

EVENING PRAYER
A Service of the Ancient Church
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Welcome, Candle Lighting & Preparation (*Betsy*)

Offering of Special Music _____ by _____.

OR

An Evening Hymn: "Day Is Done" (*Martha will play while we mute and sing.*)

Day is done, but love unfailing dwells ever here;

Shadows fall, but hope, prevailing, calms every fear.

God our Maker, none forsaking, take our hearts, of Love's own making,

Watch our sleeping, guard our waking, be always near.

(Reader 1)

Search me, O God, and know my heart : test me and know my thoughts. See
if there be any wicked way in me : and lead me in your way of life.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is
now and will be forever. Amen. (Reader 2)**

*A time of silence is kept to review the day, celebrate signs of God's reign in the world,
confessing sins, and lamenting the systems of death that still hold power in our world.*

Intercessory Prayer

Response: *God, in your love, hear our prayer. (Reader 2)*

(Reader 3)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. (Reader 2)

(Reader 1)

Psalm 134

Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord : you that stand by night in the house
of the Lord. Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the Lord : the Lord who made
heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. (Reader 2)

(Reader 4)

This is what we are about: we plant the seeds that will one day grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.

I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. (Reader 2)

(Reader 5)

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth. Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of your eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings.

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.

An Evening Hymn: "Abide with Me" (*Martha will play, and we will sing while muted.*)

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The shadows deepen, Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

Benediction (*Betsy*)

May God bless you and keep you;

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you;

May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace.