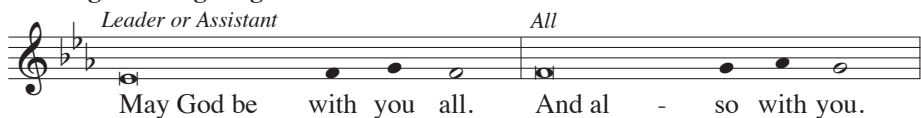
glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



### Evening Thanksgiving



*Leader* 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.



## 2. PSALMODY, READINGS AND CANTICLES

### Psalm 141

#### Refrain



**Verse 1***Leader or Group One*

1. O God, I call to you, come to me

*All or Group Two*

1. O God, I

now; O hear my voice when I cry to  
call to you, come to me now; O hear my

**Refrain**

you. Let my prayer rise up like  
voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise

in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an  
up like in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my

**Verse 2**

of-fer-ing to you. 2. Keep watch with -  
hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your

2. Keep watch with - in me, God; deep in my

love be burn - ing bright.

heart may the light of your love be burn - ing

### Refrain

Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the

bright. Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to

### Verse 3

3. All praise to the God of all, Cre - a - tor of

you. 3. All praise to the

life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of  
God of all, Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to

**Refrain**

love. Let my prayer rise up like  
Christ and the Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise

in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an  
up like in-cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my

of-fer-ing to you.  
hands as an of-fer-ing 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.

*All* Amen.

*(Alternate psalms are on pages 10–12. The leader will indicate  
if any of these will be used in the service.)*

*One or two lessons are read; silence for meditation follows each reading.*

*Leader* The light shines in the darkness...

*All* ... and the darkness has not overcome it.

## The Annunciation

Luke 1:26–28, 30–32, 38

*Leader* 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.”

*Segue immediately to The Magnificat*

## The Magnificat

Luke 1:46–55

*All*

1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my  
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -

spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your  
lift - ed the hum - ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,  
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the  
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom - ised to

**D.C.**  
weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!  
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

### 3. LITANY AND PRAYERS

#### Intercessions

*All*  
 [A] *repeat continuously* [B]

Hmm. God of mer-cy, hold us in love.

[A] *Leader or Assistant* [B]

1. In peace, in peace, we pray to you:
2. For peace and sal - va - tion, we pray to you:
3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo - ples:
4. For us, who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos - pel:
6. For all those who gov-ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
7. For all those who la - bor in ser-vice to oth - ers:
8. Grant weath-er that nour-ish - es all of cre - a - tion:
9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan - ger:
10. For all the be - lov - ed who rest in your mer - cy:

[A] *Leader or Assistant*

Help us, com-fort us, all of our days:

*All*

Keep us, hold us, gra - cious God.



## Closing Prayers

*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.

*All* Amen.

*Leader* God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

*All* 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.

## Final Blessing

*Leader or Assistant* *All*  
Let us bless our God: Praise and thanks to you.

*Leader or Assistant*  
May God, Cre - a - tor, bless us and keep us, may

Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the Spir - it of Love be our

guide and path for all of our days. *All* A - men.

*The leader may invite all to share a sign of peace,  
or the leader may say, "Go in peace," and all depart in silence.*

**ALTERNATE PSALMS**  
**TO YOU, O GOD, I LIFT UP MY SOUL**

Psalm 25

HART LAKE



1. To you, O God, I lift up my soul; my  
 2. O set my feet on path-ways of peace and  
 3. Re - mem - ber, God, your mer - cy and love, for -  
 4. The path of God is love with - out end to



spir - it seeks ref - uge in you. From all  
 teach me to walk in your ways. Let your  
 give me for times when I fall; for your  
 pil - grims who walk in God's ways. Teach our



sin and dis - grace keep me shel - tered by your  
 truth be my light, my sal - va - tion shin - ing  
 mer - cy is great to the hum - ble ones who  
 hearts, make us wise; for to you we turn our



grace, for I trust that your prom - ise is true.  
 bright; I will serve you the length of my days.  
 wait, to the low - ly who an - swer love's call.  
 eyes. We will serve you the length of our days.

*Silence for meditation*

*Leader* God of grace and mercy,  
 you are the refuge of all who seek you,  
 you are the shelter of all who wait in hope for you.  
 Set our feet firmly on your pathway,  
 and guide us by the light of your truth,  
 so that we might faithfully follow you  
 all the days of our lives.  
 We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.

*All* Amen.

*Return to page 6 for the reading of lessons.*

## O FAITHFUL GOD

Psalm 51

MARTIN'S RIDGE



1. O faith-ful God, have mer-cy on your ser-vant here;  
 2. I know my deeds, I know my faults and fail-ings well;  
 3. You long for truth, for wis-dom dwell-ing deep with-in;



in your love, re-mem-ber not my sins. In the  
 I have sinned and bro-ken faith with you. For the  
 teach my heart to long for wis-dom, too: Wash me



wa-ters of your grace, wash me clean of all dis-grace;  
 wrong that I have done, my trans-gres-sions, ev-'ry one,  
 clean and give me voice, so these bones you crushed re-joice;



raise me up to life from death and fear.  
 God your judg-ment would be just and true.  
 turn my heart from sin to life in you.



4. Cre-ate in me a clean and right-eous heart, O God, put a



will-ing spir-it in my soul. Let me sing with joy a-new the sal-



va-tion found in you, sing-ing praise to you who made me whole.

*Silence for meditation*

*Leader* Holy One,

you are steadfast love and abundant mercy  
 to all who turn to you.

Create within us hearts of love and compassion.

Place in us spirits that are eager to live with integrity.

Give us voice to sing to you with gratitude

and to proclaim you with courage and conviction.

We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.

*All* Amen.

*Return to page 6 for the reading of lessons.*

## WITH ALL MY BEING, I WAIT

## Psalm 130

## Refrain

*All (melody)*

With all my be - ing, I wait for



you, O God, and in your word I place my



hope, and in your word I place my hope.

## Verses

*Leader or Assistant*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O God: O  
 2. If you, O God, should mark our sins, O  
 3. I wait for God, with all my heart I wait. In God's



God, hear my voice. Let your ears be o - pen to the  
 God, who could stand? But in you is for-give-ness, so that  
 word is my hope. My soul is wait - ing more than



sound of my cries for mer - cy.  
 we can, with rev - 'rence, serve you.  
 those who watch for morn - ing.

*Silence for meditation*

*Leader* Patient and ever-present God,  
 you are loving and forgiving to all.  
 Hear our voices  
 amidst the darkness,  
 in the silence,  
 from the depths of our hearts.  
 As we wait and watch  
 for the dawning of your light in us,  
 show us your mercy and compassion.  
 Show us Jesus, your Son, our Savior.

*All* Amen.*Return to page 6 for the reading of lessons.*

G-9170A Code MA36

