A Service of Evening Prayer 2011
Welcome to this service of Evening Prayer by the Concordia Seminary Chorus. We invite your full participation as we hear God’s Word and then speak and sing His Word back to Him in prayer and song.

Evening Prayer recalls the Old Testament rhythm of prayer in the morning and the evening: “When you lie down and when you arise” (Deuteronomy 6:7). Our Lord Himself, as well as His apostles and the New Testament church, continued that rhythm, making every day a sacrifice of prayer and praise to God. Because the hours of prayer multiplied and became increasingly complex and burdensome, they were prayed only in the monasteries. The Reformation sought to restore the joy of morning and evening prayer. “In the evening when you retire, make the sign of the cross and say…” (Small Catechism vii). The liturgy of Evening Prayer, which grows out of the daily devotion of the home, has a simple, four-part outline: Service of Light, Psalmody, Readings and Responses, and Prayers.

The Service of Light (lucernarium) began as a daily lamp-lighting service at the setting of the sun in the early centuries before gas or electric lights. The image of light in the midst of darkness is easily associated with Christ who is our light (John 1:9). We look forward to the day when we will no longer need lamp nor sun, for the Lord God will be our light (Revelation 22:5). The Phos hilaron, or “Hymn of Light,” is a third-century hymn of praise to Christ, the “gracious light.”

The Psalter is the hymnal/prayerbook of both Old and New Testament Israel. Psalm 141 sets the Evening Prayer theme with incense and the uplifted hands of prayer as the “evening sacrifice” of God’s people. In the Old Testament, incense was offered to God, not for the atonement of sins, but as an offering to God (Exodus 30). Incense, prayer and praise are the thanksgiving sacrifices of God’s saints (Malachi 1:1).

Where the Word of Christ dwells richly, there are psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16). This is the rhythm of Christian worship: God first speaks to us through His Word; we then speak His words back to Him in hymns and songs. The needs and concerns of the whole people of God are included in the litany, where the priestly people of God intercede for “everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity” (1 Timothy 2:2). We also give thanks for the saints who have died in the Lord and who rest in the hope of the resurrection (1 Thessalonians 4:13). Evening Prayer concludes with a hymn of thanksgiving “for all the blessings of the light.” Those who have heard the Word of the Lord leave with the peace of the Lord on their lips and in their hearts.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

Thank you for joining the Concordia Seminary Chorus for this time of worship. Hearing God’s Word spoken and sung in this special place is a blessing from God to us.

In 1881 a billboard in London invited passers-by to come to church. It said, “There is a poem on ‘The Buried Life’ of which I am often reminded. Your lives are busy, useful, honest; but your faces are anxious and you are not all you want to be. There is within you another life, a buried life, which does not get free. It is buried but it is not dead. When it really hears God’s voice it will rise. I believe that in the quiet of a place full of good memories, in the sound of fine music, in the sympathy of fellow seekers, we may better wait God’s call…. It may be that as you listen to the silence, to the music, or to the worship of others, God will speak and that the buried life will arise and that you will have peace.”

The mission of Concordia Seminary depends upon faithful people like you for prayers and support. We thank you and pray the Spirit’s blessing upon this worship.

Cordially yours,

Dale A. Meyer, President
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri
Prelude - Orison: Lord, Keep Us Safe This Night
Harold W. Friedell, 1905-58
“Amen” setting: William Smith, d. 1645

Lord, keep us safe this night,
Secure from all our fears;
May angels guard us while we sleep,
Till morning light appears. Amen.
John Leland

SERVICE OF LIGHT
Please stand. Tip your unlit candle into the flame of the lit candle
as the Christ candle is brought down the aisle.

Procession of Light - Processional for Lucernarium
Carl Crosier, 1985

Chorus: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

Congregation: REFRAIN

Chorus: You, O Lord, are my lamp; my God, You make my darkness bright. For with
You is the well of life, and in Your light we see light. (Psalm 18:29; 36:9)

Congregation: REFRAIN

Chorus: When Your Word goes forth it gives light. It gives understanding to the simple.
Your Word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path. (Psalm 119:30, 105)

Congregation: REFRAIN

Chorus: You wrap Yourself with light as with a cloak and spread out the heavens like a
curtain. Send out Your light and Your truth, that they may lead me, and bring
me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling. (Psalm 104:2; 43:3)

Congregation: REFRAIN

Chorus: The night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to You are both alike. From
the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the Lord be praised.
(Psalm 139:11; 113:3)

Congregation: REFRAIN

Chorus: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the
beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Congregation: REFRAIN

Please be seated.

Hymn of Light - O Gracious Light
Russell Schulz-Widmar, b. 1944

O gracious Light, pure brightness of the ever-living 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 at all times to be praised by happy
voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.
Phos hilaron, Greek hymn, 3rd century
Thanksgiving for Light

L: It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as Your servants, for Jesus’ sake.

