



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Order of Service for Evensong

April 17, 2024

A special welcome to those visiting us this evening.

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

When you see an asterisk *, please rise in body or spirit, however you are comfortable.

Please join your voice with the congregation in reading the responses in **bold print**.

We Gather to Worship

WORDS OF WELCOME

(The water is poured.)

We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit. "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." - *Galatians 3:28*

And you are welcome here.

TOLLING

*OPENING SENTENCES

(The candles are lit.)

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

People: the light no darkness can overcome.

Leader: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

People: and the day is almost over.

Leader: Eternal God by your word you commanded: "Let there be light!"

By your Spirit you have revealed the light of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

Shine in our hearts this night with the light of your good news

and illumine our dreams with the vision of your holy realm.

Let your light scatter the darkness

All: and illumine your church.

*EVENING HYMN 466

Come and Fill Our Hearts

CONFITEMINI DOMINO

First line to be sung three times.

Come and Fill Our Hearts

466

Confitemini Domino

D Bm D A

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo-nus.

Em C Em A D

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!
Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!

This prayer chant—intended for repeated singing—was originally created for a Latin text (Psalm 106:1a and Psalm 118:1a, 29a) on which the present English text is loosely based. Chants at Taizé often use Latin because it is a language free of political overtones.

We Proclaim God's Word

EVENING PRAYER

(The incense is lit.)

Leader: Holy God, let the incense of our prayer ascend before you,
and let your loving-kindness descend upon us,
that with devoted hearts we may sing your praises
with the church on earth and the whole heavenly host,
and glorify you forever and ever. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

People: O God, in you I trust.

Leader: Let my prayer rise before you as incense, O Lord,

People: the lifting of my prayer as an evening sacrifice.

Leader: Holy one, as you are well pleased with Christ,
help us to live in a way that will be pleasing to you.
As you have called us to listen to Christ, help us to always heed his word and
seek his will. These things we pray in the name of Jesus, your beloved son,
our savior and Lord. Hear us now loving God as we raise the joys and concerns
of our hearts and minds to you and silent prayer.

(A period of silent personal prayer.)

Leader: As you have made this day, O God, you also make the night. Give light for our
comfort. Come upon us with quietness and still our souls, that we may listen for the
whisper of your Spirit and be attentive to your nearness in our dreams. Empower us to
rise again in new life to proclaim your praise, and show Christ to the world, for he
reigns forever and ever.

All: Amen.

SOLO

Psalm 8

Damon Martin

Divine Majesty and Human Dignity

8 O LORD, our Lord,
how excellent is thy name
in all the earth!
who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings
hast thou ordained strength
because of thine enemies,
that thou mightest still the enemy and the
avenger.

³When I consider thy heavens,
the work of thy fingers,
the moon and the stars, which
thou hast ordained;
⁴What is man, that thou art mindful of him?
and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

⁵For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels,
and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

⁶Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands;
thou hast put all things under his feet:

⁷All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

⁸The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea,
and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

⁹O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

PRAYER OF RESPONSE

**All: Holy God, all goodness and truth comes from you. Keep us safe from evil and lead us
in the paths of justice, that we may know the joy of trusting in you; through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

LECTIO DIVINA

LECTIO (READ)

MEDITATIO (MEDITATE)

ORATIO (PRAY)

CONTEMPLATIO (CONTEMPLATION)

*The focus of Lectio Divina is not a critical analysis of sacred text, but rather
a more personal way of experiencing the word through contemplation and reflection.*

1 John 3:16-18

Love One Another

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our
lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the
world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God's Word

HYMN 99

Song of Mary

MORNING SONG

EVENING PRAYER

Leader: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

People: for you have redeemed me, O Lord, oh God of truth.

Leader: Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

CANTICLE

The Lord's Prayer

CHANT

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Go in God's Name

*DISMISSAL

**People: Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep rest in his peace.**

Leader: May Almighty God bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forevermore.

People: Amen.

Leader: Bless the Lord.

All: The Lord's name be praised.

*TOLLING

My Soul Gives Glory to My God 99

Song of Mary



1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God; my
 2 My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3 From age to age to all who fear, such
 4 Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5 Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -



heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 ho - ly is God's name. All peo - ple will de -
 mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past



low - li - ness in man - y mar - vel - ous ways.
 clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 sat - is - fied; the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

This 20th-century paraphrase is based on the Song of Mary (Luke 1:46–55), commonly known by its opening Latin word, *Magnificat*. This song of praise offers clear reminders that God's purposes often lead to the reversal of human values, exalting the poor and dethroning the mighty.