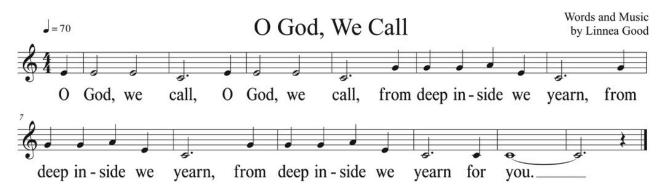
Evening Prayer for Peace and Healing September 11, 2024

As you enter the church this evening, you will be given a piece of incense to place in a bowl. Take a moment to gather your own prayers for peace and healing as you place the incense in the bowls.





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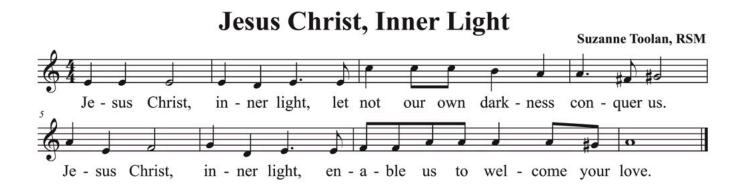


CALL TO WORSHIP

Shalom in Hebrew, and salam in Arabic are both are translated as "peace." In both languages the word is a blessing, which expresses that I wish you peace and I will do everything in my power for you to have that peace. It is our prayer that this night you will know God's shalom, God's salam, and through experiencing God's peace, you will be able to bring that peace to the world.



Please stand



The presider proclaims from the back of the church

Presider: Jesus Christ, the light of the world! All: Fill our hearts with peace!

Sung: Jesus, Christ, Inner Light ...

The presider proclaims from the center of the church

Presider: Jesus Christ, the light of the world! All: Fill our hearts with shalom!

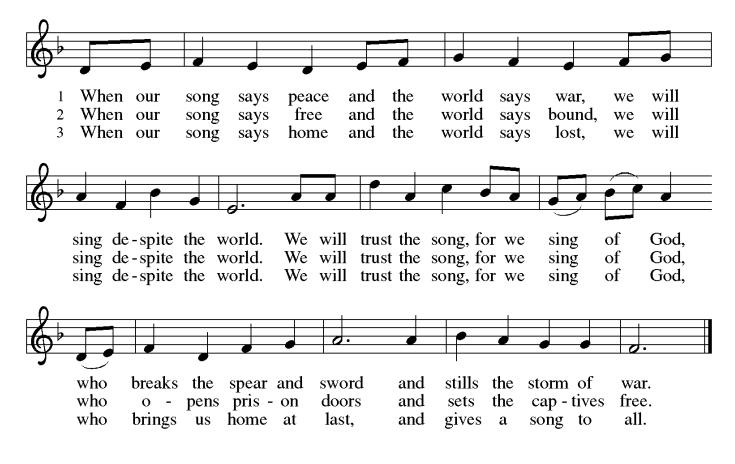
Sung: Jesus, Christ, Inner Light ...

The presider proclaims from the front of the church

Presider: Jesus Christ, the light of the world! All: Fill our hearts with salam!

Sung: Jesus, Christ, Inner Light ...

Hymn: When Our Song Says Peace – ELW 709



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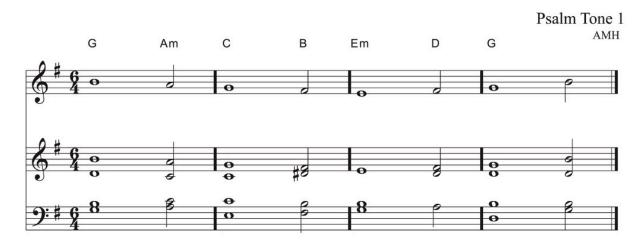
Presider:

We gather this evening humbly aware of the hatred, prejudice, and brokenness in the world and in our own hearts. We pray together that our hatred may be turned to love, our prejudice to understanding, and that by the healing of our brokenness we may become wounded healers bringing peace to our homes and our world.

