

# Growing Together Through Prayer

## Fall and Winter 2016-17



### The Vesper Light

Phos hilaron

O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O  
Giver of life and to be glorified through all worlds. BCP p.118

\*\*\*\*\*

*In this darkening time of the year, as daylight recedes, we turn  
our hearts to moments of prayer and reflection.*

*Always, COME AS YOU ARE.*

**Monday, September 12, 2016**  
6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**Sabbath Keeping as Prayer** - There is a depth to the fourth "commandment" that we seldom appreciate in full. We will explore the deeper meaning of Sabbath and work toward a way of "keeping" this holy tradition in our own busy times. Marguerite Kirchhoff will lead the discussion.

---

**Monday, September 26, 2016**  
6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**I Believe, Help My Unbelief** - In Mark's gospel, the father of a sick child is asking Jesus to heal his son. He is quoted as saying, "I believe, help my unbelief." During this session, we will explore these words and prayers of belief. Kari Duong-Topp will lead this session

---

**Monday, October 10, 2016**  
6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**Visio Divina – The Annunciation** - Camille Jungmann will lead our prayer and discussion as we will at some great works of art depicting The Annunciation. What do they tell us about this world-changing moment of prayer? How can our prayer be fed by the moment and the art?

---

**Monday, October 24, 2016**  
6:30 to 8:00 p, in Dana's office

Praying ACTS: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication (and Intercession). Start your day with ACTS, use it throughout your day, and you will find your life may change. For the better! Christin Garcia will lead the session.

**Monday November 7, 2016**

6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**Prayers of Thanks** - Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Join us in an exploration of "giving thanks." In addition to the review of some information, we will have time for quiet meditation and optional sharing of prayers of thanks with each other. Kari Duong-Topp will lead this session.

---

**Monday, November 14, 2016**

6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**Blessings** - John Curran will lead a session comparing Hebrew and Christian blessing practices. How do these two traditions see the act of blessing differently?

---

**Monday, December 5, 2016**

6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**The Words of the Prophets** - Using the appointed Old Testament texts for the season of Advent, we will ponder these magnificent words and consider how they can prepare us and our prayer for the coming of the Christ. Marguerite Kirchhoff will lead the session.

---

**Monday, January 9, 2017**

6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**Aging and Spiritual Growth** - We experience God differently in the various seasons of our lives. Life experience and study play a role in our faith. In this session we will explore how this growth happens and what it might mean. Bill Johnson will lead our discussion.

**Monday, February 6, 2017**  
6:30 to 8:00 pm in Dana's office

**How I Pray** – Cara Knittel will lead us through a discussion of Jim Castelli's book *How I Pray* in which the author speaks with people from many religious traditions about their practice of prayer as well as the importance prayer plays in their lives. We will learn about some of these practices and consider what is important to each of us in our prayer life.

It is not necessary to have read the book to attend this session

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Let Evening Come**

Let the light of late afternoon  
shine through the chinks in the barn, moving  
up the bales as the sun moves down.

Let the cricket take up chaffing  
as a woman takes up her needles  
and her yarn. Let evening come.

Let dew collect on the hoe abandoned  
in the long grass. Let the stars appear  
and the moon disclose her silver horn.

Let the fox go back to its sandy den.  
Let the wind die down. Let the shed  
go black inside. Let evening come.

To the bottle in the ditch, to the scoop  
in the oats, to air in the lung  
let evening come.

Let it come as it will and don't  
be afraid. God does not leave us  
comfortless, so let evening come.

**By Jane Kenyon**