

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Evening Prayer: Rite Two  
Wednesday, May 14, 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 49. . . . . BCP 652**

- 1 Hear this, all you peoples;  
    hearken, all you who dwell in the world, \*  
        you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- 2 **My mouth shall speak of wisdom, \***  
    **and my heart shall meditate on understanding.**
- 3 I will incline my ear to a proverb \*  
    and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- 4 **Why should I be afraid in evil days, \***  
    **when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,**
- 5 The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, \*  
    and boast of their great riches?
- 6 **We can never ransom ourselves, \***  
    **or deliver to God the price of our life;**
- 7 For the ransom of our life is so great, \*  
    that we should never have enough to pay it,
- 8 **In order to live for ever and ever, \***  
    **and never see the grave.**
- 9 For we see that the wise die also;  
    like the dull and stupid they perish \*  
    and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- 10 **Their graves shall be their homes for ever,**  
    **their dwelling places from generation to generation, \***  
    **though they call the lands after their own names.**
- 11 Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; \*  
    they are like the beasts that perish.
- 12 **Such is the way of those who foolishly trust in themselves, \***  
    **and the end of those who delight in their own words.**
- 13 Like a flock of sheep they are destined to die;  
    Death is their shepherd; \*  
    they go down straightway to the grave.

**14 Their form shall waste away, \***  
**and the land of the dead shall be their home.**

**15 But God will ransom my life; \***  
**he will snatch me from the grasp of death.**

**16 Do not be envious when some become rich, \***  
**or when the grandeur of their house increases;**

**17 For they will carry nothing away at their death, \***  
**nor will their grandeur follow them.**

**18 Though they thought highly of themselves while they lived, \***  
**and were praised for their success,**

**19 They shall join the company of their forebears, \***  
**who will never see the light again.**

**20 Those who are honored, but have no understanding, \***  
**are like the beasts that perish.**

**[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. . . . . Luke 6:27-38**

<sup>27</sup> 'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup> 'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> If you lend to those from whom you

hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.\* Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup> ‘Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; <sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.’

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 . . . . . **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