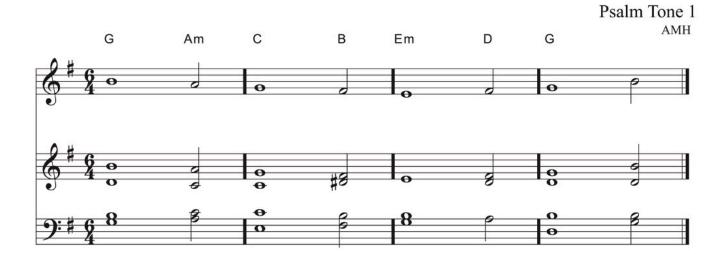
Psalmody

Psalm 72

Presider: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.



- Cantor: O God, with your judgment endow the <u>king</u> and with your justice the king's <u>son;</u> He shall govern your people with <u>justice</u> and your afflicted ones with <u>judgment.</u>
- ALL: The mountains shall yield peace for the **people**, and the hills **justice**. he shall defend the afflicted among the **people** save the children of the **poor**.
- Cantor: Justice shall flower in his <u>days</u>, and profound peace, till the moon be no <u>more</u>. May he rule from sea to <u>sea.</u> and from the river to the ends of the <u>earth</u>.
- ALL: For he shall rescue the poor man when he cries <u>out</u>, and the afflicted when he has no one to <u>help him</u>. He shall have pity for the lowly and the <u>poor</u>, the lives of the poor he shall <u>save</u>.



- Cantor: May his name be blessed for-<u>ever;</u> as long as the sun his name shall re-<u>main</u>. In him shall the tribes of the earth be <u>blessed;</u> all the nations shall proclaim his <u>happiness.</u>
- ALL : I will hear what God pro- <u>claims;</u>
 peace to his people and to his faithful <u>ones</u>.
 Near indeed is his salvation to those who <u>fear him</u>,
 glory dwelling in our <u>land</u>.
- Cantor: Kindness and truth shall <u>meet;</u> justice and peace shall <u>kiss.</u> Truth shall spring out of the <u>earth,</u> and justice shall look down from <u>heaven.</u>
- ALL: The Lord himself will give his <u>benefits</u>, our land shall yield its <u>increase</u>. Justice shall walk before <u>him</u>, and salvation, along the way of his <u>steps</u>.
- ALL Glory to the <u>Father</u> and to the Son and the Holy <u>Spirit:</u> as is was in the beginning. Is now and will be forever. A<u>men</u>

Psalm Prayer

Presider: Loving Father, you call us to be your hands and feet bringing justice and peace to our world. Strengthen us to face our fears, and fill us with love to reach out to the most broken of our world. Amen.



Silence

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Psalm Prayer:

Presider: God our Father, you are our only source of peace. Hear our cry for peace and healing. Help us to place our trust in you and make us bearers of peace to our neighbor. Amen.

Silence

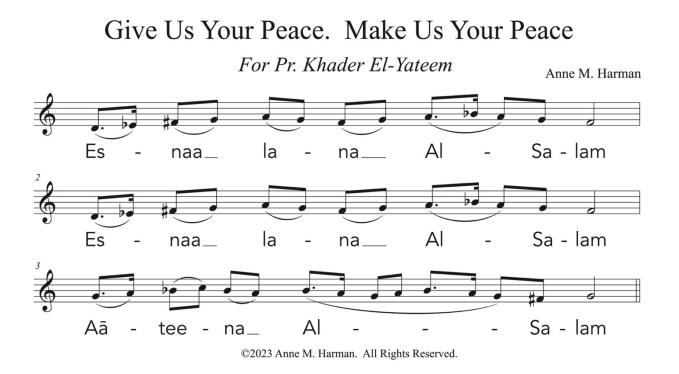
Reading from Scripture: James 3: 13-18

A Reading from the letter of James.

