

Supper Service FULL SCRIPT:
Season 1/LIGHT (NOVEMBER-FEBRUARY)

Cast List

Recruit in advance:

Meal Hosts:

Door Hosts (also :

Art (Sidewalk Chalk or other):

Presider:

Head Liturgist (Coordinator/Coach):

Storyteller:

Reader:

Leader 1 (Word):

Leader 2(Table):

Leader 3 (Props):

Helper 1(Bells):

Helper 2 (Incense):

Helper 3 (Icon):

Dancers:

Holy God:

Psalm (plus those recruited "on the spot"):

Songleaders:

Prelude:

Gathering Song: Come Let us Worship God (Welcome Everyone)

Holy God: MFL #1

Walking: Bulgarian Alleluia

Lighting: Chant light verses OR O Wisdom Come to Us

Psalm: Chant

Prayer: O Wisdom Come to Us

Peace: Shalom my friends

Sanctus: Holy Manna

Lord's Prayer:

Communion Song: Bulgarian Alleluia OR Gloria w/Bread Verses

Thank You: There is enough

Bless them Lord: Thuma Mina

Clean up: We are cleaning in the light of God OR other

Blessing: Night has Fallen

GATHERING

Leader 3 invites helper 1 to ring church bells. Leaders & People gather in Rotunda.

PRESIDER: WELCOME SPEECH

Good Evening. Come gather in the center of the room. We'll begin our service by singing together.

We make church together, and one of the ways we do that is by singing together. We'll be teaching all the songs for tonight's service by ear, as we go along. Our practice with each song is to let the song leader sing through the whole song once—and *just listen*, even if you already know the song. After we've listened to the song leader sing through the whole song once, we join in. Sing out strong, add your own harmonies anytime you feel like it!

Gathering Song: *Come Let us Worship God (Welcome Everyone)*

Songleader:

PRESIDER: PREPARATION SPEECH

We are in the midst of the darkest season of the year.

As we sing our next song we pause to remember the dark places-- in our hearts and our world-- and we pray for the birth of God's light in every dark place.

Our song leader will lead us in singing, "Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One: Have Mercy on us." Listen first. The song leader will sing first. Then we'll all sing together, three times.

Preparation Song: *"Holy God" (MFL #1)*

Songleader:

Dancers move with lanterns around the altar.

OPENING PRAYER & LAMPLIGHTING

LEADER 1 :TRAVELING SPEECH #1

We'll move into the seating area together, following the cross and the candle. (Take your place towards the center of the room, near the center platform, so you can see and hear all the readings.) As we go, we'll sing an Alleluia.

Walking Song: *Bulgarian "Alleluia"*

Songleader:

Presider (with cross) & **Leader 3** (with candle) & **Dancers** (with lanterns) lead everyone to seating area; all remain standing for opening prayer

PRESIDER: OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you. .. (And also with you...)

Let us pray...

O God of love,

you gather your people

young and old

from near and far

to hear your Word

and feast at your Table.

Gather us together this evening;

shine your light upon us;

light your fire within us;

that we might become the light of the world.

LEADER 1: LAMPLIGHTING SPEECH

Take your seats. (pause while people sit.)

As we light the candles, the light of Christ is growing in and among us.

Lamplighting Song: Chant LIGHT verses or "O Wisdom, Come to us"

Songleaders:

Leaders distribute candles to all children present and assist them with candlelighting.

Leader 3 brings deacon's candle and **Reader** to lectern, and assists **Helper 2** in adding incense to the bowl

Cantors continue chanting until all candles are lit and all candle-lighters have returned to their seats.

LISTENING FOR GOD IN STORIES & SILENCES

LEADER 1: SILENCE SPEECH

God is always speaking, but sometimes we forget how to listen. When the bowl bells ring, we enter the silence. In the silence, we listen for God not only with our ears, but with our whole bodies and with our hearts.

