

# EVENING PRAISE & PRAYER

## Proclamation of the Light

*You are encouraged to light an unadorned candle as the following words are spoken. If you are so inclined, you may also burn incense during this service. Since the fourth century of the early church, the burning of incense has served as a devotional sign of prayer (based on Psalm 141).*

Light and peace in Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

We call upon you, O Lord;  
come quickly to us;  
give ear to our voice when we call to you.

Let our prayer be counted  
as incense before you,  
and the lifting up of our hands  
as an evening sacrifice.

adapted from Psalm 141:1-2

## The Doxology

adapted from No. 95, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, you heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Psalm 102:1-17

*Common English Bible*

LORD, hear my prayer!

Let my cry reach you!

<sup>2</sup> Don't hide your face from me  
in my time of trouble!

Listen to me!

Answer me quickly as I cry out!

<sup>3</sup> Because my days disappear like smoke,  
my bones are burned up as if in an oven;  
<sup>4</sup> my heart is smashed like dried-up grass.

I even forget to eat my food  
<sup>5</sup> because of my intense groans.

My bones are protruding from my skin.

<sup>6</sup> I'm like some wild owl—  
like some screech owl in the desert.

<sup>7</sup> I lie awake all night.

I'm all alone like a bird on a roof.

<sup>8</sup> All day long my enemies make fun of me;  
those who mock me curse using my name!

<sup>9</sup> I've been eating ashes instead of bread.

I've been mixing tears into my drinks  
<sup>10</sup> because of your anger and wrath,  
because you picked me up and threw me  
away.

<sup>11</sup> My days are like a shadow soon gone.

I'm dried up like dead grass.

<sup>12</sup> But you, LORD, rule forever!

Your fame lasts from one generation to the next!

<sup>13</sup> You will stand up—

you'll have compassion on Zion

because it is time to have mercy on her—  
the time set for that has now come!

<sup>14</sup> Your servants cherish Zion's stones;  
they show mercy even to her dirt.

<sup>15</sup> The nations will honor the LORD's name;  
all the earth's rulers will honor your glory

<sup>16</sup> because the LORD will rebuild Zion;  
he will be seen there in his glory.

<sup>17</sup> God will turn to the prayer of the impoverished;  
he won't despise their prayers.

## Giving Thanks

### Prayers of the People

*You are encouraged to offer your voice to this time of prayer. After each petition, you may add your specific prayers of thanks and intercession. After each prayer, the pray-er should end with "Amen."*

Together let us...

pray for our world.

pray for our community and neighborhoods.

pray for our friends and family.

pray for ourselves.

### The Lord's Prayer

No. 895, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Checking-in

### Conclusion

Abide with us, O Christ,

for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,

so do we look for you.

May God bless us,

that in us may be found love and humility,

obedience and thanksgiving,

discipline, gentleness and peace.

Amen.

