



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Order of Service for Evensong

July 31, 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,

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 674

I Call, O Lord, on You

ST. BRIDE

I Call, O Lord, on You

674

(Psalm 141)

1 I call, O Lord, on you: come quick - ly to my aid;
 2 Lord, let my prayer as - cend like in - cense in your sight;
 3 Set, Lord, a guard to keep close watch up - on my mouth;
 4 Have pit - y, Lord, on me; you are my strength, my shield:

hear from your throne in heaven a - bove my cry of deep dis - tress.
 see in my hands to heaven a - bove my eve - ning sac - ri - fice.
 let no re - bel - lious word es - cape your seal up - on my lips.
 you are my ref - uge in all ills; I turn in trust to you.

This paraphrase of Psalm 141 is held together by the simple dignity of its language rather than by rhyme. There is a surprising immediacy in this private prayer, offered at the end of a tiring and trying day and seeking strength to avoid saying things that are untrue or hurtful.

We Proclaim God's Word

EVENING PRAYER

(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: 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 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 147:3-7

Damon Martin

The Scottish Psalter

Those that are broken in their heart,
and grievèd in their minds,
He healeth, and their painful wounds
he tenderly up-binds.

He counts the number of the stars;
he names them ev'ry one.

Great is our Lord, and of great pow'r;
his wisdom search can none.

The Lord lifts up the meek; and casts
the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord, and give him thanks;
on harp his praises sound;

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 6:30-35

³⁰ So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?” ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’

” ³² Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴ They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵ Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

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;

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.

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

*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.

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

Leader: Bless the Lord.

People: The Lord's name be praised.

All: Amen.

*TOLLING

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

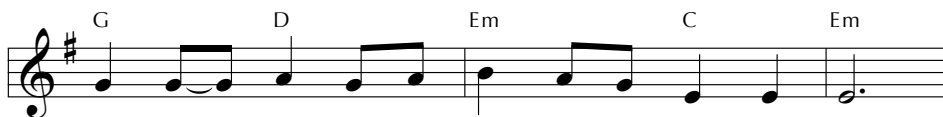
Canticle of the Turning



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.

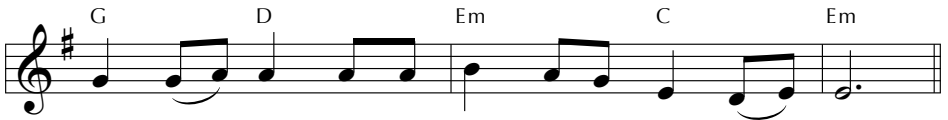


You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



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.

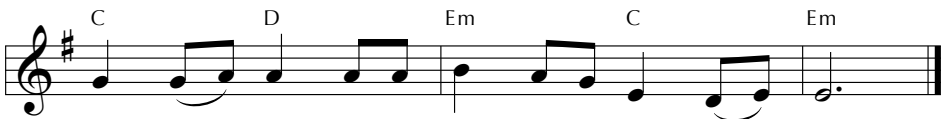
Refrain



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.