

Welcome to ESF Compline!

November 19, 2023

Christmas with Minor Variation!

Welcome

Welcome all and especially, our good friends of Minor Variation! Tonight, since next weekend is Thanksgiving break and the following Sunday is Lovefeast, then exams, we thought we'd celebrate Christmas and Advent a little early. Let's take a moment to prepare our hearts for worship, as Chaplain Tim Aumman says, "as we transition from getting here to being here."

Opening Prayer and Confession

One: The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. **Amen.**
Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

All: **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Let us confess our sins to God.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:

We have sinned against you,

through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,

and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

forgive us all our offenses;

and grant that we may serve you in newness of life,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Minor Variation

"White Christmas" (the Drifters)

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!

The Psalm - 96

1 Sing to the LORD a new song; *

sing to the LORD, all the whole earth.

**2 Sing to the LORD and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.

**4 For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the LORD who made the heavens.

**6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!**

7 Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

**8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.**

9 Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

**10 Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."**

11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the LORD when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.**

13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Reading - John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man

sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

(moment of silent reflection)

Minor Variation

We're Goin' Up to Bethlehem (Ruth Morris Gray)

The Prayers

One: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;
For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.
Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;
Hide us under the shadow of your wings.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

Lord hear our prayer
And let our cry come to you.
Let us pray.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

Open Space Prayers of the People

(At this time, you are all invited to add your own prayers aloud or in the silence of your hearts)

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

**Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Minor Variation

That's Christmas to Me (Pentatonix)

One: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of Mary: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us bless the LORD,
Thanks be to God!

Happy Thanksgiving! Blessed Advent! Merry Christmas!!! And may the almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. **Amen!**