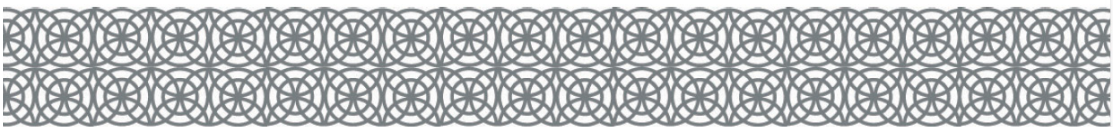




SUNDAY EVENING

Vespers



CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 19, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

# Lord's Day Vespers

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EVENING WORSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.

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## EVENING VESPER MEDITATION

*Almighty God, we give You thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of vesper light; and we implore You in Your great mercy that, as You enfold us with the radiance of Your light, so You would shine into our hearts the brightness of Your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by Your brightness we may know You to be the true God and Eternal Light, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.*



Prelude

Call to Worship

Psalms 95:6-7

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!  
For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Hymn

*I Will Wait for You*

(see page 5)

Evening Prayer

## Congregational Prayer

Adapted from Joseph Alleine (1634-1668)

Minister: O Lord God, take our hearts in Your hand. Our hearts are too hard, and we are too weak.

**People: Do not give up on us, O Lord.**

Minister: Just one word from You - You Who has the key of David. You Who opens what no person can shut.

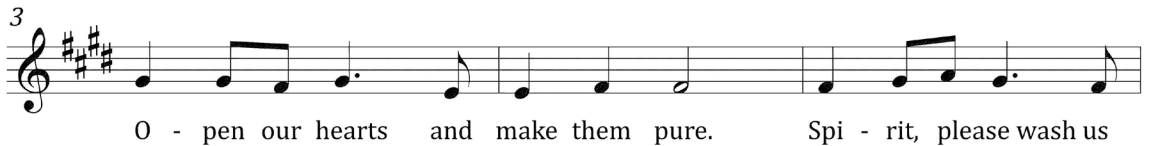
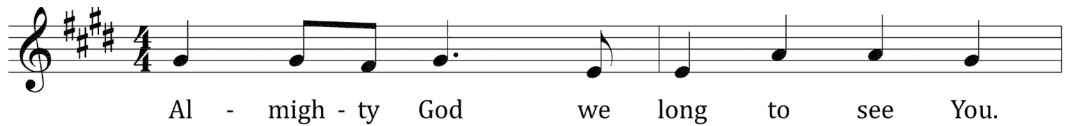
**People: Open our hearts and come in, O King of Glory.**

Minister: Make our souls Your captive. Come and pardon. Come and convert. Come and teach. Come and sanctify. Come and save us.

**People: Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.**

## Prayer Response

*We Long to See You*



## Psalm Reading

Psalm 130

Minister: Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice!

**People: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Minister: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

**People: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His Word I hope.**

Minister: My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.

**People: And He will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

## Hymns

*Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior*

*(see page 6)*

*Eternal Weight of Glory*

*(see page 7)*

*In Christ Alone*

*(see page 8)*

*At the last stanza of "In Christ Alone" children are dismissed to attend their classes.*

## Evening Scripture Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name that is above every name, 10 so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in Heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## Homilp

**HOLD ON LOOSELY**

The Reverend Kurt Cooper

—

*A sermon outline can be found on page 9.*

**Closing Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Congregational Response**

*Revelation 22:21-22*

**He Who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”**

**He Who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”**

**“Surely I am coming soon.”**

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus. Amen. Come Lord Jesus, come.**



# I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)



1. Out of the depths I cry to You, in  
 2. Were You to count my sin - ful ways, how  
 3. So, put your hope in God a - lone. Take  
 4. Now He has come to make a way, and



dark - est plac - es I will call. In - cline Your ear to me a -  
 could I come be - fore Your throne? Yet full for - give - ness meets my  
 cour - age in His power to save, com - plet - ly and for - ev - er  
 God Him - self has paid the price, that all who trust in Him to -



(Alt. mel. v. 3 & 4)  
 new, and hear my cry for mer - cy, Lord. (to v. 2)  
 gaze, I stand re - deemed by grace a - lone.  
 won by Christ's e - merg - ing from the grave.  
 day, find heal - ing in His sac - ri - fice.

## CHORUS



(2, 3, 4) I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on Your  
 (5th) I will wait for You, I will wait for You, through the



word I will re - ly. I will wait for You, sure - ly  
 storm and through the night. I will wait for You, sure - ly



wait for You, till my soul is sat - is - fied.  
 wait for You, for Your love is my de - light.

# Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Word - Fanny Crosby  
Music - W. Howard Doane



Pass me not, O gent - le Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry;  
Let me at Thy throne of mer - cy Find a sweet re - lief,  
Trust - ing on - ly in Thy mer - it, Would I seek Thy face;  
Thou the Spring of all my com - fort, More than life to me,



While on oth - ers Thou art call - ing, Do not pass me by.  
Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion; Help my un - be - lief.  
Heal my wound - ed, brok - en spir - it, Save me by Thy grace.  
Whom have I on earth be - side Thee? Whom in heav'n but Thee?



Sav - ior, Sav - ior, Hear my hum - ble cry; \_\_\_\_\_



While on oth - ers Thou art call - ing, Do not pass me by.

# Enternal Weight of Glory



Now the days and hours and mo - ments of our su - ffering seem so -  
Oh e - ter - nal weight of glo - ry Oh in - he - ri - tance di -  
We will see our woun - ded Sa - vior, we'll be - hold Him face to -



long, and the toil - some wait and won - d'ring threa - ten si - lence to our song. Now our  
vine, we will see our Lord re - dee - ming e - very past and fu - ture time. All our  
face, and we'll hear our an - guished sto - ries sung as vic - t'ry songs of grace.



pain is real and pre - ssing where our faith is thin and weak but our  
pains will be trans - fi - gured like the scars of Christ our Lord we will



hope is set on Je - sus and we cling to Him our strength. For be -  
see the weight of glo - ry and our bro - ken years re - stored.



hold I tell a mys - tery: At the trump - et sound we'll wake! Death is swa - llo - wed up in



vic - t'ry when we meet our King of grace. E - v'ry year we thought was was - ted, ev - ery



night we cried how long, all will be a pas - sing mo - ment in our Sa - vior's vic - tory song.



## In Christ Alone



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
 3. There in the ground his bo - dy lay, Light of the  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -  
 world by dark - ness slain. Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious  
 pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and  
 ness, scorned by the ones He came to  
 day up from the grave he rose a -  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace when fears are  
 save. 'Till on the cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of  
 gain. And as he stands in vic - to - ry sin's curse has  
 ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in  
 God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was  
 lost its grip on me, for I am his and he is  
 pluck me from his hand. 'Till he re - turns or calls me



all, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 laid; here in the death of Christ I live.  
 mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

## **HOLD ON LOOSELY**

Philippians 2:5-11

1. Paul's Prescription

2. Christ's Humility

A. Not grasping but emptying

B. Taking the form of a servant

C. Obedience to the point of death on a cross

3. Christ's Exaltation

A. The Name above every name

B. Universal acknowledgement

4. So what?

## **Making a Joyful Noise**

### Devotional Thoughts on Congregational Singing

*Let God speak directly to His people through the Scriptures,  
and let His people respond with grateful songs of praise.*

–Martin Luther

### **Created and Designed to Sing**

We are a singing people because it is how God has created us. We are all singers. We may not all be very good singers, but we are all created to be singers nonetheless (Psalm 139:13-14). God designed our psyche for singing. He gave us minds to judge pitch and lyric; to think through the concepts we sing; to engage the intellect, imagination, and memory, and to remember what is set to a tune. Almost all of us can remember more lyrics set to music than memorized Scripture. God has formed our hearts to be moved with depth of feeling and a whole range of emotion as the melody-carried truths sink in, convicting us of the Lord's nature, and our own.

Christian singing begins with the heart, not on the lips (Ephesians 5:19). He is far less concerned with your tunefulness than your integrity. Singing with your whole heart may not manifest itself in loud, or at times even audible singing, but it is the bare minimum of what our Lord requires. If we view singing in worship as communing with our Lord, we will not settle for mumbling, merely listening, or performing for our neighbors in the pew. Instead, we will be so thrilled with the beauty of His holiness, the truths of the text, and the remembrance of His grace that we will forsake our image and only seek to glorify His. Whatever your ability is, bring it all before the Lord and enjoy Him through this most gracious and beautiful gift of communicating with Him!

God does not mind how well you sing, but that you sing as part of the ultimate choir – the congregation. No audition is required and everyone can be and should be in it. The true beauty of such a congregational choir is that our voices and our hearts are knit together in praise. It is exhilarating to be part of a body of believers singing truth together. Your voice may not be of a professional standard, but it is of a confessional standard.

We are all singers. Some have talents that allow them to sing with beautiful tone and good pitch, while others have talents to sing with their soul. What a beautiful sound we all make as singers to our heavenly Father's ears as we join our voices in worship.

Liberally taken from *Sing!, How Worship Transforms Your Life, Family and Church*, chapter 1 pp 1-5.



## VISITORS

We are honored to have you as our guest today. Please complete the information on our Friendship Register (by scanning the QR code) so that we may respond properly to your visit.



*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

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