



March 25, 2020  
Lenten Vespers 4  
**Grace Lutheran Church, Boulder, Colorado**  
Rooted in Grace + Reaching out in Christ's Love

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## Gathering

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### MUSICAL INVITATION TO WORSHIP

#### OPENING

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 LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before a word is on my tongue,

O LORD, you know it completely.

**You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;

it is so high that I cannot attain it.

**Where can I go from your spirit?**

**Or where can I flee from your presence?**

If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

**If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.**

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"  
even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.

**For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.

**My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.

**How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!**

**I try to count them — they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end — I am still with you.**

GATHERING SONG

“All Are Welcome”

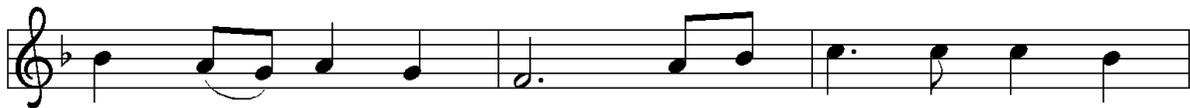
ELW 641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly  
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and  
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and  
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and  
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how  
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to  
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where  
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and  
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and  
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as  
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through  
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the  
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of  
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we  
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in  
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an  
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:  
 claim the faith of Je - sus:  
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,  
 end to fear and dan - ger:  
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

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## WORD

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### **OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 25:1, 3-10a**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;  
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.  
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

<sup>10</sup>For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

*Response:* Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 9:57-58**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>57</sup>As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup>And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

*Response:* The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**REFLECTION**

Pr. Stephanie

*Question: Where do you feel most at home?*

HYMN

“Christ Be Our Light”

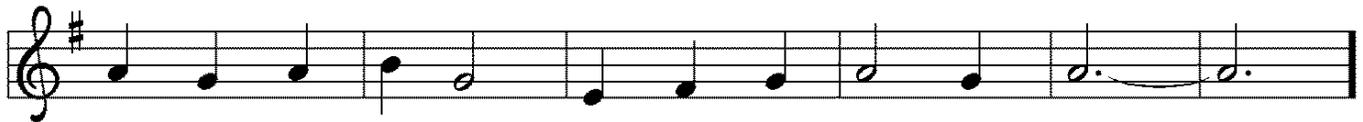
ELW 715



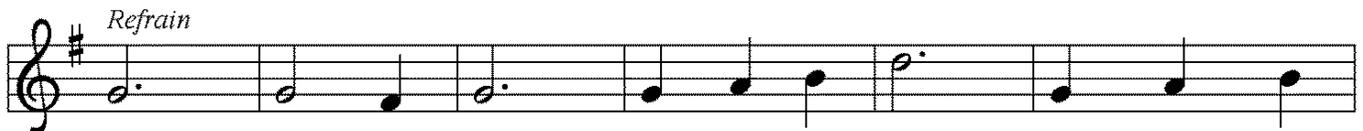
1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the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



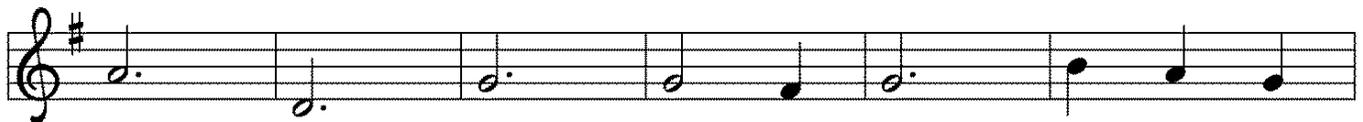
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r 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, signs of 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Each petition ends with:* Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The last petition ends with:* Our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

**To you, O Lord.**

And together, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray:

**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**

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## SENDING

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## BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

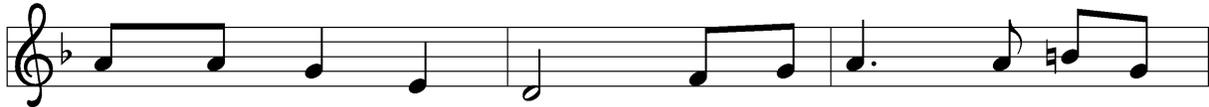
# SENDING SONG

# “Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery” ELW 334

Verses 1-3 + Lent 5



1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your  
2 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed  
3 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of  
on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and  
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you  
bro - ken wears the bod - y of our Lord, wears the  
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn.  
bod - y of our Lord.  
riv - er, you the sea.

## Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,  
God who lives beyond our death,  
hold us close through each tomorrow,  
love as near as every breath.

## DISMISSAL

Stay safe, stay healthy, and know yourself held by God's grace.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE