

## 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.**

LEADER Lord, hear our prayer;

PEOPLE **and let our cry come to you.**

## Collect

LEADER 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

*"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"* LUYH 896

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

*"God, the Father of Your People"* LUYH 927

## \*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.

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

## May 5, 2024

### 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*

### Song

*"Have Mercy on Us, God Most High"*

*LUYH 13*

### \*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 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

*"This Is My Father's World"*

*LUYH 21*

### Prayer of Confession

*Silence*

Who can be compared to God  
in faithfulness, in faithfulness?  
Who can be compared to God  
in faithfulness to all generations?  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.

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 Reading

*1 John 5:1-6*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

### The Epistle Reading

*Ephesians 4:17-5:2*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

### Meditation: Off and On; All of Life

### \*Song of Response

*"May the Mind of Christ My Savior"*

*LUYH 334:1,5*

Words st.2-4: Bob DeSmith

2. Moses saw a bush was burning,  
found himself on holy ground,  
may we meet our Lord in worship, Covenant affirmed.

3. God has blessed our congregation,  
called us to new life in Him:  
may we live in rich communion, foll'wing only Him.

4. As we fellowship together, see in each God's face today,  
may we seek to love each other, graced along the way.

### The Prayers

Prayers of the People: Sharing our Joys & Concerns

## The Psalm

*Psalm 89:1-8*

- 1 I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;  
with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known  
through all generations.
- 2 **I will declare that your love stands firm forever,  
that you have established your faithfulness  
in heaven itself.**
- 3 You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,  
I have sworn to David my servant,
- 4 **'I will establish your line forever  
and make your throne firm through all generations.'**"
- 5 The heavens praise your wonders, Lord,  
your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.
- 6 **For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord?  
Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings?**
- 7 In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared;  
he is more awesome than all who surround him.
- 8 **Who is like you, Lord God Almighty?  
You, Lord, are mighty,  
and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

## Song

### *"I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord"*

Words: Psalm 89:1,5,8; st.1 James H. Fillmore, st.2 Marie J. Post;  
Tune: James H. Fillmore

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing, I will sing.  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.  
With my mouth will I make known  
your faithfulness, your faithfulness;  
with my mouth will I make known  
your faithfulness to all generations.  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,  
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord. .

All the hosts of the angels sing God's praise forever  
for the things he has done.  
All the hosts of the angels sing God's praise forever,  
all the hosts of the angels sing God's praise.

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

## The Assurance

*John 15:9-17*

LEADER

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.  
Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands,  
you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my  
Father's commands and remain in his love. I have  
told you this so that my joy may be in you and that  
your joy may be complete. My command is this:  
Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love  
has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's  
friends. You are my friends if you do what I com-  
mand. I no longer call you servants, because a serv-  
ant does not know his master's business. Instead, I  
have called you friends, for everything that I learned  
from my Father I have made known to you. You did  
not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you  
so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will  
last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the  
Father will give you. This is my command: Love  
each other.

LEADER

O God, make speed to save us.

PEOPLE

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

LEADER

Glory 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.**