

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Evening Prayer: Rite Two
Wednesday, October 1, 2025

Opening Sentences

Confession of Sin

Officiant: Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

[Officiant leads and people join in]

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on you [us], forgive you [us] all your [our] sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you [us] in eternal life. Amen.

[A deacon or lay person using the preceding form remains kneeling, and substitutes "us" for "you" and "our" for "your."]

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

[OFFICIANT AND PEOPLE TOGETHER]

**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.**

O Gracious Light (unison)

**O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the ever living 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.**

Psalm 119:121-144 BCP 773

121 I have done what is just and right; *
do not deliver me to my oppressors.

122 Be surety for your servant's good; *
let not the proud oppress me.

123 My eyes have failed from watching for your salvation *
and for your righteous promise.

**124 Deal with your servant according to your loving-kindness *
and teach me your statutes.**

125 I am your servant; grant me understanding, *
that I may know your decrees.

**126 It is time for you to act, O Lord, *
for they have broken your law.**

127 Truly, I love your commandments *
more than gold and precious stones.

**128 I hold all your commandments to be right for me; *
all paths of falsehood I abhor.**

129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

**130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.**

131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.

**132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.**

133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.

**134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.**

135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.

**136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.**

137 You are righteous, O Lord, *
and upright are your judgments.

**138 You have issued your decrees *
with justice and in perfect faithfulness.**

139 My indignation has consumed me, *
because my enemies forget your words.

**140 Your word has been tested to the uttermost, *
and your servant holds it dear.**

141 I am small and of little account, *
yet I do not forget your commandments.

**142 Your justice is an everlasting justice *
and your law is the truth.**

143 Trouble and distress have come upon me, *
yet your commandments are my delight.

**144 The righteousness of your decrees is everlasting; *
grant me understanding, that I may live.**

[OFFICIANT AND PEOPLE TOGETHER]

**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.**

The First Lesson. Matthew 7:13-21
Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road
is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take
it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life,
and there are few who find it.

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits.

Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord", will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle	The Song of Simeon	<i>Nunc dimittis</i>
Lord, you now have set your servant free *		
to go in peace as you have promised;		
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *		
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:		
A Light to enlighten the nations, *		
and the glory of your people Israel.		
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.		
<i>Amen.</i>		

Meditation **Walter Michael**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

A Collect for Protection

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

[authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow]

The General Thanksgiving

[Officiant and people]

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus
Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your
mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your
praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom (Officiant only)

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Romans 15:13

SERVING US TODAY:

Officiant: Walter Michael

Meditation: Walter Michael

Reader/Voice of the People: Mahlon Kidd