

Focus on God

Candle Lighting

Evening Prayer

**As I give myself over to sleep, dear Lord,
I thank you for the gift of rest.
Let me relinquish the cares of the day.
Forgive the ways I have failed you.
Restore me to you and renew my faithfulness,
that I may awake to serve you more,
for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

James 2

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. ¹⁹You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder. ²⁰Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren? ²¹Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²²You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works.

²³Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God. ²⁴You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? ²⁶For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

The Word of God

The Word of Life

Communion

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

With Isaiah the prophet, we give you thanks— for the promise of your heavenly banquet, a feast of rich food and well-aged wine; for the strength of your steadfast love, destroying the shroud of sin and shame; for the gift of your saving grace, our long-awaited day of deliverance. Therefore we rejoice in you, singing with the saints of every age:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Closing Song

Blessing