



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Order of Service for Evensong March 12, 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.

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 CHANT

*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 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,

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. We lift up before you this night the concerns of our congregation, prayers for... 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 5

Damon B. Martin

Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation.

² *Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.*

³ *My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord;*

in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

⁴ *For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.*

⁵ *The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.*

⁶ *Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the Lord will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.*

⁷ *But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy:*

and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

⁸ *Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.*

⁹ *For there is no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part is very wickedness;*

their throat is an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

¹⁰ *Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels;
cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.*

¹¹ *But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy,
because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.*

¹² *For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.*

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.*

Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

We Respond to God's Word

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

HYMN (insert)

Holy, Holy, Holy

You are holy, O God of majesty ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

HYMN (insert)

Christ has Died; Christ is Risen

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit ... all glory and honor are yours,
eternal God, now and forever.

HYMN (insert)

Amen

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 99

Song of Mary

MORNING SONG

*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

The Lord's Supper

Damon B. Martin

Holy, Holy, Holy

5

9

14

17

21

Chords: E5, Bm/D, E5, Bm/D, C, D, Bm, C, D, E5, Em, Bm/D, C, D, C, D, Em/G, Bm/F#, C, D, E5, Em, Bm/D, C, D, Em/G, Bm/F#, C, D, E5

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of po - wer and might,
hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - sa - na in the
high - est, ho - sa - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
sa - na in the high - est, ho - sa - na in the high - est.

Christ Has Died, Christ is Risen

25

Chords: Em, Bm/D, G, D/F#, C, D, E5

Christ has died; Christ is ri - sen; Christ will come a - gain.

Amen

32

Chords: Em, Bm/D, G, D/F#, C, D, E5

A - men, a - men a - men, a - men.

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.