

First Presbyterian Church

OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Order of Service for Evening Prayer November 5, 2025

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 - Galatians 3:28

(The water is poured.)

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

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

People: and the day is almost over.

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.

*THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIGHT

(The light is spread from the Christ candle.)

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: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: We give thanks to you, O God, creator and ruler of the universe. You made the lights of the heavens; the sun in the day to brighten and warm the earth; the moon at night, and countless stars! You gave us these lights as signs for seasons, days, months, and years. Then in the fullness of time you sent Jesus Christ to be the light of the world, the morning star that never fades. Let your light illumine our lives and enlighten our path, until we may rest in perpetual light; through Christ our Lord and in the communion of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

*HYMN 53

Now God Be with Us, for the Night Is Closing

FLEMMING

53 Now God Be with Us, for the Night Is Closing



We Proclaim God's Word

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(The incense is lit.)

Leader: Let my prayer rise before you as incense, O Lord, People: the lifting of my 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: Give us your peace, O God, that we may rejoice in your goodness to us and to all your children, and be thankful for your love revealed in Jesus Christ. Especially, we thank you for the faithful witness of Christian people, Friends with whom we have shared our lives, the courage to be bold disciples, and the laborers of those who have served us in the faith. We lift up before you this night the concerns of our congregation, prayers for... Give us your peace, O God, that we may be confident of your care for us and all your children as we remember the needs of others and raise the joys and concerns of our 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.

PSALM

Psalms 17:1-8, 15

Marina Quintanilla, soloist

¹Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

²From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.

³ If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me; my mouth does not transgress.

⁴ As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.

⁵ My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.

⁶I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words.

⁷ Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.

⁸ Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, ¹⁵ As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

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. Amen.

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.

Mark 10:13-16

¹³ People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God's Word

NECROLOGY

Leader: Lord God, by your grace we are running a race.

People: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses—

Leader: Patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets and psalmists, disciples and evangelists, martyrs

and saints.

People: We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith. For all your

saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live, who followed, obeyed, adored you - our

grateful hymn we sing.

Leader: Lord God, by your grace we are running a race.

People: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses—

Leader: Loved ones now resting in you, who guided us, nurtured and cared for us; ancestors who

worked and traveled, lived and died that we might be who we are, where we are—your

precious children in this community of believers.

People: We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith. For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die, who counted you their great reward—accept our thankful cry.

Leader: Lord God, by your grace we are running a race.

People: We are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses—

Leader: Family members and members of this congregation; fellow believers in every country, every denomination; friends who help, guide and uplift us—children of your family, sheep of your fold, saints of your redeeming.

People: We thank you for their example. We praise you for their lives of faith. For this, your name we bless, and humbly pray anew, that we like them in holiness may live and die in you.

Leader: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight of sin that clings so closely,

People: and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

Leader: looking to Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

God of the ages, we praise you for all your servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For apostles and martyrs and saints of every time and place, who in life and death have witnessed to your truth,

People: we praise you, O God.

Leader: For those we have known and loved, who by their faithful obedience and steadfast hope, have shown the same mind that was in Christ Jesus,

People: we praise you, O God.

Leader: We thank you for the memories we cherish of our loved ones now at home with you:

David Rogers Ann Hopps Nita Wilson Kathy McCraw
Kathleen Dougherty Sue Kunkel Marcia McMillin Sheri Boughman
Edie King Florine Lock Cunningham John Buzan Jannis Dykeman
Sam Dykeman Edgar Siewert Carren MacLemore Hudson LeGrand

People: Keep us grateful for their witness, and, like them, eager to follow in the way of Christ. Then at the last, bring us with them to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; through Jesus Christ the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Marina Quintanilla, mezzo-soprano

Soon and very soon, my King is coming, robed in righteousness and crowned with love. When I see Him I shall be made like Him—Soon and very soon. Soon and very soon, I'll be going to the place He has prepared for me. There—my sin erased, my shame forgotten—soon and very soon. I will be with the One I love, with unveiled face I'll see Him. There my soul will be satisfied, soon and very soon. Soon and very soon, see the procession, the angels and the elders around the throne. At His feet I'll lay my crowns, my worship, soon and very soon. Though I have not seen Him, my heart knows Him well, Jesus Christ the Lamb, the Lord of heaven.

EVENING PRAYER

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

People: 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.

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 99 My Soul Gives Glory to My God

MORNING SONG

*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

My Soul Gives Glory to My God 99



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.