

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.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 9, 2025

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

Psalm 141:2

LEADER Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Silence

Song

"I Surrender All" *LUYH 739:1,3*

*Greeting

Philippians 1:2

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

"Day by Day" *LUYH 437*

Prayer of Confession

Silence

LEADER Most merciful God,

**deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Song

"O God, Defender of the Poor" *LUYH 890:1,2,5,6*

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

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

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives" *LUYH 193:1,2,5,7*

*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.

- 4 **May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord, when they hear what you have decreed.**
- 5 May they sing of the ways of the Lord, for the glory of the Lord is great.
- 6 **Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty, he sees them from afar.**
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life.
You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me.
- 8 **The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever— do not abandon the works of your hands.**

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 *I Corinthians 15:1-11*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Easter Everyday

*Song of Response

"See, What a Morning" *LUYH 181*

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**

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.**

Song

"God, Be Merciful to Me" *LUYH 623:1-3*

The Assurance *Romans 8:1, 14-16*

LEADER Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is the very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

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 138*

1 I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

2 **I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness, for you have so exalted your solemn decree that it surpasses your fame.**

3 When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.