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*vespers*

*evening prayer*

*jazz*

noun. *A type of music of US black origin, characterized by its use of improvisation, syncopated phrasing, and a regular or forceful rhythm.*



# Ascension of Our Lord

THURSDAY 5/21 • 7 P.M.



*vespers*

noun. *The sixth of the daytime canonical hours of prayer, originally appointed for the early evening; evening prayers or devotions.*

## **What is Vespers?**

Vespers is the traditional name given to the daily, early evening service of the Church. The word comes from the Latin for “evening,” and the words “Vespers” and “Evening Prayer” are used interchangeably.

One of the hallmarks of this service is the use of Psalm 141 (which is also used in Holden Evening Prayer). The Psalm text in verse 2, “Let my prayer rise up as incense before you, and the lifting of my hands as an evening sacrifice,” recalls the sacrifice of incense offered every evening in the Temple at Jerusalem.

## **Jazz in Church?**

Jazz Vespers was started in the 1960’s by Pastor John Gensel of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, New York City.

*In 1932, John Gensel heard Duke Ellington play at Berwick, Pennsylvania and fell in love with jazz. After moving to New York in 1956, John Gensel began frequenting local jazz clubs; the jazz community had often worked late hours on Saturday nights, making it difficult to attend Church on Sunday mornings; Rev. Gensel wanted to create a service which would allow their participation, and created Jazz Vespers. In 1965, Rev. Gensel was named full-time Minister to the Jazz Community; initially Jazz vespers were held at various locations including Central Synagogue.*

*In 1968, jazz ministry had become fully established in Saint Peter's Lutheran Church, on Lexington Avenue in New York City. Jazz musicians including Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, Charles Mingus, Billy Strayhorn attended and played regularly at Jazz vespers.*

Jazz Vespers services have continued across the country, and with them, an interest in the use of Sacred Jazz music in other church services. I personally love jazz music, and with so many talented musicians at Mountain View, have wanted to offer a jazz service here for a long time. I hope you find our Jazz Vespers a worshipful experience and embrace the chance to see God in a new way.

Blessings,

Susan Bloomfield  
Director of Music Ministries

# Prelude

*“Easter Chant” • Charity Putnam*

## Opening Dialogue

☐ Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
☑ **the light no darkness can overcome.**

☐ Stay with us, for it is evening,  
☑ **and the day is almost over.**

☐ Let your light scatter the darkness  
☑ **and illumine your church.**



# Hymn of Light • "O Radiant Light"



1.O rad - iant Light, O sun di - vine, Of God the Fa - ther's death - less  
2.O Son of God, the source of life, Praise is your due - by night and  
3.Lord Je - sus Christ, as day - light fades, As shine the lights - of ev - en -



face, O i - mage of the Light sub - lime, that fills the heav'n - ly dwell - ing place.—  
day. Our hap - py lips must raise the strain Of your est - eemed and splen - did name.—  
tide, We praise the Fa - ther with the Son, The Spi - rit blest and with them one.—



# 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 God thanks and praise.**

℣ We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
you called light into being,  
and you set the lights in the sky to govern the night and day.  
In a pillar of cloud by day  
and a pillar of fire by night  
you led your people to 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.**



# Psalmody

*“Let My Prayer Rise (Psalm 141)” • Deanna Witkowski  
MVLC Sacred Jazz Ensemble*

*Let my prayer rise before you as incense;  
the lifting of my hands as the ev'ning sacrifice.*

*O lord, o my Lord, I call to you.  
Won't you come to me, come to me quickly;  
hear my voice when I call to you.*

*Let my prayer rise before you as incense;  
the lifting of my hands as the ev'ning sacrifice.*

# Reading

📖 A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 1:1-11

[Luke writes:] In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

🎉 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 24:44-53

[Jesus said to the eleven and those with them], “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

📖 The Gospel of our Lord.

🎉 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

# Gospel Canticle • "My Soul Doth Magnify"



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 of the Church

☒ Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

☒ Lord, in your mercy,

☑ **hear our prayer.**

☒ O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ **Amen.**



# The Lord's Prayer

**L** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C** **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.**

## Blessing

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

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

**C** **Amen.**

# Sending Hymn • "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus  
ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."  
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

# Postlude

*“Amazing Grace” • by Jim Martinez*



# Worship Notes

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**WORSHIP LEADER**

Bob Linden

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES**

Troy Kehm-Goins

**VIDEO**

Phil Edlund

**DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES**

Susan Bloomfield

**MVLC SACRED JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

Amy Fuller, vocals

Debbie Hushagen, keyboard

Jim Hushagen, jazz guitar

Bill Kohler, sax and bass

Joan Kohler, flute

Don Neptun, drums, bass, trumpet

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### TEXT

- )] Text “Give” to 253-292-9599.
- )] You will be sent a message to (a) text your giving amount and/or (b) set up recurring giving.

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- )] Visit [www.mtviewlutheran.org](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org).
- )] Hover over the “GIVE” dropbox.
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Did you worship with us  
online for Ascension?

*Please record your attendance at*

[www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org/worshipattendance)



Do you have a prayer request?

*Send a prayer request to  
the MVLC Church Office at*

[www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org/prayerrequest)



Mountain View Lutheran Church

3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA 98372

253-863-5171 • [www.mtviewlutheran.org](http://www.mtviewlutheran.org)

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