

Gathering Music:

Gathering Prayer:

While the moon her watch is keeping
All through the night
While the weary world is sleeping
All through the night
O'er thy spirit gently stealing
Visions of delight revealing
Breathes a pure and holy feeling
All through the night
Welsh Traditional

Reflective Reading:

"Look well to the growing edge. All around us worlds are dying and new worlds are being born; all around us life is dying and life is being born. The fruit ripens on the tree, the roots are silently at work in the darkness of the earth against a time when there shall be new leaves, fresh blossoms, green fruit. Such is the growing edge. It is the extra breath from the exhausted lung, the one more thing to try when all else has failed, the upward reach of life when weariness closes in upon all endeavor. This is the basis of hope in moments of despair, the incentive to carry on when times are out of joint and men and women have lost their reason, the source of confidence when worlds crash and dreams whiten into ash. Such is the growing edge incarnate. Look well to the growing edge."

-Howard Thurman

Reflective Music:

Participatory Prayers:

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

May it be so this night

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

May it be so this night

That all that we have embraced this day continue to fill us with the warmth of your love,

May it be so this night

That rest, renewal, and the rebirth of your Spirit greet us with the morning light,

May it be so this night

- Brian N. Prior

Sending Prayers:

Be near us God at the close of the day.
Be in us God as the daylight fades.
Color us in sunset hues
Fading rose o'er ocean blues.

Enfold us, wrap us, hold us near
Your breath whispers away our fears
As our dreams reflect your desire
You call us in images wild with fire.

Amen to all that flew today
Amen to our efforts to obey
Your love calls even as we sleep
Amen to wisdom rising from the deep.

Sending Music:

Prayer of Sir Francis Drake

Disturb us, Lord, when
We are too well pleased with ourselves, When our dreams have come true Because we have
dreamed too little, When we arrived safely
Because we sailed too close to the shore.
Disturb us, Lord, when
With the abundance of things we possess We have lost our thirst
For the waters of life;
Having fallen in love with life,
We have ceased to dream of eternity And in our efforts to build a new earth, We have allowed our
vision
Of the new Heaven to dim.
Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly, To venture on wider seas
Where storms will show your mastery; Where losing sight of land,
We shall find the stars.
We ask You to push back
The horizons of our hopes;
And to push into the future
In strength, courage, hope, and love.
AMEN