



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Order of Service for Evening Prayer August 19, 2026

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 the congregation in reading the responses in **bold print**.

We Gather to Worship

***WORDS OF WELCOME** - *Galatians 3:28*

(Please rise in body or spirit as the water is poured.)

Leader: We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism.

All: 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.”**

Leader: And you are welcome here.

***TOLLING**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** - *Luke 24:29; Rev. 22:5*

Leader: In the city of God, night shall be no more; they need no light of the lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. 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.

All: Let your light scatter the darkness.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIGHT**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Let us pray. God of our night, as we settle into the evening, help us to see where you were in our day. Help us to hang on to the things that were good and release the things that burden us. As we sleep this night, may it be a peaceful one, and may we awake refreshed in the morning. Into your hands, O Lord, we commend our spirits;

All: for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O 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.

*HYMN 676

Day Is Done

AR HYD Y NOS

We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(The incense is lit.)

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

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

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: Loving God...

Give us your peace, O God, that we may be confident of your care for all your children as we lift up before you this night the joys and concerns of our congregation, prayers for...

Hear us, Lord, as we continue to remember the celebrations and needs of others by offering the joys and concerns of our individual hearts and minds to you in silent prayer.

(A period of silent personal prayer.)

Leader: God our shepherd, you have brought us through this day to a time of reflection and rest. Calm our souls, and refresh us with your peace. Keep us close to Christ and draw us closer to one another and the bonds of his wondrous love. We pray through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Day Is Done

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1 Day is done, but love un-fail-ing dwells ev-er here;
 2 Dark de-scends, but light un-end-ing shines through our night;
 3 Eyes will close, but you un-sleep-ing watch by our side.

shad-ows fall, but hope, pre-vail-ing, calms ev-ery fear.
 you are with us, ev-er lend-ing new strength to sight:
 Death may come; in love's safe-keep-ing still we a-bide.

God, our Mak-er, none for-sak-ing, take our hearts, of love's own
 one in love, your truth con-fess-ing, one in hope of heav-en's
 God of love, all e-vil quell-ing, sin for-giv-ing, fear dis-

mak-ing; watch our sleep-ing; guard our wak-ing; be al-ways near.
 bless-ing, may we see, in love's pos-sess-ing, love's end-less light!
 pel-ling, stay with us, our hearts in-dwell-ing, this e-ven-tide.

This 20th-century hymn by a Scottish Jesuit paraphrases several traditional evening prayers and takes its shape from the familiar Welsh tune to which it is set. Its rhyme pattern requires considerable poetic skill, as only three rhymes serve for the eight lines of text.

Marina Quintanilla, Soloist

¹*If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—let Israel now say—*

²*if it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,*

³*then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;*

⁴*then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;*

⁵*then over us would have gone the raging waters.*

⁶*Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.*

⁷*We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.*

⁸*Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.*

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.

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God's Word

CANTICLE

The Lord's Prayer

CHANT

(As the droning begins, please take a moment to tune your voice to the pitch before the 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

*HYMN 471

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

HEAR MY PRAYER

(top line sung twice)

*DISMISSAL

Leader: As night falls, we do not leave alone. Christ walks with us, his light guiding our steps,
his love sustaining our hearts.

People: We go, not as we came, but renewed, restored, and empowered.

Leader: What was broken, God is making whole. What was weary, God is strengthening.
What was lost, God is reclaiming.

**People: We step forward in faith, trusting in the One who is our healer, our hope,
and our life.**

Leader: Go in peace, in power, and in the name of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

*TOLLING

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

471

The Lord Is My Song

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
Or The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise:

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O
all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the

Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.
Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

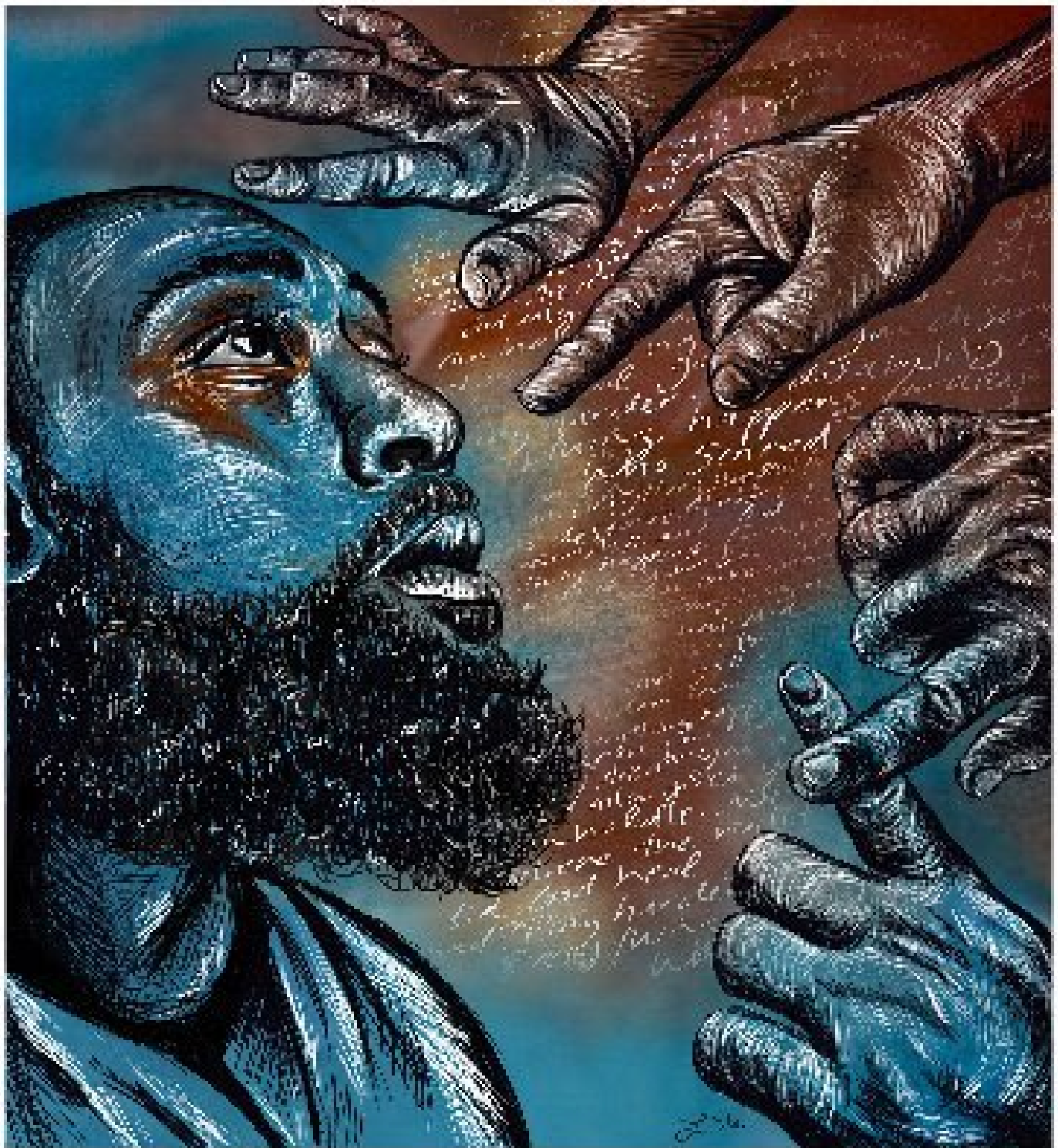
This chant from the Taizé Community in France is provided with two sets of words, either of which can be used as best suits the occasion. The first text is based on Psalm 102:1-2, and the second is an amalgam of phrases drawn from Psalms 118:14, 25:5, 36:9, and John 4:14.

Visio Divina, *Divine Seeing*

Tonight, you are invited to a time of **Visio Divina**, *Divine Seeing*, using the image on the bulletin insert. There are four basic steps to begin the practice of Visio Divina:

- **Read:** Read the scripture verse, then be still. Settle into a posture to listen to God's voice.
- **Meditate:** Ponder the words, then gaze at, look at, and observe the picture. Ask questions and ask God to help you see what God wants you to see or what God wants you to notice. What stirs within you?
- **Pray:** Pray through the text or what you notice in the image.
- **Contemplate:** We live the text. A contemplative spiritual exercise is meant to lead us to gospel action in the world and a deeper connection with God.

Artwork on Back



¹⁵ “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

A Sanctified Art