

LEADER Let us bless the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

***Benediction**

Romans 15:13

LEADER May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

***Song**

"Peace Before Us"

LUYH 923

***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.

Here 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: Jo Alberda, used with permission.

Ordinary Time

August 29, 2021

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

Psalm 96:9

LEADER Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.

Silence

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 It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

PEOPLE **to sing your praise, O Most High;**

LEADER to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

PEOPLE **and your faithfulness at night.**

*Song

"My Soul Finds Rest"

LUYH 370

Prayer of Confession

LEADER Trusting in God's steadfast love, let us confess
our sins to God.

Silence

LEADER Most merciful God,

PEOPLE **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,**

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Humbly Receive the Word

*Song

"Ancient Words"

LUYH 762

The Prayers

Prayers of the People

LEADER Let us pray to the Lord;

PEOPLE **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

LEADER Lord, hear our prayer;

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

LEADER Let us pray.

Collect

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Silence

Song

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

LUYH 903

LEADER Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,

PEOPLE **that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep rest in his peace.**

LEADER May Almighty God bless, preserve, and keep us,
this night and forevermore.

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.**

The Psalm

Psalm 15

1 O Lord, who may abide in your tent?
Who may dwell on your holy hill?
2 **Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;**
3 **who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;**
4 in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honor those who fear the Lord;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
5 who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Song

"Glory Be to the Father" *LUYH 959*

The Lessons

First Lesson *Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel *Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle *James 1:17-27*

**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.**

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.**

Song

"His Mercy Is More"

Words & Music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell
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What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

Chorus:
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more. *(to chorus)*