

# 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 66:8-20

*Common English Bible*

<sup>8</sup> All you nations, bless our God!  
Let the sound of his praise be heard!  
<sup>9</sup> God preserved us among the living;  
he didn't let our feet slip a bit.  
<sup>10</sup> But you, God, have tested us—  
you've refined us like silver,  
<sup>11</sup> trapped us in a net,  
laid burdens on our backs,  
<sup>12</sup> let other people run right over our heads—  
we've been through fire and water.  
But you brought us out to freedom!  
<sup>13</sup> So I'll enter your house  
with entirely burned offerings.  
I'll keep the promises I made to you,  
<sup>14</sup> the ones my lips uttered,  
the ones my mouth spoke when I was in  
deep trouble.  
<sup>15</sup> I will offer the best burned offerings to you  
along with the smoke of sacrificed rams.  
I will offer both bulls and goats. *Selah*

<sup>16</sup> Come close and listen,  
all you who honor God;  
I will tell you what God has done for me:  
<sup>17</sup> My mouth cried out to him  
with praise on my tongue.  
<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil in my heart,  
my Lord would not have listened.  
<sup>19</sup> But God definitely listened.  
He heard the sound of my prayer.  
<sup>20</sup> Bless God! He didn't reject my prayer;  
he didn't withhold his faithful love from me.

## 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.

