

Passing the Elements

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

LUYH 175

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER Loving God, you have put gladness in our hearts; you have satisfied our hunger with good things. In giving all, you have not withheld from us your own dear Son. How can we withhold anything from you, our Lord and our God? Renew us day by day with the gift of your Spirit, that we may give ourselves completely to your service and walk with joy in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect

PEOPLE **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.**

*Benediction

Ephesians 3:20-21

LEADER Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we ask or imagine, to him be the power in the church hand in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

*Parting Song

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

LUYH 936

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 we close out the day.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 24, 2023

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

Psalm 95:6-7

LEADER Come, bow down and worship, kneel to the Lord,
our Maker. This is our God, our Shepherd, we are
the flock led with care.

Silence

Song

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

LUYH 534

*Greeting

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

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

*Opening Sentences

LEADER Our help is in the name of the Lord;

PEOPLE **the maker of heaven and earth.**

LEADER It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

PEOPLE **to sing your praise, O Most High;**

LEADER to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

PEOPLE **and your faithfulness at night.**

*Song

"Give Thanks"

LUYH 358

Prayer of Confession

Silence

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER The Lord be with you,

PEOPLE **and also with you.**

LEADER Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE **We lift them up to the Lord.**

LEADER Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE **It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

The Institution

The Memorial Acclamation

LEADER Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

PEOPLE **Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Prayer of Consecration

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.**

Preparing the Bread and Cup

LEADER The bread that we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

PEOPLE **We who are many are one body,
for we all share the same loaf.**

LEADER The cup for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

PEOPLE **The cup that we drink
is our participation in the blood of Christ.**

6 you his servants, the descendants of Abraham,
 his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.
 37 **He brought out Israel, laden with silver and gold,
 and from among their tribes no one faltered.**
 38 Egypt was glad when they left,
 because dread of Israel had fallen on them.
 39 **He spread out a cloud as a covering,
 and a fire to give light at night.**
 40 They asked, and he brought them quail;
 he fed them well with the bread of heaven.
 41 **He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
 it flowed like a river in the desert.**
 42 For he remembered his holy promise
 given to his servant Abraham.
 43 **He brought out his people with rejoicing,
 his chosen ones with shouts of joy;**
 44 **he gave them the lands of the nations,
 and they fell heir to what others had toiled for—**
 45 **that they might keep his precepts
 and observe his laws.
 Praise the Lord.**

LEADER Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the
 Holy Spirit:
 PEOPLE **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for
 ever. Alleluia. Amen.**

The Epistle Reading *Philippians 1:21-30*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.
 PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Old Testament Reading *Exodus 16:1-15*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.
 PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Glory in a Cloud and Bread

*Song of Response

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts" *LUYH 823:1-3*

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 *Acts 10:43*

LEADER All the prophets testify about Christ that everyone
 who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins
 through his name.

Song

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" *LUYH 453*

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 *Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45*

1 Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
 make known among the nations what he has done.
 2 **Sing to him, sing praise to him;
 tell of all his wonderful acts.**
 3 Glory in his holy name;
 let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
 4 **Look to the Lord and his strength;
 seek his face always.**
 5 Remember the wonders he has done,
 his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,