

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
**Evening Prayer: Rite Two**  
**Wednesday, August 12, 2020**

*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 and People together:***

**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*, forgive *you* all *your* sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen *you* in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep *you* 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:*

**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.**

**Alleluia.**

**O Gracious Light**

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**

READ RESPONSIVELY, BY WHOLE VERSE

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. . . . . **Acts 21:15-26**

After these days we got ready and started to go up to Jerusalem. Some of the disciples from Caesarea also came along and brought us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we were to stay.

When we arrived in Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us warmly. The next day Paul went with us to visit James; and all the elders were present. After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. When they heard it, they praised God. Then they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands of believers there are among the Jews, and they are all zealous for the law. They have been told about you that you teach all the Jews living among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, and that you tell them not to circumcise their children or observe the customs. What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. So do what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow. Join these men, go through the rite of purification with them, and pay for the shaving of their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself observe and guard the law. But as for the Gentiles who have become believers, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what is strangled and from fornication." Then Paul took the men, and the next day, having purified himself, he entered the temple with them, making public the completion of the days of purification when the sacrifice would be made for each of them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Canticle                      The Song of Simeon                      *Nunc dimittis*

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 . . . . . **Chuck Geiger**

**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 Aid against Perils*

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *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***

**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: Willis Logan**

**Meditation: Chuck Geiger**

**Reader/Voice of the People: Chuck Geiger**