C: For the same God who said, “Out of darkness let light shine,” has caused His light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

(2 Corinthians 4:54)

Hymn - Christ, Mighty Savior

INNISFREE FARM

Richard Wayne Dirksen, 1921-2004

L: O Lord God Almighty, as You have taught us to call the evening, the morning, and the noonday one day, and have made the sun to know its going down, through Your Son Jesus dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by Your brightness we may know You to be the true God and eternal Light, living and reigning forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Please extinguish your candle at this time and stand.
Psalm 141 - Let My Prayer Rise Before You

Chorus: Dirigatur oratio mea sicut incensum in conspectu tuo,
Let my prayer come up as the incense,
elevatio manuum meorum sacrificium vespertinum,
and let the lifting up of my hands be as an evening sacrifice.

Congregation:

Let my prayer rise before You as incense; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly; hear my voice when I cry to You.

Let my prayer rise before You as incense; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;

let me not be occupied in wickedness with evil doers.

But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take refuge. Strip me not of my life.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Let my prayer rise before You as incense; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

There is silence for meditation on the psalm, and then the psalm prayer.
L: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that with purified minds we may sing Your praises with the church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever and ever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Psalm 119:41-48: How Richly God Will Bless

Heinrich Schütz, 1585-1672

Henry V. Gerike, b. 1948

The Chorus is assisted by members of local parish choirs.

1. How richly God will bless those 
   Who walk in holiness, 
   Who by His Word are living, 
   Whose lips His praise confess; 
   Their hearts are right, they seek God’s face, 
   Their lives bear witness to Him, 
   They live within His grace.

2. From deep within my heart, Lord 
   My words of thanks arise; 
   For You have made me holy 
   And righteous in Your eyes. 
   Your precious grace, my guarantee; 
   I will uphold Your judgments— 
   Never abandon me!

5. Your Word stands firm forever 
   And will not pass away, 
   Far greater than the heavens 
   Whose glories change each day; 
   Your truth lasts to eternity 
   For from the world’s foundation 
   Your hand of love I see.
Hymn - *Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*

**HERZLICH LIEB, 1577**

Martin Schalling, 1532-1608

Setting: Donald Busarow, 1998

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**Choir:**

1. Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne’er from me de-part;

2. Yea, Lord, ’twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod- y, soul, and all I have

3. With ten-der mer-cy cheer me. Earth has no plea-sure I would share,

4. In this poor life of la-bor. Lord, grant that I in ev-’ry place

5. That I may die un-fear-ing; And in its nar-row cham-ber keep

6. Yea, heav’n it-self were void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.

7. May glo-ri-fy Thy lav-ish grace And serve and help my neigh-bor.


9. And should my heart for sor-row break, My trust in Thee can noth-ing shake.

10. Let no false doc-trine me be-guile, Let Sa-tan not my soul de-file.

11. Cong.: And then from death a-wak-en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,

12. Thou art the por-tion I have sought; Thy pre-cious blood my soul has bought.

13. Give strength and pa-tience un-to me To bear my cross and fol-low Thee.

14. O Son of God, Thy glo-ri-ous face, My Sav-i(or and my fount of grace.

15. Lord Je-sus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,

16. Lord Je-sus Christ, My prayer at- tend, my prayer at- tend,

17. For-sake me not! I trust Thy Word.


19. And I will praise Thee with-out end!

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Please stand.

Please be seated.
READINGS AND RESPONSES

Isaiah 60: 1-7
L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

*Arise, Shine; for Your Light Has Come*  
Mark Bender, b. 1951

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

1 John 5: 6-12
L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

*Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying*  
Stephen B. Starke, b. 1955

The Chorus is assisted by members of local parish choirs.
Revelation 5: 6-14
L: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal

Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore, as I near those swollen waters, with their deep and solemn roar. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, glory to the Great I AM. And my soul, though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day, passes swiftly o’er those waters to the city far away. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, glory to the Great I AM. Souls have crossed before me, saintly to that land of perfect rest; and I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest. Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, glory to the Great I AM.

Please stand.

Gospel Canticle - Magnificat

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. My spirit magnifies the Lord, my soul rejoices that God came and noticed me of low estate and lifted high my humble name. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is his name. His mercy toward the men of faith flows ever in abundant tide. He saves them by his mighty arm but scatters all the men of pride. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. His servant Israel he helped, he kept his promises of grace. Forgetting not a word he spoke to Abraham and all his race. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Chorus
Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Congregation
When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

George N. Allen, 1844; adapted by Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993
The Litany

After each petition, all sing the following music in harmony and then sustain the pitch on a hum during the next petition.

L: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruit of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
C: Thanks be to God!

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for private petitions and intercessions.
Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
C: To You, O Lord.

Collects

L: Almighty and everlasting God, because You hate nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent, create in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily repenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
C: Amen.

O Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that you hand is leading us, and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen, amen.

L: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commands, and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever.
C: Amen.

Everloving God, whose will it is that all humankind shall come to the knowledge of Your Son Jesus Christ, the power of His forgiveness, and the hope of His resurrection, grant that in our witness to Him we may make worthy use of the means You have given us, and prosper our efforts to proclaim this glad news throughout the world, to the honor of the Name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

L: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C: 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.

L: Let us bless the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

The Offering To help the Concordia Seminary Chorus in meeting their expenses, you may use the enclosed envelope.

Please stand.
The Blessing

L: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve us.

C: Amen.

Hymn - All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night

1. All praise to Thee, my God, this night
   For all the blessings of the light.
   Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
   Beneath Thine own almighty wings.

2. Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son,
   The ill that I this day have done,
   That with the world, myself, and Thee,
   I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

3. Teach me to live* that I may dread
   The grave as little as my bed.
   Teach me to die that so I may
   Rise glorious at the awesome day.

4. Oh, may my soul* in Thee repose,
   And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
   Sleep that shall me more vig’rous make
   To serve my God when I awake!

5. When in the night* I sleepless lie,
   My soul with heav’nly thoughts supply;
   Let no ill dreams disturb my rest
   No pow’rs of darkness me molest.

6. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
   Praise Him, all creatures here below;
   Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
   Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The members of the congregation are invited to greet one another with a greeting of peace:

“The peace of the Lord be with you.”
Compact disc recordings of music by the Concordia Seminary Chorus are available for purchase after the service.
Concordia Seminary Chorus thanks God for and expresses its gratitude to these organizations and individuals:

- Concordia Seminary Guild for its generous financial support of this tour. The Guild exists in order to “cultivate a deeper interest in Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and to provide items for the campus and students which are not ordinarily furnished by the Seminary.” You may learn more about the Seminary Guild at www.csl.edu/friends/seminary-guild.
- Ms. Doris Erbe for her generous support of Concordia Seminary Chorus.
- Choir members of the hosting congregations for their assistance in singing with the Chorus.
- Host families for their gracious hospitality in housing our singers.
- Host congregations for their generosity and hospitality in supporting the Chorus for this service.

**Tour 2011 Itinerary**

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>February 18</td>
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Acknowledgments

Your Seminary is strong...

- In providing for the church excellent pastors, deaconesses and other church leaders;
- In the theology of the Reformation that brings glory to Jesus Christ alone. Students are grounded in God's Word and equipped to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, and equipped to minister to the needs of people in Christ's name;
- In the abilities and wisdom of faculty members who provide a world-class education for students while caring for them as brothers and sisters in Christ;
- In providing resources to congregations that can strengthen their work in a variety of ways;
- In exciting and ambitious plans for the future that will expand outreach to ethnic communities, provide new resources for congregations, and attract new students through new ways of offering degree programs.

Your Seminary is thankful...

- To Almighty God for His many blessings to you and to all those with faith in Jesus Christ;
- For the friendship, encouragement, and support of so many partners (individuals, congregations, and others) who are committed to a solid future for Seminary education;
- For the many ways you and others strengthen Gospel ministry efforts in the church and in the world as together we strive to be about the Lord's business of reaching the lost, nurturing the saved, and expressing the love of Christ to all those around us.

Your Seminary needs you and your congregation...

- To remember in prayer the nearly 700 students enrolled in degree programs offered by the Seminary;
- To encourage grade school and high school students to consider a lifetime of service as a pastor, deaconess, chaplain, missionary, or in other full time church vocations;
- To assist current and future Seminary students with the cost of their education through direct gifts to the Seminary and through opportunities such as Student Aid, Adopt-A-Student, and permanent endowment programs. (Today, support from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod accounts for less than 2% of the cost of maintaining the Seminary.) You can contact your Seminary for more information: 1-800-822-5287 or www.csl.edu.
### Concordia Seminary Chorus Tour 2011 Roster

**Mr. Greg Gastler, Director**  
**Mrs. Holly Eickmann, Violin and Viola**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Voice</th>
<th>Church/Center</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy Anderson</td>
<td>Baritone</td>
<td>Lutheran Church of the Resurrection</td>
<td>Garden City, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dustin Beck</td>
<td>1 Tenor</td>
<td>Our Redeemer Lutheran</td>
<td>Wichita Falls, TX</td>
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<td>Jonathan Crawford</td>
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<td>St. Luke Lutheran</td>
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<td>Bass</td>
<td>St. Paul Lutheran</td>
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<td>Owendale, MI</td>
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<td>Bass</td>
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<td>William Wingfield</td>
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**Guest Musicians**

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<tr>
<td>Sylvia White</td>
<td>Violin</td>
<td>St. Paul Lutheran/University Center</td>
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(Denton, TX)