

*Song

"I Love the Lord"

LUYH 819

*Benediction

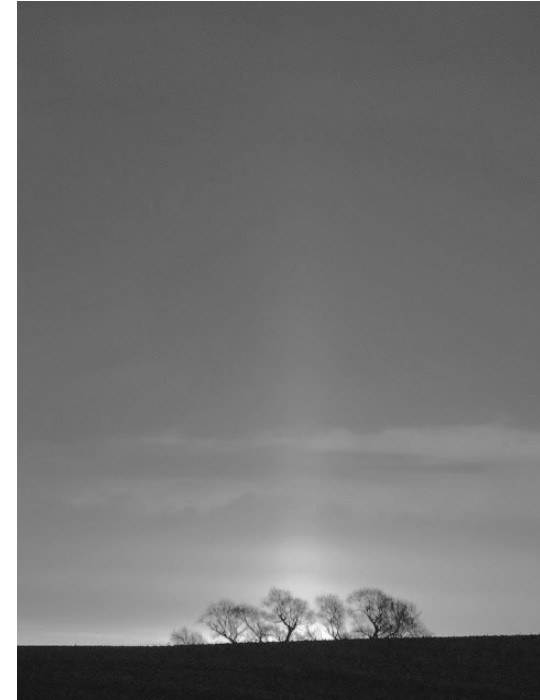
Romans 15:13

LEADER May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope.

*Pass the Peace

Vespers

a service of Evening Prayer at Covenant CRC



Vespers, also known as Evening Prayer or Evensong, is one of the fixed times of prayer in Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran traditions, as well as others around the world. The word *Vespers* comes from the Latin word for evening, and so these prayers are often prayed at sunset.

During Eastertide at Covenant, as dusk begins to fall, we will join in prayers of thanksgiving, praise, and intercession to the God who “from the darkness of the tomb drew forth the light of the world, who led us through the waters of death, and made us children of light singing Alleluias and dancing to the music of new life.” (from *The Book of Common Worship*)

Prayers and liturgies are taken from *The Book of Common Prayer* and the *The Book of Common Worship* and used with permission. Photo credit: Jim Schaap, used with permission.

Trinity Sunday

May 30, 2021

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

Psalm 141:2

LEADER O Lord, let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Silence

Song

"Be Still, for the Presence"

LUYH 532

Greeting

Philippians 1:2

LEADER Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Opening Sentences

LEADER Our help is in the name of the Lord;

PEOPLE **the maker of heaven and earth.**

LEADER Jesus Christ is the Light of the world

PEOPLE **the light no darkness can overcome.**

LEADER Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening

PEOPLE **and the day is almost over.**

LEADER Let your light scatter the darkness

PEOPLE **and illumine your church.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
In the beginning you separated light from darkness
and placed all your works in our hands.
You have given us the light of day

LEADER Create in us clean hearts, O God;
PEOPLE **and take not your Holy Spirit from us.**

LEADER Grant us your peace;

PEOPLE **for only in you can we live in safety.**

LEADER Lord, gathered and directed by your Spirit, help us to combine our gifts with a desire to serve you, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we stand and are bold to pray saying together the words Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

**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 debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and glory forever. Amen.**

LEADER Lord, hear our prayer;

PEOPLE **and let our cry come to you.**

LEADER Let us pray.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence

Second Lesson

Romans 8:12-17

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

John 3:1-17

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Born Again; Born Above; Born Always

*Song

"Love Divine, All Love's Excelling"

LUYH 351

The Prayers

LEADER God of all creation, full of love and abounding in mercy;

PEOPLE **may the whole earth be filled with your glory.**

LEADER Lord, bless and guide all ministers of your church;

PEOPLE **clothe them in righteousness and grant them wisdom.**

LEADER Direct the leaders of our government;

PEOPLE **that they may act in accordance with your kingdom.**

LEADER Enlarge our own hearts, O Lord,

PEOPLE **to love the things that you love.**

LEADER May we proclaim your light

PEOPLE **in every place where there is darkness.**

LEADER May we proclaim your Holy Name

PEOPLE **in every aspect of our lives.**

LEADER We pray for those in sickness, grief, persecution, bondage, fear, or loneliness, and for all our own needs;

PEOPLE **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessions are offered.

that we might see your wonders
in all we say and do;
you give us the gentle darkness of the night
that we might rest from our burdens
and be refreshed in body and spirit.
Break through the darkness of our sins
with the splendor of your mercy and love.
Send your light to dispel our fears and anxieties
and fill us with hope and joy.
Glory, praise, and honor are yours, O God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen.

*Song of Worship

"In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

LUYH 357

Prayer of Confession

LEADER Confident of God's love, let us confess our sins.

Silence

LEADER Most merciful God,

PEOPLE **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Song of Confession

"Have Mercy on Us, God Most High"

LUYH 13

The Assurance

LEADER Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

PEOPLE **Amen.**

LEADER O God, make speed to save us.

PEOPLE **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

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

LEADER O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised
by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the world.

The Psalm

Psalm 40

1 I waited patiently for the Lord;
he turned to me and heard my cry.

2 **He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.**

3 **He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in him.**

4 Blessed is the one
who trusts in the Lord,
who does not look to the proud,
to those who turn aside to false gods.

5 Many, Lord my God,
are the wonders you have done,
the things you planned for us.
None can compare with you;
were I to speak and tell of your deeds,
they would be too many to declare.

6 **Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—
but my ears you have opened—
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.**

7 **Then I said, “Here I am, I have come—
it is written about me in the scroll.**

8 **I desire to do your will, my God;
your law is within my heart.”**

9 I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly;
I do not seal my lips, Lord,
as you know.

10 I do not hide your righteousness in my heart;
I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help.
I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness
from the great assembly.

11 **Do not withhold your mercy from me, Lord;
may your love and faithfulness always protect me.**

12 For troubles without number surround me;
my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see.
They are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails within me.

13 **Be pleased to save me, Lord;
come quickly, Lord, to help me.**

LEADER All glory be to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

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

The Lessons

First Lesson

Isaiah 6:1-8

Song

“Santo, santo, santo/Holy, Holy, Holy, My Heart”

LUYH 595