

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.**

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

"Don't Be Afraid" *LUYH 429*

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

"Come, All You Servants of the Lord" *LUYH 924*

*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.

The Vesper Sparrow is named after its tendency to sing most gloriously during the vesper (evening) hours after most other species have quieted for the night. As we pray and ponder and praise, may we join the creation in bringing glory to our Creator as

The Psalm

Psalm 66:8-20

- 8 Praise our God, all peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard;
9 **he has preserved our lives
and kept our feet from slipping.**
10 For you, God, tested us;
you refined us like silver.
11 You brought us into prison
and laid burdens on our backs.
12 You let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.
13 **I will come to your temple with burnt offerings
and fulfill my vows to you—
14 vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke
when I was in trouble.**
15 I will sacrifice fat animals to you
and an offering of rams;
I will offer bulls and goats.
16 **Come and hear, all you who fear God;
let me tell you what he has done for me.**
17 I cried out to him with my mouth;
his praise was on my tongue.
18 If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;
19 **but God has surely listened
and has heard my prayer.**
20 **Praise be to God,
who has not rejected my prayer
or withheld his love from me!**

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 New Testament Reading

Acts 17:22-31

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

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.

PEOPLE **Amen.**

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 for give us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Assurance

Psalm 66:18-20

LEADER If we had cherished iniquity in our hearts, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me.

Song

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

LUYH 347

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.**