

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

LEADER May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in
believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE **Amen.**

*Parting Song

"Be Thou My Vision"

LUYH 859:1,2,4

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.

Pentecost

May 19, 2024

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

Psalm 16:7-8

LEADER I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

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 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

"All Creatures of Our God and King" LUYH 551:1,2,4,6

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**

*Song of Response

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

LUYH 903

Profession of Faith of Lucas & Molly Stiemsma

The Promises

LEADER Do you promise to love and support Lucas and Molly, pray for them, and to encourage and sustain them in the fellowship of believers?

PEOPLE **We do, God helping us.**

Prayer of Blessing

Song

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

LUYH 863:1,2,4,6

The Prayers

Prayers of the People: Sharing our Joys & Concerns

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.

27 **All creatures look to you
to give them their food at the proper time.**

28 **When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things.**

29 When you hide your face,
they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to the dust.

30 When you send your Spirit,
they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

31 **May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—**

32 **he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
who touches the mountains, and they smoke.**

33 I will sing to the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

34 May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I rejoice in the Lord.

35 **Praise the Lord, my soul.
Praise 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 Gospel Reading *John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading *Romans 8:22-27*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: The Groaning of the Spirit

**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 *Ezekiel 37:12-14*

LEADER Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the
Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring
you up from your graves, O my people; and I will
bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall
know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves,
and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I
will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and
I will place you on your own soil; then you shall
know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,"
says the Lord.

Song *"Speak, O Lord" LUYH 755*

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.**

The Psalm *Psalms 104:24-34, 35b*

24 How many are your works, Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

25 There is the sea, vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond number—
living things both large and small.

26 There the ships go to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.