COVENANT COMMUNITY ONLINE

Tuesday Evening Prayer

Tuesday, 23 June 2020, 7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Be swift, O God, to save us.

**Come quickly, Lord, to help us.**

There is one body and one Spirit

**just as there is one hope held out in God’s call to you**

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.

If we have fallen into despair **Lord forgive us**.

If we have failed to hope in you, **Lord forgive us**.

If we have been fearful of death, **Lord forgive us**.

If we have forgotten the victory of Christ, **Lord forgive us**.

*Silence*

May the living God raise us from despair,

give us victory over sin and set us free in Christ. **Amen.**

**Prayer of the Evening**

**Minister:** O God in whom there is no darkness

With whom the night is as the day:

enlighten us by your presence,

that waking or sleeping we may dwell

in your peace in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Psalm 103**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and all that is within me,

bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget all his benefits—

who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

who satisfies you with good as long as you live

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

The Lord works vindication

and justice for all who are oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses,

his acts to the people of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse,

nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins,

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,

so far he removes our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,

so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

For he knows how we were made;

he remembers that we are dust.

As for mortals, their days are like grass;

they flourish like a flower of the field;

for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting

on those who fear him,

and his righteousness to children’s children,

to those who keep his covenant

and remember to do his commandments.

The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,

and his kingdom rules over all.

Bless the Lord, O you his angels,

you mighty ones who do his bidding,

obedient to his spoken word.

Bless the Lord, all his hosts,

his ministers that do his will.

Bless the Lord, all his works,

in all places of his dominion.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**Mark 2.1–17**

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, “Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and take your mat and walk’? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the paralytic— “I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.” And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in Levi’s house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” When Jesus heard this, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

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

**Prayers of Intercession**

In the power of the resurrection we offer our prayers to God. Let us pray

Remember, O Lord, in your love

the Church throughout the world

those recently baptised and confirmed,

and those whose baptism or confirmation

has been postponed because of the pandemic

and those who minister to others

May your whole Church know your power

and be a sign that Christ is risen.

Lord, of life **hear us in your love.**

Remember in your love the world you have made

those who seek a fair and proper use

of the world’s resources

and all who strive for justice

and peace among the nations.

We pray especially for those wrestling

with systemic racism and injustice

May the whole earth be transformed by mercy

and rejoice in hope

Lord, of life **hear us in your love.**

Remember in your love those who suffer

the victims of violence and injustice

those who mourn today.

May all in need find comfort, strength

and freedom in the living Christ

Lord, of life **hear us in your love.**

Remember in your love those who have died…

those who have confessed the faith

and those whose faith is known to you alone.

May all your children receive grace and light

according to their needs and come at last

to share with all the saints in life eternal.

Lord, of life **hear us in your love.**

Gracious God, we ask these prayers through Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Saviour. **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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