



# First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

## Order of Service for Evensong November 20, 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 - *Galatians 3:28*

*(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

\*OPENING SENTENCES

*(Please rise as the light is spread from the Christ candle.)*

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

**All: the light no darkness can overcome.**

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

**All: 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 678

*Our Darkness Is Never Darkness in Your Sight*

LA TÉNÈBRE

(sung three times)

# Our Darkness Is Never Darkness 678

## in Your Sight

*La ténèbre n'est point ténèbre devant toi*

Capo 2: (E) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (E)  
F# Bm A D G F#

Our dark - ness is nev - er dark - ness in your sight: the  
*La té - nè - bre n'est point té - nè - bre de - vant toi: la*

(Am) (G) (C) (Dm6) (Esus) (E)  
Bm A D Em6 F#sus F#

deep - est night is clear as the day - light.  
*nuit com - me le jour est lu - miè - re.*

Like other chants from the Taizé Community in France, this paraphrase of Psalm 139:12 is meant for repeated singing. It is most effective at evening services and works well with other Taizé chants such as "Within Our Darkest Night" (no. 294) and "The Lord Is My Light" (no. 842).

# We Proclaim God's Word

## EVENING PRAYER

*(The incense is lit.)*

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

**All: 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.

**All: O God, in you I trust.**

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 in silent prayer.

*(A period of silent personal prayer.)*

Leader: As you have made this day, O God, you also make the night. Give rest 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 18 – My God, My Strength*

Damon B. Martin

*My God, my strength, whom I will trust,*

*A buckler unto me,*

*The horn of my salvation,*

*And my high tower is he.*

*Upon the Lord who worthy is*

*Of praises will I cry;*

*And then shall I preserved be*

*Safe from mine enemies.*

*Floods of ill men affrighted me,  
Death's pangs about me went:  
Hell's sorrows me environed.  
Death's snares did me prevent.*

*In my distress I called on God;  
To God, I cried.  
He from his temple heard my voice;  
Heard my cry.*

#### 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.*

John 18:33-38

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." <sup>38</sup> Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# We Respond to God's Word

## EVENING PRAYER

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

**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.**

## 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 100

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

## \*DISMISSAL

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

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

Leader: Bless the Lord.

**All: The Lord's name be praised. Amen.**

## \*TOLLING

# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

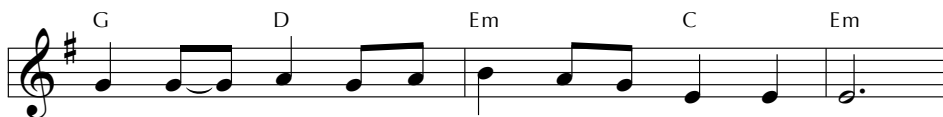
## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp.

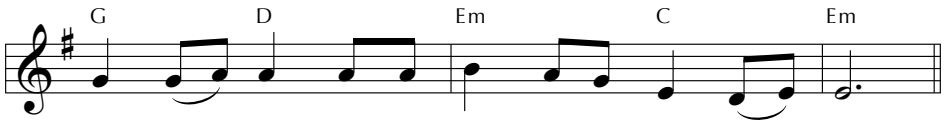


You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

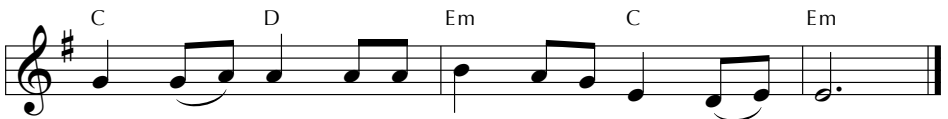
*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.