

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 And before the light of Epiphany fades, before we
 don the ashes of Lent, O Jesus we pray: light a light
 for us. Light a light for us that is brighter than our
 vanities and fabricated pleasures.

PEOPLE **Light a light that is stronger than our fears and
 our faith.**

LEADER Light a light for us, O Jesus, for we are flailing in the
 dark, injuring one another as we grope for some
 certainty and assurance along our way.

PEOPLE **Light a light that blazes in brilliance and proves
 the shadows in our lives to be fleeting and
 insidious.**

LEADER Light such a light, we pray with longing.
 PEOPLE **Light a light for us that leads to peace.**

Song

"Peace Before Us"

LUYH 923:1-3

*Sharing the Peace

LEADER The peace of the Lord be with you always.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

*Song

"Peace Before Us"

LUYH 923:4

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.

Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025

Words of Welcome

Opening Scripture

John 8:12

LEADER Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Silence

Song

"O God, You Are My God"

LUYH 743

*Opening Sentences

LEADER Our help is in the name of the Lord;

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

LEADER Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

PEOPLE **the light no darkness can overcome.**

LEADER Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening

PEOPLE **and the day is almost over.**

LEADER Let your light scatter the darkness

PEOPLE **and illumine your church.**

*Song

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

LUYH 579:1,2,4

Prayer of Confession

Silence

LEADER Most merciful God,

PEOPLE **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,**

*Song of Response

"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

LUYH 540

The Prayers

Prayers of the People: Sharing our Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People: Responsive Prayer

LEADER Lord, in your mercy,

PEOPLE **hear our prayer.**

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 glory forever. Amen.**

Collect

Holy God, you revealed to the disciples the everlasting glory of Jesus Christ. Grant us, who have not seen and yet believe, the gift of your Holy Spirit, that we may boldly live the gospel and shine with your transforming glory as people changed and changing through the redeeming presence of our Savior. Amen.

LEADER Lord, hear our prayer;

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

LEADER Holy God, you revealed to the disciples the everlasting glory of Jesus Christ. Grant us, who have not seen and yet believe, the gift of your Holy Spirit, that we may boldly live the gospel and shine with your transforming glory as people changed and changing through the redeeming presence of our Savior. Amen.

Silence

- let the earth shake.
- 2 **Great is the Lord in Zion;
he is exalted over all the nations.**
- 3 Let them praise your great and awesome name—
he is holy.
- 4 **The King is mighty, he loves justice—
you have established equity;
in Jacob you have done what is just and right.**
- 5 Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his footstool;
he is holy.
- 6 **Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel was among those who called on his name;
they called on the Lord
and he answered them.**
- 7 He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;
they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.
- 8 **Lord our God,
you answered them;
you were to Israel a forgiving God,
though you punished their misdeeds.**
- 9 Exalt the Lord our God
and worship at his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is holy.

LEADER Glory be to the Father, and the to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE **As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be. Alleluia. Amen.**

The Old Testament Reading *Exodus 34:29-35*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The New Testament Reading *II Corinthians 3:12-4:2*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Royal Priests at Prayer

**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

“Change My Heart, O God”

Words and music: Eddie Espinosa
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Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
You are the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

The Assurance

Psalm 103:11-12

LEADER For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God’s steadfast love.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far does God remove our sins from us.

LEADER O God, make speed to save us.

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

LEADER Glory be to the Father, and the 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

Psalm 99

1 The Lord reigns,
let the nations tremble;
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,