

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 You have given yourself to us, Lord.
PEOPLE **Now we give ourselves for others.**

LEADER You have raised us with Christ and made us a new
people.
PEOPLE **As people of the resurrection, we will serve you
with joy.**

LEADER Your glory has filled our hearts.
PEOPLE **Help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.**

*Parting Song

"To God Be the Glory" LUYH 956

*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.

We are so grateful to the lyrical worship class from Robin's School of Dance and their teacher, Claire Vander Kooi, for sharing their gift of dance with us this evening!

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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 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

*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.**

*Song of Praise

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LUYH 348:1,2

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER Blessed are you, O Lord, Redeemer God. You destroyed the bonds of death and from the darkness of the tomb

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 Epistle

Revelation 7:9-17

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Tribe, Tribulation, and Throne

*Song of Response

"Before the Throne of God Above"

LUYH 682

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.**

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

**and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Assurance

Ephesians 2:8

LEADER By grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

Song

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" LUYH 772:1,3

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 23

- 1 **The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.**
- 2 **He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,**
- 3 **he restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.**
- 4 **Even though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**
- 5 **You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.**
- 6 **Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.**

drew forth the light of the world.
You led us through the waters of death,
and made us children of light singing alleluias
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.**

Dance of Praise

Robin's School of Dance

"My Feet Are on the Rock"

Scripture

Psalm 62:6-8

LEADER Truly God is my rock and my salvation;

PEOPLE **he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.**

LEADER My salvation and my honor depend on God;

PEOPLE **he is my mighty rock, my refuge.**

LEADER Trust in him at all times, you people;

PEOPLE **pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.**

Prayer of Confession

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,**