WORLD COMMUNION OF REFORMED CHURCHES THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

EVENING PRAYER

Saturday, 11 May 2019

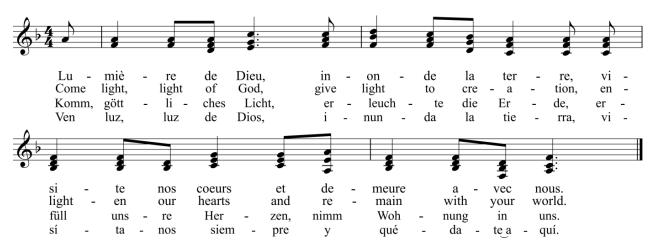
Opening

God, come to our aid. Lord, make haste to help us. Turn us again, O God of our salvation, that the light of your face may shine on us. May your justice shine like the sun; and may the poor be lifted up.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, will be for ever. Amen. Hallelujah!

✓ Lumière de Dieu

Sisters of Grandchamp: Switzerland



Original text in French, German and English © Communauté de Grandchamps, Switzerland. Spanish: Simei Monteiro © WCC-COE 150, Route de Ferney, 1211, Geneva 2, Switzerland

Psalm 23



1 The LORD is my shepherd I shall not want.

- 2 The Lord makes me to lie down in green pastures,
- 3 restores my soul, and leads me in right paths

4 for the sake of the Lord's— name.



Even though I walk through the valley of the <u>shadow of death</u> I will <u>fear no evil</u> For you <u>are with me;</u> Your rod and your staff – they <u>com</u> - <u>fort me</u>.

You prepare a <u>table be</u> - <u>fore me</u> In the presence <u>of my enemies;</u> You anoint my <u>head with oil;</u> My cup <u>o</u> – <u>ver</u> - <u>flows</u>.

Surely <u>goodness</u> and <u>mercy</u> shall follow me <u>all my life.</u> And I shall dwell in the house <u>of the Lord</u> For the length <u>of my days</u>.

Gospel reading John 10:11-16

¹¹ 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

Silent reflection

Reflections on the day ending

In the quietness of this place, let us remember before God all that has been part of this day. Let us remember the people with whom we have shared today. *(pause)* God we thank you for the people who have been with us and around today and we pray for your blessing upon them tonight. **God of all, hear our prayer.**

Let us remember all the activities we have shared in today. What have we learned and what would be our commitments in response to the things we learned? (*pause*)

God, we thank you for all the discussions and fellowship which have been ours today. **God of life, hear our prayer.**

Let us think about the times today when we have done things we regretted or when our words have been harmful.

(pause)

God of mercy, forgive us the wrong we have done today as we forgive those who have wronged us.

Let us also think about people in other places tonight: our families and friends at home, anyone we know who is sick or upset, people in other parts of this country and other parts of the world who are oppressed and whose lives are in danger, who have no food and water, who have to flee from their homes because of wars, economic hardships and natural calamities, or who suffer in any way. (pause)

God of compassion, grant your peace and love tonight to those we remember and your help to all those who need it at this time. Amen.

The Lord's prayer (in our various languages)

♪ Abide with me

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee. Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

(Words: Henry Francis Lyte, 1847; music: William Henry Monk, 1861)

Closing

The wisdom of God be ours, that by day we may act with discernment and by night, rest untroubled.

The strength of God be ours, that by day we may stand firm with Christ and by night, be re-charged.

The stillness of God be ours, that by day we may embody God's peace and by night, know that God is near. Amen.