COVENANT COMMUNITY ONLINE

Tuesday Evening Prayer

Tuesday, 16 June 2020, 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Be swift, O God, to save us. **Come quickly, Lord, to help us.**

May our prayers be like incense, Lord, set before you,

**and the lifting of our hands like the evening offering.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit

**as it was in the beginning is now, and shall be forever. Amen**

**Minister:** Let us make our confession to God.

**Lord you are steadfast in your love**

**and infinite in your mercy;**

**you welcome sinners**

**and invite them to be your guests.**

**In silence we confess our sins,**

**trusting in you to forgive us.**

*Silence*

We have yielded to temptation and sinned:

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

We have turned from our neighbour in their need.

Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**

We have resisted your word in our hearts:

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins and keep us in life eternal. **Amen.**

**The Prayer of the Evening**

**Minister:** God and Father of all as this day ends

we offer up its hours in praise to you.

As we take our rest, unite us by your Spirit,

in praise of Christ our Lord, the Alpha and Omega,

the First and Last,

in whom we make our prayer. **Amen.**

**Psalm 102**

Hear my prayer, O Lord;

let my cry come to you.

Do not hide your face from me

in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me;

answer me speedily in the day when I call.

For my days pass away like smoke,

and my bones burn like a furnace.

My heart is stricken and withered like grass;

I am too wasted to eat my bread.

Because of my loud groaning

my bones cling to my skin.

I am like an owl of the wilderness,

like a little owl of the waste places.

I lie awake;

I am like a lonely bird on the housetop.

All day long my enemies taunt me;

those who deride me use my name for a curse.

For I eat ashes like bread,

and mingle tears with my drink,

because of your indignation and anger;

for you have lifted me up and thrown me aside.

My days are like an evening shadow;

I wither away like grass.

But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever;

your name endures to all generations.

You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,

for it is time to favour it;

the appointed time has come.

For your servants hold its stones dear,

and have pity on its dust.

The nations will fear the name of the Lord,

and all the kings of the earth your glory.

For the Lord will build up Zion;

he will appear in his glory.

He will regard the prayer of the destitute,

and will not despise their prayer.

Let this be recorded for a generation to come,

so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord:

that he looked down from his holy height,

from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,

to hear the groans of the prisoners,

to set free those who were doomed to die;

so that the name of the Lord may be declared in Zion,

and his praise in Jerusalem,

when peoples gather together,

and kingdoms, to worship the Lord.

He has broken my strength in midcourse;

he has shortened my days.

“O my God,” I say, “do not take me away

at the midpoint of my life,

you whose years endure

throughout all generations.”

Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth,

and the heavens are the work of your hands.

They will perish, but you endure;

they will all wear out like a garment.

You change them like clothing, and they pass away;

but you are the same, and your years have no end.

The children of your servants shall live secure;

their offspring shall be established in your presence.

**Mark 1.21–45**

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Jesus Heals Many at Simon’s House

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

A Preaching Tour in Galilee

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Jesus Cleanses a Leper

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, “If you choose, you can make me clean.” Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, “I do choose. Be made clean!” Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

God our Father, grant us the help of your Holy Spirit in our prayers for the salvation of all people.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for our church and all its members, and other local churches in these unprecedented days, that in faith and unity we may be constantly renewed by your Holy Spirit for mission and service.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the peoples of the world for the leaders of the nations that especially during this global pandemic and economic upheaval that they may seek justice, freedom and peace for all.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our country, for those who have authority and influence. We remember especially the Prime Minster and Cabinet, and those who advise them, for County Councils and Local Authorities. May all serve one another in wisdom, honesty, and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those among whom we live and work, for all our neighbours, for our families and loved ones near and far; teach us so to use your gifts that together we may find joy in your creation.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in sorrow, need, anxiety and sickness, especially those whose health has deteriorated during this pandemic and those whose treatments have been put at risk; in weakness may they know your strength and in despair find hope.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

In you, Father, we are one family, on earth and in heaven. We remember in your presence those who have died… giving thanks especially for those who have revealed to us your grace in Christ.

Help us to follow the example of your saints in light and bring us with them to the fullness of your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*In silence bring more personal intercessions to God….*

We draw all our prayers together in the prayer that Jesus gave us:

**Our Father….**

Lord our God at the ending of this day,

and in the darkness and silence of this night,

cover us with healing and forgiveness,

that we may take our rest in peace;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.  **Amen.**

**The Benediction**

We will lie down in peace and take our rest;

**for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

**The Dismissal**

May the souls of the faithful,

through the mercy of God,

rest in peace and rise in glory. **Amen.**

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