

# Evening Prayer

Wednesday September 2, 2020

6:30 p.m.



## *Trinity Lutheran Church*

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## *A cordial welcome to all!*

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*As a Reconciling in Christ community of faith, Trinity welcomes all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. With other congregations in Valparaiso, we condemn racism and all forms of discrimination.*

*Please wear your mask and practice physical distancing!*

## **+ Evening Prayer +**

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*The people's responses are listed in **bold**.*

### **SERVICE OF LIGHT**

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God is our light and our salvation,  
**our refuge and our stronghold.**  
From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**we praise your name, O God.**  
For with you is the fountain of life,  
**and in your light we see light.**

**HYMN TO LIGHT**  
*Sung as solo by Leader*

### **“Joyous Light of Glory”**

Joyous light of glory, shine among your people;  
show us the loving face of God on high.  
Jesus Christ our Savior, bring us here together  
as setting sun gives way to evening light.  
We sing to God, Father, Son, and Spirit,  
worthy of praise forever and ever.  
O Son of God, you give us life eternal;  
the universe proclaims your glory.  
Joyous light of glory, shine among your people;  
show us the loving face of God on high.

# THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

*The leader leads the assembly in the dialog.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The leader leads the Thanksgiving for Light. The assembly responds at the end.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you established lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*The appointed daily lectionary texts are used. Silence for meditation may follow each reading, or instrumental music may be offered.*

### **Psalm 17:1-11, 15**

Hear a just cause, O Lord; give heed to my cry; listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.

**Let my vindication come forth from your presence; let your eyes be fixed on justice.**

Examine my heart, visit me by night, melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.

**I have not regarded what others do; at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.**

My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path; and my feet do not slip.

**I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; incline your ear to me and hear my words.**

Show me your marvelous lovingkindness, O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise against them.

**Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings,**  
From the wicked who assault me, from my deadly enemies who surround me.

**They have closed their callous hearts, and their mouth speaks proud things.**  
They track me down; now they surround me, watching how they may cast me to the ground,  
**But at my vindication I shall see your face; when I awake, I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.**

### **Jeremiah 17:5-18**

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse—  
who can understand it?

<sup>10</sup> I the Lord test the mind  
and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

<sup>11</sup> Like the partridge hatching what it did not lay,  
so are all who amass wealth unjustly;  
in mid-life it will leave them,  
and at their end they will prove to be fools.

<sup>12</sup> O glorious throne, exalted from the beginning,  
shrine of our sanctuary!

<sup>13</sup> O hope of Israel! O Lord!  
All who forsake you shall be put to shame;

those who turn away from you\* shall be recorded in the underworld,\*  
for they have forsaken the fountain of living water, the Lord.

<sup>14</sup> Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;  
save me, and I shall be saved;  
for you are my praise.

<sup>15</sup> See how they say to me,  
‘Where is the word of the Lord?  
Let it come!’

<sup>16</sup> But I have not run away from being a shepherd\* in your service,  
nor have I desired the fatal day.  
You know what came from my lips;  
it was before your face.

<sup>17</sup> Do not become a terror to me;  
you are my refuge on the day of disaster;

<sup>18</sup> Let my persecutors be shamed,  
but do not let me be shamed;  
let them be dismayed,  
but do not let me be dismayed;  
bring on them the day of disaster;  
destroy them with double destruction!

## **Matthew 12:22-32**

<sup>22</sup> Then they brought to him a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. <sup>23</sup>All the crowds were amazed and said, ‘Can this be the Son of David?’ <sup>24</sup>But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, ‘It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this fellow casts out the demons.’ <sup>25</sup>He knew what they were thinking and said to them, ‘Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. <sup>26</sup>If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup>If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists\* cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>28</sup>But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. <sup>29</sup>Or how can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. <sup>30</sup>Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup>Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup>Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

## “Now It Is Evening”

Now it is evening: lights of the city bid us remember Christ is our light.  
Many are lonely, who will be neighbor? Where there is caring, Christ is our light.

Now it is evening: food on the table bids us remember Christ is our life.  
Many are hungry, who will be neighbor? Where there is sharing, Christ is our life.

Now it is evening: little ones sleeping bid us remember Christ is our peace.  
Some are neglected, who will be neighbor? Where there is caring, Christ is our peace.

Now it is evening: here in our meeting may we remember Christ is our friend.  
Some may be strangers, who will be neighbor? Where there's a welcome, Christ is our friend.

*The reflection concludes with the dialog:*

The Light shines in the darkness  
**and the darkness has not overcome it.**

## MAGNIFICAT

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.  
**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all  
generations will call me blessed: you, the Almighty, have done great things for me  
and holy is your name.

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation. You have  
shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit, casting down  
the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. You have  
come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy, the  
promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

## PRAYERS

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

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, through Christ our Lord.

**To you, O Lord.**

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**“O God in Heaven”**

*Hymn paraphrase*

O God in heaven,  
grant to your children  
mercy and blessing,  
songs never ceasing,  
grace to invite us,  
peace to unite us—  
O God in heaven,  
author of love.

Jesus, redeemer,  
help us remember  
your pain and passion,  
your resurrection,  
your call to follow,  
your love tomorrow—  
Jesus, redeemer,  
savior, and friend.

Spirit unending,  
give us your blessing:  
strength for the weary,  
help for the needy,  
hope for the scornful,  
peace for the mournful—  
Spirit unending,  
comfort and guide.

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The leader dismisses the assembly with the Peace.*

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

### **Acknowledgments**

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