LEADER 1 RINGS BELLS & times 30 seconds of SILENCE

READER stands at the lectern. When the silence is over, the Reader says:

READER: READING INTRO

Listen to a reading from _____.

READER finishes reading and returns to seat.

Leader 1 RINGS BELLS and times 30 seconds of SILENCE

PRESIDER: PSALM INTRO

The Psalm for today is _____. We'll pray the Psalm together in this way.

Anyone who wants to help pray the Psalm by chanting, stand up where you are. Someone will bring you a copy of the Psalm. When it is your turn to chant a verse, you can chant it using any tone you wish. You can chant it all on one tone, or you can make up your own tone. The only rule is to chant loudly enough that everyone can hear all the words.

Anyone who wants to help pray the Psalm by using your body, come stand up here on the solea, and help us make a living sculpture. Listen to the words of the Psalm, then respond by making a shape with your body. The only rule is that you are always connected with at least one other person. The bell is your signal to change shapes. Stay connected, and move on the bell.

Everyone else, you're going to help pray the Psalm by placing one hand on your heart, and making a humming sound, called a drone, to support the prayer.

People pray the Psalm. The Psalm concludes with the words, "Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen."

Leader 1 RINGS BELLS and times 30 seconds of SILENCE

Psalm Sculptors return to their seats. Storyteller(s) stand.

STORYTELLER: STORY INTRO

Tonight's story comes from (or "is inspired by") _____.

Storyteller shares a story, then returns to seat.

Presider leads sharing & wondering, then nods at Leader 1, who says:

LEADER 1 KEEP IT UP SPEECH

Keep sharing your stories! Keep listening to the silence! Keep asking questions! God is speaking in all of it.

PRAYERS & PEACE

LEADER 2: TRAVELING SPEECH #2

We'll move into the rotunda together, following the candle, and make one big circle for the prayers. As we go, we'll sing an Alleluia.

Walking Song: *Bulgarian* "Alleluia"

Songleader:

Cantor, Leader 3 (with candle), Helper 2 (with incense), Helper 3 (with icon) lead everyone to rotunda; make one large circle

Cantor, Leader 3, Helpers, Leader 2 & Presider stand beneath the Dancing Jesus

LEADER 2: PRAYER SPEECH:

We offer our prayers for the whole world, for friends and strangers, and for ourselves. When the icon passes in front of you, reach out to touch it, and call your prayers out loud!

Praying Song: "O Wisdom come to us"

Songleader:

Prayer Leaders--Cantor, Leader 3 (with Candle), Helper 2 (with incense), Helper 3 (with icon)-- travel slowly around the circle to bid prayers, stopping to face the center whenever the cantor begins to sing.

Presider concludes the prayer with a collect

PRESIDER: COLLECT AT THE END OF THE PRAYERS:

We entrust these prayers, and all the prayers of our hearts, to the heart of God, who is love, in the name of Jesus our savior and brother and friend. AMEN.

LEADER 2: PEACE SPEECH

Before we share God's feast, we always share God's peace.

Our songleader will teach us a song of peace. We'll sing through the song a couple times in place, then *keep singing*, as we share a sign of peace with the people around us.

Peace Song: "Shalom my friends"

Songleader:

Leaders help Presider bring bread & wine to the Altar, and pour wine into chalices, as people exchange the peace.

COMMUNION

Once table is set, as peace song concludes, Leader 2 calls people to the table

LEADER 2: COME TO THE TABLE SPEECH

Come close! Make space right around the table for shorter people, and lift up small children so they can see. Come join in the prayer of Great Thanksgiving! Come bless the bread and wine!

Presider, Leader 2, & Cantor lead people Great Thanksgiving

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PRESIDER:

The Lord be with you (*and also with you*)

Lift up your hearts. (*we lift them to the Lord*)

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God (*it is right to give God thanks and praise*)

Leader 2 God, you are our mother and father, our lover and friend. You call the whole world into being. In the beginning You created the light and called it good. You created all people and called them your children. We thank you for creating us to dance in your light, to be friends with one another, and with all of creation, and with you.

