

Thursday Easter Vespers

The Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
You, O Lord, are my lamp;
you turn our darkness into light.

The Hymn to the Light

**O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
in you God's gracious glory shone.
Immortal, holy, blest is God,
and blest are you, God's holy Son.**

**Now sunset comes but light shines forth;
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Author, Word and Spirit: God
who dwells in the eternal light.**

**Worthy are you of endless praise,
O Word of God, life-giving Lord;
wherefore you are through all the earth
and in the highest heaven adored.**

Common Praise #14

Psalm 96.1-3, 10-13

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song; *

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

² Sing to the Lord and bless the divine name; *

proclaim the good news of our salvation from day to day.

³ Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations *

and the wonders of God among all peoples.

¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord reigns! *

**The Lord who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *

let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
**before the Lord who is coming, *
who is coming to judge the earth.**

¹³ The Lord will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with truth.

We worship you, God of glory, in the beauty of holiness, and we joyfully proclaim your just and righteous rule, established for all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

John 15.9-11

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."

You are invited to name a word or a phrase, or to offer a short thought evoked by the readings. After a period of reflection,

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.

The Prayers

All are invited to name their intercessions and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud. After a period of silence the following collect is said.

God of life, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him. May we abide in his risen life, so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation
and gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Dismissal

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

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen.**