

The Lighting of the Lamp at Evening

THE lamp is placed on the steps of the Table (all stand).

LEADER : “ The Sun shall be no more thy light by day ;
neither for brightness shall the moon give light
unto thee ; but the Lord shall be unto thee an
everlasting light and thy God thy glory. The
sun shall no more go down, neither shall the
moon withdraw itself ; for the Lord shall be
thine everlasting light, and the days of thy
mourning shall be ended.”

(Isaiah 60, 19-20).

PEOPLE : Father, give us thy blessing.

L The Eternal God is your refuge. And underneath are
the everlasting arms.

P Lord Jesus, give us thy peace.

L My strength is made perfect in your weakness.

P O Comforter, abide in us.

L The power of the Most High doth overshadow you.

Jesus Christ ! Joyous Light ! Pure ray from the blazing
splendour of the Father, who dwells immortal, hallow'd
blest, in heaven above, thee we praise with the Father
and the Holy Spirit. To Thee, everlasting Son of the
Father, sacred anthems ever we should sing ; thou art
worthy of all worship, life eternal thou didst bring.

P Amen. Thanks be to God.

Hymn based on the prayer of Ignatius Loyola (sung by the
congregation seated) ; author, Dr. Wu Yao Tsu, pioneer
leader of the Three Self Movement of the Church in China.

Grant good Lord, that we
Serve Thee as we ought,
Thee Who ever dost
Serve men patiently.
Teach us all to give
And not count the cost,
Fighting, heeding not
Wounds and infamy.

Teach us still to toil
And not seek for rest ;
Steadfast labouring,
Asking no reward ;
Pressing toward the goal,
Caring but to know
That we faithfully
Do Thy will, O Lord.

New Testament reading : Mark 2, 15-22.

(Followed by five minutes' silence for pondering on the passage.)

Hymn 41.

THE GRACE (all together) : May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

Ascription of praise at the placing of the lamp on the Table (all stand).

L Glory to Thee, O Christ, the true light.

P Christ is the Lord.

L Glory to Thee, the Light of the world.

P Christ is the Lord.

L Glory to Thee, the Light of the light.

P Christ is the Lord.

Hymn (sung by choir) :

“ Jerusalem, new heaven and earth . . . ”

by the late Dr. Liu Ting-fang, sometime Dean of the School of Religion at Yenching University, Peking.

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(This is the text of one of the Evening Services used at the Meeting of the World Council of Churches in 1968 at Uppsala, Sweden. It would seem to lend itself to adaptation for some of the short Evening Services used in many churches.)