

# THE WEARY WORLD *Rejoices*

An online chapel service for the Southwestern Minnesota Synod



**Southwestern Minnesota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

*Bishop Jon Anderson, Rev. Kathryn Skoglund, Rev. Stephen Cook and Rev. Dee Pederson*  
*Music by Emily Bruflat, First Lutheran Church, St. Peter*

## **Gathering Music – “Once We Sang and Danced”**

**Setting by Anne Marie David**

*God, who came to dwell among us, God who suffered our disgrace,  
from your own heart, grieved and wounded, come the riches of your grace.*

*Come, O Christ, among the ashes, come to wipe our tears away,  
death destroy and sorrow banish; now and always, come and stay.*

-Susan R. Briehl, “Once We Sang and Danced”

## **Welcome**

## **Silent Meditation**

*The silence begins with a chime.*

## **Greeting**

From the one who was, who is, and who is to come:

Grace and peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **Dialogue**

The Spirit and the church cry out:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

All those who await Christ's appearance pray:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

The whole creation pleads:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Hymn of Light - "Christ, Be Our Light"**

ELW #715

*During this hymn people may light a candle*

**Thanksgiving for Light** (*adapted from ELW, pp. 310–311*)

*Silence.*

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 lives 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.**

*Silence.*

**First Reading** - Isaiah 9:2-7

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence*

**Second Reading** - Matthew 11:28-30

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence*

**Third Reading** - John 1:1-5, 14

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence*

**"O Come O Come Emmanuel"** vs 1, 6 & 7

ELW #257

**Reflection** – Bishop Jon Anderson

**"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"**

ELW #251

**Prayers of the People**

**Lord's Prayer**

**"Light Dawns on a Weary World"**

ELW #726

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Have a blessed Christmas.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude – “Bright and Glorious Is the Sky/O Morning Star”**

**Setting by Anne Krentz Organ**

**Acknowledgements**

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