

# EVENING PRAYER

## Vespers

### OPENING

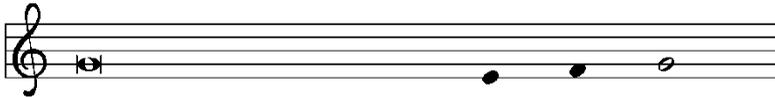
*The assembly stands. A large, lighted candle may be carried to its place. A dialogue accompanies the procession. The assembly responds to the leader.*



P: Behold, now is the accept - a - ble time; C: now is the day of sal - vation.



P: Turn us again, O God of our sal - vation,



C: that the light of your face may shine on us.



P: May your justice shine like the sun; C: and may the poor be lift - ed up.



P: The Lord be with you. C: And al - so with you.



p: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Refrain - All

Fine

Mer - cy, we a - bide in you. Stir in us, we pray.

Leader

1 In peace, may we as - sem - ble. In  
 2 For all who suf - fer in war, for  
 3 We are bro - ken, long - ing for peace, for -

Assembly

Hm Stir in us, we

peace, may we u - nite. In peace, may we be  
 all who strug - gle for com - fort, for all who slum - ber in  
 give - ness, flow a - mong us. May we be rec - on -

pray. Stir in us, we pray.

whole.  
ease.  
ciled.

Move with - in each heart.

Stir in us, we pray.

## WEEK ONE DIALOGUE

P: Listen, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money,

**C: come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.**

P: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

**C: and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**

P: Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

**C: Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.**

P: I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

C: my steadfast, sure love for David.

## OPENING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

**C: Amen.**

PSALMODY

All



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Group One or All



O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when

All



I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



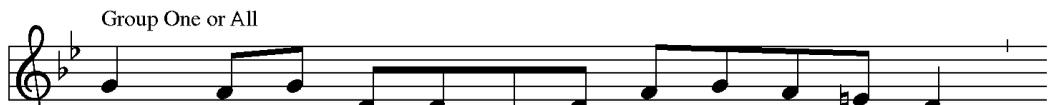
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Group Two or All



Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Group One or All



Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All



do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.



All

Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

*The assembly sits.*

L: A reading from Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Setting X



C: We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 10:37-42

P: The Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple — truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly sits.*

## MEDITATION

Pastor Stephen

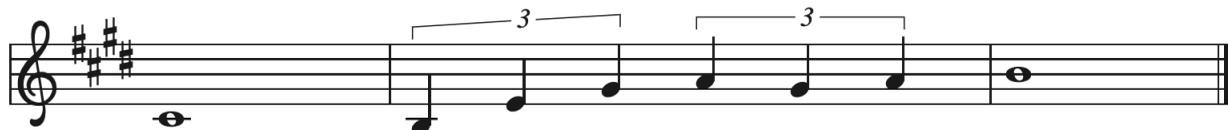
*The assembly stands*



1 All who are thirst - y for mer - cy, all who are thirst - y for  
 2 All who are thirst - y for heal - ing, all who are thirst - y for  
 3 All who are thirst - y for beau - ty, all who are thirst - y for  
 4 All who are thirst - y for jus - tice, all who are thirst - y for



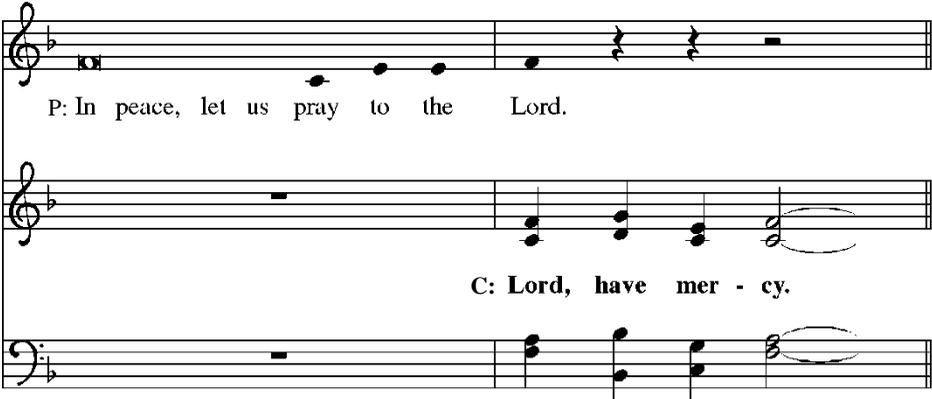
love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,  
 touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,  
 truth; all who are thirst - y for truth, for beau - ty,  
 peace; all who are thirst - y for peace, for jus - tice,



come: come to the Wa - ter of life.  
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.  
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.  
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

*The assembly sits or kneels.*

## PRAYERS



The musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (F major). The lyrics "P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord." are written below the notes. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. The lyrics "C: Lord, have mercy." are written below the piano accompaniment.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share,  
and for peaceful times, let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For public servants, the government, and those who protect us;  
for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection  
in this and every place, let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering,  
and for those who are in captivity, let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need,  
let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all servants of the church, for this assembly,  
and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy,  
let us | pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*A time of silence follows.*

P: Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the  
communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our  
whole life to you,

P: through Christ our Lord. C: To you, O Lord.

P: We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that  
you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins,  
where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your  
hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let  
your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

**C: Amen.**

*The assembly remains seated as the offering is collected and the Hymn is sung.*



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

*The assembly stands*

## OFFERTORY

ELW 884



C: Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all



crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye



heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

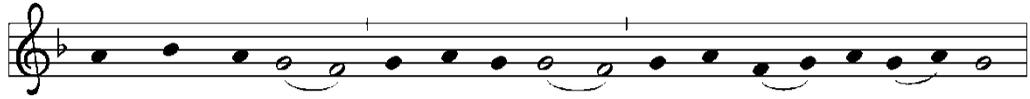
P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things, through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER



C: Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

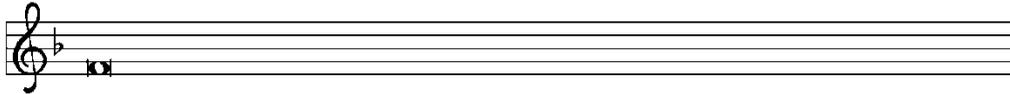


and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## BENEDICTION



P: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,



keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Je - sus. C: A - men.

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Pray always. Love your neighbor. And remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God!