

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*People*      **Thanks be to God!**

Let us pray.

O Lord God Almighty, creator of day and night. Darkness is not dark to you and the night shines like the day, for darkness is as light to you. We pray that you would shine your light into the darkness in our hearts so that we can understand more of you, the true God and eternal light, living and reigning forever and ever. *Amen.*

Psalm 34:1-14

- 1 I will praise the Lord at all times.\*  
    **I will constantly speak his praises.**
- 2 I will boast only in the Lord;\*  
    **let all who are helpless take heart.**
- 3 Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness;\*  
    **let us exalt his name together.**
- 4 I prayed to the Lord, and he answered me.\*  
    **He freed me from all my fears.**
- 5 Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy;\*  
    **no shadow of shame will darken their faces.**
- 6 In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened;\*  
    **he saved me from all my troubles.**
- 7 For the angel of the Lord is a guard;\*  
    **he surrounds and defends all who fear him.**
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good.\*  
    **Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!**
- 9 Fear the Lord, you his godly people,\*  
    **for those who fear him will have all they need.**
- 10 Even strong young lions sometimes go hungry,\*  
    **but those who trust in the Lord will lack no good thing.**
- 11 Come, my children, and listen to me,\*  
    **and I will teach you to fear the Lord.**
- 12 Does anyone want to live a life\*  
    **that is long and prosperous?**
- 13 Then keep your tongue from speaking evil\*  
    **and your lips from telling lies!**

14 Turn away from evil and do good.\*

**Search for peace, and work to maintain it.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen**

*Prayer Groups.*

O Lord, cleanse and defend us your Church with your never failing mercy. And, because your people the Church cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern all of us always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

*Lighting of the candles as you say "O gracious light..."*

*Say together:*

**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 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.**