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.**

LEADER Let us bless the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

*Song

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand" *LUYH 465*

*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.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2025

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 al ways before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

Silence

Song

"Children of the Heavenly Father" *LUYH 23:1-3*

*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 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.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

LEADER Blessed are you, O Lord, Redeemer God. You

The Old Testament Reading *Proverbs 25:6-7*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Reading *Luke 14:1-14*

LEADER This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation: Table Healing and Wisdom

Song of Response

"I Come with Joy" *LUYH 533:1,3,6*

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 for give 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.**

LEADER Lord, hear our prayer;

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

Collect

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

destroyed the bonds of death and from the darkness of the tomb drew forth the light of the world.

PEOPLE **You led us through the waters of death, and made us children of light singing Alleluias and dancing to the music of new life.**

LEADER Pour out your Spirit upon us that dreams and visions bring us ever closer to the kingdom of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

PEOPLE **Through him and in the Holy Spirit all glory be to you, almighty God, this night and forever and ever.**

*Hymn

"God, We Sing Your Glorious Praises" *LUYH 519:1,3,4*

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 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

LEADER Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Song

"Spirit of the Living God" *LUYH 749*

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

Psalm 112

1 Praise the Lord.
Blessed are those who fear the Lord,
who find great delight in his commands.
2 **Their children will be mighty in the land;**
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
3 Wealth and riches are in their houses,
and their righteousness endures forever.
4 **Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,**
for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.
5 Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,
who conduct their affairs with justice.
6 **Surely the righteous will never be shaken;**
they will be remembered forever.
7 They will have no fear of bad news;
their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
8 **Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;**
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.
9 They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor,
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn will be lifted high in honor.
10 **The wicked will see and be vexed,**
they will gnash their teeth and waste away;
the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.

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.**