

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Evening Prayer: Rite Two
Wednesday, April 10, 2024

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 119:1-24. BCP 763

- 1 Happy are they whose way is blameless, *
who walk in the law of the Lord!

- 2 **Happy are they who observe his decrees *
and seek him with all their hearts!**

- 3 Who never do any wrong, *
but always walk in his ways.

- 4 **You laid down your commandments, *
that we should fully keep them.**

- 5 Oh, that my ways were made so direct *
that I might keep your statutes!

- 6 **Then I should not be put to shame, *
when I regard all your commandments.**

- 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, *
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

- 8 **I will keep your statutes; *
do not utterly forsake me.**

- 9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? *
By keeping to your words.

- 10 **With my whole heart I seek you; *
let me not stray from your commandments.**

- 11 I treasure your promise in my heart, *
that I may not sin against you.

- 12 **Blessed are you, O Lord; ***
instruct me in your statutes.
- 13 With my lips will I recite *
all the judgments of your mouth.
- 14 **I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees ***
than in all manner of riches.
- 15 I will meditate on your commandments *
and give attention to your ways.
- 16 **My delight is in your statutes; ***
I will not forget your word.
- 17 Deal bountifully with your servant, *
that I may live and keep your word.
- 18 **Open my eyes, that I may see ***
the wonders of your law.
- 19 I am a stranger here on earth; *
do not hide your commandments from me.
- 20 **My soul is consumed at all times ***
with longing for your judgments.
- 21 You have rebuked the insolent; *
cursed are they who stray from your commandments!
- 22 **Turn from me shame and rebuke, ***
for I have kept your decrees.
- 23 Even though rulers sit and plot against me, *
I will meditate on your statutes.

**24 For your decrees are my delight, *
and they are my counselors.**

[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. John 15:1-11

”I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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.
Amen.

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: Brian Wood

Meditation: Walter Michael

Reader/Voice of the People: Delores Wood