

LEADER Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
PEOPLE **I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws. I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.**

Silent Prayer and Reflection

LEADER I long for your salvation, Lord, and your law gives me delight.
PEOPLE **Let me live that I may praise you, and may your laws sustain me. I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands.**

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 the glory forever. Amen.**

Choral Psalm

"Total Praise"

Psalms 121

*Benediction

*Parting Song

"Sing Praise to the Lord, You People of Grace"

LUYH 7

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.

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12, 2023

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

based on Psalm 1

LEADER Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked, or stand in the way of sinners, or take a seat in the company of mockers.

PEOPLE **We thank God that we can delight in the teachings of the Lord and meditate on those teachings day and night.**

Greeting

based on Psalm 2,3

LEADER Blessed are all who take refuge in God.

PEOPLE **From the Lord comes our deliverance; may your blessings rest on all your people.**

Silence

Choral Psalm

"I Will Trust in the Lord"

Psalm 20

*Opening Sentences

Psalm 8

- 1 **Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory
in the heavens.**
- 2 **Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.**
- 3 **When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,**
- 4 **what is mankind that you are mindful of them,**

The Prayers

Prayers of the People

LEADER I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.

PEOPLE **I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.**

LEADER Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

PEOPLE **I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me. My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times.**

Silent Prayer and Reflection

LEADER I am laid low in the dust; preserve my life according to your word.

PEOPLE **I gave an account of my ways and you answered me; teach me your decrees. Cause me to understand the way of your precepts, that I may meditate on your wonderful deeds.**

Silent Prayer and Reflection

LEADER Do good to your servant according to your word, Lord.

PEOPLE **Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands. Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word. You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.**

Silent Prayer and Reflection

LEADER If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

PEOPLE **I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life.**

LEADER Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.

PEOPLE **Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies.**

11 My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds;
my neighbors stay far away.
12 Those who want to kill me set their traps,
those who would harm me talk of my ruin;
all day long they scheme and lie.

The Assurance

Romans 7:21-8:4

Choral Psalm

"Freedom Is Coming"

Psalm 114

*Acclamation of Praise

LEADER Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come
again:

PEOPLE **Alleluia!**

LEADER We lift our hearts to the Lord in song:

PEOPLE **Alleluia!**

LEADER With Jesus, we have died to self:

PEOPLE **Alleluia!**

LEADER With Jesus, we are raised to new life:

PEOPLE **Alleluia!**

LEADER Nothing can separate us from God's love:

PEOPLE **Alleluia!**

*Song

"Amazing Grace"

LUYH 691:1,2,4

The Psalm

Psalm 119:1-8

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Walking in the Teachings of the Lord

*Song

"O God, You Are My God"

LUYH 743

human beings that you care for them?
5 **You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honor.**
6 **You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their feet:**
7 **all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,**
8 **the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.**
9 **Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

*Song

"Lord, Our Lord, Your Glorious Name"

LUYH 500

Prayer of Confession

Silence

Psalm 38:1-12

1 Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.
2 Your arrows have pierced me,
and your hand has come down on me.
3 Because of your wrath there is no health in my body;
there is no soundness in my bones because of my sin.
4 My guilt has overwhelmed me
like a burden too heavy to bear.
5 My wounds fester and are loathsome
because of my sinful folly.
6 I am bowed down and brought very low;
all day long I go about mourning.
7 My back is filled with searing pain;
there is no health in my body.
8 I am feeble and utterly crushed;
I groan in anguish of heart.
9 All my longings lie open before you, Lord;
my sighing is not hidden from you.
10 My heart pounds, my strength fails me;
even the light has gone from my eyes.