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Remonstranten  
Vrijzinnige Protestanten

## **Evening Prayer Sunday April 24, 2022**

**Rev. Mpho Tutu**

**Piano: Hans Veldhuizen**

**Next Evening Prayer Sunday May, 2022 at 17.15 hrs**

*This liturgy is based on the evening prayer from the Celtic Daily Prayer book. The prayers of the people were written by Carole Penner.*

*Song*

**Come bless our God  
All you servants of the God  
Who stand by night in the house of our God  
Lift up your hands in the holy place  
And bless our God  
And bless our God**

**The One who made the heavens and the earth  
Who blesses us from holy Zion  
Lift up your hands in the holy place  
And bless our God  
And bless our God**

**Bless the eternal triune God  
Who evermore remains the same  
Lift up your hands in the holy place  
And bless our God  
And bless our God**

In the name of the One holy and living God who is, who was, and who is to come. Amen

*Opening Sentences*

**My soul waits for God  
More than those  
who watch for the morning  
More than those  
Who watch for the morning.**

Out of the depths I have cried to You  
**O God, hear my voice.**  
With my whole heart I want to praise You  
**O God, hear my voice**  
If you, God, should mark wrongdoing  
**Who could stand? Who could stand?**  
**I will wait for God.**  
**My soul waits,**  
**In God's word**  
**Do I hope.**

*Expressions of faith*

**My God, you have always given  
Bread for the coming day;  
and though I am poor,  
Today I believe**

**Mijn God, je hebt altijd gegeven  
Sterkte voor de komende dag;  
En hoewel ik zwak ben,  
Vandaag geloof ik**

**My God, You have always given  
Peace for the coming day;  
And though anxious of heart,  
Today I believe**

**My God, You have always kept me  
Safe in trials  
And now, tried as I am  
Today I believe**

**Mijn God, je hebt altijd gemarkeerd  
De weg voor de komende dag;  
En hoewel het misschien verborgen is  
Vandaag geloof ik**

**My God you have always lightened  
This darkness of mine;  
And though the night is here  
Today I believe.  
Oh God, You have always spoken  
When the time was ripe;  
And though you be silent now  
Today I believe.**

## *Scripture Reading*

### **A reading from the Gospel according to John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*Piano intermezzo / improvisation*

*Prayers for ourselves and others*

Having heard God's Word let us call upon the name of the Eternal One, trusting in the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us.

God of the bright and morning star,  
God of the rising sun,  
God of darkness banished,  
we praise and worship you!  
For empty tombs: thank you!  
For disciples running with good news: thank you!  
For your presence, alive, powerful, resurrected: thank you!  
We celebrate your victory over death,  
over all the powers that would defeat us.

Help us to grasp resurrection;  
to understand its power,  
to see its force at work in our world,  
overturning evil empires,  
changing the hatred within us,  
moving the world slowly, forcefully,  
bending us towards love and truth.

In this season of great gladness  
empower us to be your ambassadors,  
proclaiming good news.  
Good news in our kitchens and living rooms,  
good news in the offices and workshops  
good news in the fields and factories  
Help us to be that good news,  
walking softly on this good earth  
caring gently for all people,  
living hopefully into your kingdom.

Today we think of all who are grieving, especially...  
*[name those who are grieving]*  
and for the sick and dying....  
*[name those who are ill]*  
for places in the world that are torn by war and bloodshed...  
*[name countries at war]*

In this world of broken hopes and dreams  
we catch sight of your kingdom come,  
in the person of Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns in us forever. Amen.

Hymn

449 All Praise to You, My God, This Night

1. All praise to You, my God, this night, For  
2. For - give me, Lord, for this I pray, The  
3. Lord, may I be at rest in You And  
4. Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise

3 all the blessings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,  
wrong that I have done this day. May peace with God and  
sweet - ly sleep the whole night thro'. Re - fresh my strength, for  
Him all creatures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye

6 King of kings, Be - neath the shelt - er of Your wings.  
neigh - bor be, Be - fore I sleep re - stored to me.  
Your own sake, So I may serve You when I wake.  
heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*Blessing*

See that you are at peace among yourselves, my children,  
And love one another.

Follow the example of the good people of old  
And God will comfort you and help you,  
Both in this world  
And in the world which is to come.

In the name of the One, holy and living God  
Who is, who was and who is to come. **amen.**