

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Evening Prayer: Rite Two
Wednesday, February 1, 2023

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 119:73-96.BCP 769

73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me; *
give me understanding, that I may learn your
commandments.

**74 Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, *
because I trust in your word.**

75 I know, O Lord, that your judgments are right *
and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

**76 Let your loving-kindness be my comfort, *
as you have promised to your servant.**

77 Let your compassion come to me, that I may live, *
for your law is my delight.

**78 Let the arrogant be put to shame, for they wrong me
with lies; *
but I will meditate on your commandments.**

79 Let those who fear you turn to me, *
and also those who know your decrees.

**80 Let my heart be sound in your statutes, *
that I may not be put to shame.**

81 My soul has longed for your salvation; *
I have put my hope in your word.

**82 My eyes have failed from watching for your promise, *
and I say, "When will you comfort me?"**

83 I have become like a leather flask in the smoke, *
but I have not forgotten your statutes.

**84 How much longer must I wait? *
when will you give judgment against those who**

persecute me?

- 85 The proud have dug pits for me; *
they do not keep your law.
- 86 All your commandments are true; *
help me, for they persecute me with lies.**
- 87 They had almost made an end of me on earth, *
but I have not forsaken your commandments.
- 88 In your loving-kindness, revive me, *
that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.**
- 89 O Lord, your word is everlasting; *
it stands firm in the heavens.
- 90 Your faithfulness remains from one generation to another; *
you established the earth, and it abides.**
- 91 By your decree these continue to this day, *
for all things are your servants.
- 92 If my delight had not been in your law, *
I should have perished in my affliction.**
- 93 I will never forget your commandments, *
because by them you give me life.
- 94 I am yours; oh, that you would save me! *
for I study your commandments.**
- 95 Though the wicked lie in wait for me to destroy me, *
I will apply my mind to your decrees.
- 96 I see that all things come to an end, *
but your commandment has no bounds.**

[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.Galatians 4:21-31

Tell me, you who desire to be subject to the law, will you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by an enslaved woman and the other by a free woman. One, the child of the enslaved woman, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother. For it is written,

“Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children,
burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth
pangs,
for the children of the desolate woman are more
numerous
than the children of the one who is married.”

Now you, my brothers and sisters, are children of the promise, like Isaac. But just as at that time the child who was born according to the flesh persecuted the child who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now also. But what does the

scripture say? “Drive out the enslaved woman and her child, for the child of the enslaved woman will not share the inheritance with the child of the free woman.” So then, brothers and sisters, we are children, not of an enslaved woman but of the free woman.

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 **Willis Logan**

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: Willis Logan

Reader/Voice of the People: Mahlon Kidd