

Fear Not!

A Liturgy for Anxious Times

An Evensong written by Heather Choate Davis & Blake Flattley

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.

HYMN

Fear Not! By Heather Choate Davis

I want to know what an - gels knew when they said fear not. I want to
see what they saw when they claimed it. I want to feel in my heart the sure
quak - ing of His pow'r in my life and cry out fear - not. Fear
not fear not fear not fear not
stand tell on that ground where His peo - ple cry "Fear not!" I want to
tell of His grace to the fa - ces lined with fear. I want to
hear what they heard when they tell me. That the God who brings life where there
live pass - ing on what He gave me. His on - ly Son on a hill be - ing
is no life - at all has a call for my life fear - not. Fear
killed for one and all the Word a - live in - side the call fear - not.
not fear not fear not fear not
1. I want to not.
2. I want to
3. Now I want to

CONFESSION

Leader: Desiring to know the Living God in all His awesome, intimate glory, we now prepare our hearts in silence.

In God I trust, I shall not fear, What can mor-tal man do to me?

Leader: Lord, we come here tonight each with our own fears. Afraid of an uncertain world and of our place in it. Afraid, too, of how You are calling us to live and to love.

*"In God I trust, I shall not fear,
What can mortal man do to me?"*

All: Lord we know that we have made decisions, spoken words, taken actions, and nursed grudges that were rooted in our own fears. Forgive us. Help us to see that You are real and present, not only in the heavens, but in all the ordinary anxieties and frustrations of our days.

*"In God I trust, I shall not fear,
What can mortal man do to me?"*

ABSOLUTION

Leader: Tonight, Jesus Christ, the light of the world, has heard the fears of your heart and your longing for His peace. And from the still point of all eternity He is —even as we speak — leading you back to the Spirit of hope. In His name, your sins are forgiven. Fear not!

*"In God I trust, I shall not fear,
What can mortal man do to me?"*

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN

"Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silent" LSB 621

DEVOTION

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYER

Leader: I invite you now to clench your fists. From this closed grip, we begin our prayer:

"Lord, we know that *this* is our default setting, clinging to our own ways, tightening up in the face of uncertainty. But You have shown us once again tonight that You are calling us to live like *this* (*demonstrates the opening of hands, and the outstretching of palms, as if to receive the benediction*). As we move through the coming days, Lord, help us to approach the world with soft hands and open hearts. When we are tempted to turn in on ourselves, remind us that fear is the enemy of hope. Reawaken the Gospel Call you've given to each of us: that as we have received, so we pass on to others. That as we have been loved so freely, so freely we love.

Leader: We invite you now to offer up the prayers of your heart, either silently or aloud.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Let us join hands and say together

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING CANTICLE and REFRAIN

(Lyrics by Heather Choate Davis & Music by Blake Flattley)

Fear not! Your prayers have been heard. His gift is yours for-ev-er. Fear

not! Your prayers have been heard His gift is yours for-ev-er.

Fear

Spoken during musical vamp

Leader: And now, with hearts full of thanksgiving, we rise to receive the benediction. May the Lord bless you and keep you, may He silence the voice of fear in your life, And may He fill you with the sure knowledge that He is drawing you ever nearer To the peace that passes all human understanding. Amen.

CLOSING REFRAIN:

"Fear Not!" Refrain

The musical score is written on two staves in G major and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain, with lyrics underneath. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, starting with a measure rest (marked with a '3') and ending with a double bar line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, Em7, D, and G(2).

G Em7 D G(2)

Fear not! Your prayers have been heard. His gift is Yours for-ev-er. Fear

³ G Em7 D G(2)

not! Your prayers have been heard. His gift is Yours for-ev-er.

Leader: Fear not! Go in peace.