

2025-12-04 Meditation for Thursday in the First Week of Advent is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

Theme song (7th-century hymn):

Creator of the stars of night
Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call

In sorrow that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Lyrics: Traditional, arr. Blind Willie Johnson (1897-1945) built on Matthew 25:1-13 and Luke 12:35

Music: Traditional, arr. Blind Willie Johnson, arr. for choir by André J. Thomas (b. 1952)

Artists: The Combined Choirs of Florida State University, André J. Thomas (dir.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzkAF1S-m-g&list=PLmRf2VEVPna1dFScuVqa5DhNpFKPsRm-D&index=21>

The 1928 gospel blues version recorded by Blind Willie Johnson and Willie B. Harris:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEpcd8cvqh4>

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh. [Other versions: The work/world is nearly done.]

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary
'Till your work is done.

Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary
'Till your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh.

Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.

Evan
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