

LEADER Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,  
PEOPLE **that awake we may watch with Christ,  
and asleep rest in his peace.**

**\*Parting Song**

*"My Jesus, I Love Thee"* LUYH 366

**\*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.

# Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

## November 13, 2022

### Words of Welcome

### Opening Scripture

*Psalm 14:2*

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

*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

*"Christ, Be Our Light"*

*LUYH 908:1-4*

### Prayer of Confession

*Silence*

LEADER Most merciful God,

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

PEOPLE **Draw us away from degrading thoughts and  
actions, and lift from us depression and worry.**  
*(Silent Prayer)*

LEADER Through humble people, prepare your world,  
O God. Let the mountains be leveled off!

PEOPLE **End our pride and take away our arrogance:  
save us from false hope and unwarranted  
presumption.**  
*(Silent Prayer)*

LEADER Through faithful people, prepare your world, O God.  
Let the crooked be made straight!

PEOPLE **Forgive our sin, and pardon our wrongdoing;  
defeat evil and overcome the power of death.**  
*(Silent Prayer)*

LEADER Through saved people, prepare your world, O God.  
Let the rough be made smooth!

PEOPLE **Help us grow in understanding, and give us  
wisdom to discern that which is good and true.**  
*(Silent Prayer)*

LEADER Through sanctified people, prepare your world,  
O God. Let all people see the salvation of our God.

PEOPLE **Redeem your world, and make all things new,  
and bring us into your holy and perfect  
presence, now and for all eternity.**  
*(Silent Prayer)*

LEADER Keep us humble and faithful. Save us and sanctify  
us, O God.

PEOPLE **For the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
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  
the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the  
joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

*Silence*

- 4 Tremble and do not sin;  
when you are on your beds,  
search your hearts and be silent.
- 5 **Offer the sacrifices of the righteous  
and trust in the Lord.**
- 6 Many, Lord, are asking, "Who will bring us prosperity?"  
Let the light of your face shine on us.
- 7 **Fill my heart with joy  
when their grain and new wine abound.**
- 8 **In peace I will lie down and sleep,  
for you alone, Lord,  
make me dwell in safety.**

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 Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 65:17-25*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel Reading *Luke 21:5-19*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

### Meditation: Persevere to an End Beyond Imagining

#### \*Song of Response

*"Imagine"* *LUYH 72*

#### The Prayers

Prayers of the People *LUYH 918*

LEADER O God, you give us your good news and call us into a  
new covenant relationship with you. Help us to  
prepare the way of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let the  
valleys be lifted up!

**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 In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are  
assured that there is no sin so terrible that God  
cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot  
heal. God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free.  
Receive the forgiving love of God.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

### Song

*"Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory"* *LUYH 389*

### The Psalm

*Psalm 4*

- 1 Answer me when I call to you,  
my righteous God.  
Give me relief from my distress;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 How long will you people turn my glory into shame?  
How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?
- 3 **Know that the Lord has set apart his faithful servant  
for himself;  
the Lord hears when I call to him.**