And so, with all the saints and angels we lift our voices and we sing:

Song: Holy Manna Sanctus

Songleader:

Presider: In the darkest night you gave birth to new radiance, Jesus, the Light of the world. We thank you God for sending Jesus, the Light, to brighten our path, and to lead us singing and dancing back home to You.

On the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Then Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new and everlasting promise, which is shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

With this bread and this cup we remember the life, and death, and new life of Jesus, the Light that never dies.

God, send your Holy Spirit to fill this bread and wine. Let your life fill them. Let your life fill us.

All Leaders: Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor, glory, and light is yours, O God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Leader 2: Now we pray in the way Jesus taught us...

Song: Lord's Prayer

Songleader:

LEADER 2: COMMUNION SPEECH (JESUS WELCOMES EVERYONE)

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table, and so we offer everyone the bread and wine, which are Christ's body and blood. We'll share the bread and wine with each other. After you receive the cup, turn and offer it to the next person, saying, "The blood of Christ."

Communion Song: Chant BREAD Verses with Bulgarian Alleluia OR Gloria

Songleaders:

Presider & Leader 2 share the bread, beginning at front doors and moving in opposite directions around the circle to end at front doors

Leader 1 & 3 follow with chalices

Leaders receive communion once everyone else has received

THANKSGIVINGS, COLLECTION, SPECIAL BLESSINGS

LEADER 2: COLLECTION SPEECH

Everything we have is a gift from God. In thanksgiving for all God's gifts we offer our prayers and our gifts of money for the work of the church. As we sing and offer our thanksgivings, bring your gifts of money to the basket on the table.

Thanksgiving Song: *There is enough*

Songleader:

LEADER 2: THANKSGIVINGS SPEECH

For what do you give thanks this night? Call out loud your thanksgivings!

Repeat Thanksgiving Song: *There is enough (to conclude thanksgivings)*

PRESIDER: DINNER TIME SPEECH

The Feast continues! We'll have ~ _____ minutes for dinner. When the church bells ring, it's time for everyone to stop eating, help clean up, then gather around the table for our final songs and a blessing. You can sit on the floor, or a table. Sit with someone you don't know. And enjoy.

DINNER

PEOPLE line up for dinner

LEADERS spread out picnic blankets; sit with strangers; make people feel welcome and included

DOOR HOSTS go into the vestry to record attendance & count, record, and deposit collection money before eating dinner.

CLEAN UP, BLESSING & DISMISSAL

**Note: The transition from cleaning song—to final benediction—to closing song—to dismissal should be smooth and tight! No gaps, pauses, explanations, or breaks in energy.*

Leader 3 invites **Helper** to ring church bell around 6:15PM (on Presider's cue)

PRESIDER: CLEAN UP SPEECH

Now is the time for everyone to finish eating and work together to clean up the church, then gather close around the table for our final song and a blessing. (Insert any special instructions) As we clean up, we'll sing together...

Cleaning Song: We are cleaning in the light of God, OR Alleluia Refrain w/instructions (or other songs of choice)

Songleader:

Leaders help facilitate cleaning, making a special effort to include young children in the work of cleaning up.

As cleaning begins to wind up, **Presider** dims the lights and gathers everyone around the table.

PRESIDER: SPECIAL BLESSING SPEECH

Come close as we bless those who are celebrating special occasions this month. Is anyone celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or special occasion this month? Come to the center so we can bless you. We'll lay our hands on these people, and bless them singing, "Bless them Jesus, Bless them Jesus, Bless them Jesus, Bless them Lord."

Blessing Song: Bless them Lord (Thuma Mina)

Songleader: Presider

PRESIDER: FINAL BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

Now gather in even a little closer, as we bless each other for the night and week and month ahead with a final song.

Closing Song: *Night has Fallen*

Songleader:

PRESIDER DISMISSAL

Go in peace to Love and serve the Lord (*Thanks be to God.*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AS NEEDED