¹³ Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. ¹⁵ This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶ For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And the fruit of righteousness^[e] is sown in peace by those who make peace.

The Word of the Lord **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Thoughts from our ancestors and neighbors...



Each small task of everyday life is part of the total harmony of the universe. - St. Theresa of Lisieux

If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we would find in each man's life a sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility.

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

One stands perplexed and wonders whether one should use force or humble love. Always decide to use humble love! If you resolve on that once and for all, you may subdue the whole world.

- Fyodor Dostoyevsky

"Who is a hero? The man that turns an enemy into a friend."

~~ Avot Derabbi Nathan

* * * * *

If you want peace, work for justice. - Pope Paul VI

Instead of hating the people you think are warmakers, hate the appetites and the disorder in your own soul, which are the causes of war.

- Thomas Merton:

When we see God in each other we will be able to live together in peace. - Mother Theresa

* * * * *

All things are connected. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the children of the earth. -Chief Seattle

Acquire the spirit of peace and a thousand souls around you will be saved.

- St. Seraphim

While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.

- St. Francis of Assisi

"Peace cannot be kept by force, but through understanding."

~~ Albert Einstein

* * * * *

We are, each of us, angels with only one wing; and we can only fly by embracing one another.

- Luciano de Crescenzo

An eye for an eye leaves everyone blind. - Martin Luther King, Jr.

You must be the change you wish to see in the world

-Mahatma Gandhi

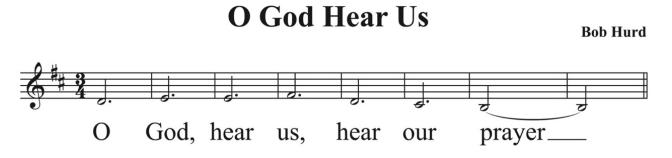
Someday, after we have mastered the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love. Then, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire.

- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

* * * * *

An extended period of silence is observed

Intercessions:



Magnificat All: 1., 3. My soul pro claims your _ 2. You have cast the might у 3 0 God, spir - it re - joic - es great - ness, and my in down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of ð you, You have looked with love on your You have filled gry heart, the hun with fine last time **` ` `** θ here, and blessed me all my life ser - vant through. won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part. and might - y Great are you, Ο Ho - ly One, Great and might - y 0 Faith - ful One, are you, strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more. is your jus - tice strong your love, strong How you fa - vor the weak ____ and low - ly one, As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, bling proud hum the of heart. kind _ ness for - ev more. er _ _

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Lord's Prayer

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 and ever. Amen.

Closing Prayer and Blessing

Father of peace and mercy,

bind what is broken, find what is lost, heal what is injured, and love every soul that longs to know you.
Help us to be lights of peace and justice in our homes, our neighborhoods, our church, and our world so that one day our children may live in peace.
Amen

Let us pray for God's blessing on the world, in every place of conflict or war and on our lives.

May the Lord bless and bring justice, peace, and abundance of life to all people. May the Lord bless and bring shalom, salam, to every land and people who live in fear of violence or oppression. +May the Lord bless you and protect you this night, keeping you from every harm and evil until the day of Christ's coming. **Amen**

Hymn: Put Peace into Each Other's Hands



Dismissal and Sign of Peace

- Presider: Go in peace and bring God's salam, God's shalom to the world!
- ALL: With God's grace we will be God's salam, God's shalom to our neighbor and the world!
- Presider: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.



ZOOM Faith Sharing and Bible Study Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM

Use the QR Code to get to our FaithTalk@7 webpage for more information and links.





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Gathering at St. John's Episcopal 1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation, embodies God's love, and promise of salvation through faith in Christ by extending inclusion and welcome to all.

We welcome the full, active participation of all who worship and minister with us. If you are interested in learning more about Jesus, God's life and action in the world and our lives, the Lutheran faith, or this congregation and how you can be more involved, please reach out to Pastor Anne.

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