

Song

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

LUYH 884

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

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 Let us bless the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

*Parting Song

"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

LUYH 206:1,4,5

*Sharing the Peace

LEADER The peace of the Lord be with you always.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

Pass the peace to those around you as you leave.

Vespers

A service of evening prayer at Covenant CRC



Welcome to Vespers.

This service of evening prayer will use liturgies from *The Book of Common Prayer* that lead us to pray and ponder through psalms, silence, songs, and meditation, and will act as a way to gather up the events and cares of our days in prayer.

Organ/Piano: Beth Vanden Berg

Sound: Jeff Ploegstra ♦ Video: Dane Hibma ♦ CCLI #493458 ♦ OneLicense #A-721171

Third Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

Psalm 74:15-16

LEADER Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.

Silence

*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.**

*Greeting

Philippians 1:2

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER Blessed are you, O Lord, Redeemer God. You destroyed the bonds of death and from the darkness of the tomb drew forth the light of the world. You led us through the waters of death, and made us children of light singing alleluias

Song

"Glory Be to the Father"

LUYH 959

The First Lesson

Acts 9:1-20

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Lesson

II Corinthians 12:2-10

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Testimony: Wil Alberda

*Song of Response

"In Christ Alone"

LUYH 770:1,2,4

The Prayers

Prayers of the People

LEADER Lord, in your mercy,

PEOPLE **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

PEOPLE **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 O God, make speed to save us.
 PEOPLE **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
 LEADER Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
 and to the Holy Spirit.
 PEOPLE **As it was in the beginning, is now,
 and ever shall be. Alleluia. Amen.**

The Psalm

Psalm 30

1 I will exalt you, Lord,
 for you lifted me out of the depths
 and did not let my enemies gloat over me.
 2 **Lord my God, I called to you for help,
 and you healed me.**
 3 You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
 you spared me from going down to the pit.
 4 **Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people;
 praise his holy name.**
 5 For his anger lasts only a moment,
 but his favor lasts a lifetime;
**weeping may stay for the night,
 but rejoicing comes in the morning.**
 6 When I felt secure, I said,
 "I will never be shaken."
 7 **Lord, when you favored me,
 you made my royal mountain stand firm;
 but when you hid your face,
 I was dismayed.**
 8 To you, Lord, I called;
 to the Lord I cried for mercy:
 9 **"What is gained if I am silenced,
 if I go down to the pit?
 Will the dust praise you?
 Will it proclaim your faithfulness?"**
 10 Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me;
 Lord, be my help."
 11 **You turned my wailing into dancing;
 you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
 12 that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.
 Lord my God, I will praise you forever.**

and dancing to the music of new life.
 Pour out your Spirit upon us
 that dreams and visions
 bring us ever closer to the kingdom of Jesus Christ,
 our risen Savior.
 Through him and in the Holy Spirit
 all glory be to you, almighty God,
 this night and forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Song of Praise

"Thine Is the Glory"

LUYH 187

Prayer of Confession

LEADER Trusting in God's steadfast mercy and 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.**

The Assurance

1 Peter 2:24

LEADER Jesus himself bore our sins in his body on
 the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for
 righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed.

Song

"And Can It Be"

LUYH 695:1,2