

## EVENING VESPERS

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.

*Consider the steadfast love of God. (Psalm 107)*

GATHERING MUSIC                      *Nothing Can Trouble, Taize*

*Once the music starts to play, we invite you to be in silence.*

WELCOME                                      Rev. Katherine A. Schofield

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One:     May the Almighty grant us a peaceful night  
and a perfect rest.

**Many: Amen.**

One:     Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

**Many: The maker of heaven and earth.**

One:     Let us confess our sins to God.

### SILENT PRAYERS

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Many:     We come, O Lord, in this twilight hour,  
              To confess our lack of trust.  
              While we sing of your lordship over all creation,  
              We have too often acted as though you are powerless  
              In the face of today's events.  
              Help us to live with confidence in your presence today  
              and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### SILENT MEDITATION

### PSALM SINGING

Psalm 107

*Consider the steadfast love of God.*

O give thanks to God, for God is good,  
for God's steadfast love endures forever.  
Let the redeemed of God say so,

those whom God redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

***Consider the steadfast love of God.***

Some wandered in desert wastes,  
finding no way to an inhabited town;  
hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.  
Then they cried to God in their trouble,  
and God delivered them from their distress;  
God led them by a straight way,  
until they reached an inhabited town.  
Let them thank God for God's steadfast love,  
for God's wonderful works to humankind.  
For God satisfies the thirsty,  
and the hungry God fills with good things.

***Consider the steadfast love of God.***

Some went down to the sea in ships,  
doing business on the mighty waters;  
they saw the deeds of God, God's wondrous works in the deep.  
For God commanded and raised the stormy wind,  
which lifted up the waves of the sea.  
They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths;  
their courage melted away in their calamity;  
they reeled and staggered like drunkards  
and were at their wits' end.  
Then they cried to God in their trouble,  
and God brought them out from their distress;  
God made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.  
Then they were glad because they had quiet,  
and God brought them to the haven they desired.  
Let them thank God for God's steadfast love,  
for God's wonderful works to humankind.  
Let them extol God in the congregation of the people  
and praise him in the assembly of the elders.

***Consider the steadfast love of God.***

God turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground,  
a fruitful land into a salty waste,

because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.

God turns a desert into pools of water,  
a parched land into springs of water.

And there God lets the hungry live, and they establish a town to live in;  
They sow fields and plant vineyards and get a fruitful yield.

Let those who are wise give heed to these things  
and consider the steadfast love of the Lord.

*Consider the steadfast love of God.*

SILENT MEDITATION

CONTEMPORARY READING

“Cover Me with Night”

*Ashanti women, Ghana*

Come Lord,  
And cover me with the night.  
Spread your grace over us  
As you assured us you would.  
Your promises are more than  
All the stars in the sky;  
Your mercy is deeper than the night.

Lord, it will be cold.  
The night comes with its breath of death.  
Night comes; the end comes; you come.  
Lord we will wait for you  
Day and night.

SILENT MEDITATION

CONGREGATIONAL SONG *Nothing Can Trouble*, Taize

**Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.  
Those that seek God shall never go wanting.  
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.  
God alone fills us.**

## LIGHTING OF VESPER CANDLES

*You are invited to come forward and light a candle(s) for people or situations you want to hold in the Light of God's Love. When you light the candle feel free to whisper the name of the person(s)/situation(s) for whom you are praying.*

## COLLECT

## BENEDICTION

*We invite you to leave the worship service in silence. If you wish, you are invited to remain in the sanctuary after the benediction and listen to the music. Rev. Schofield will stay in the church for a time if you would like her to say a word of prayer with you following the service. Just let her know if you would like to pray.*