

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Evening Prayer: Rite Two
Wednesday, May 31, 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 38.BCP 636

- 1 O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger; *
do not punish me in your wrath.
- 2 **For your arrows have already pierced me, ***
and your hand presses hard upon me.
- 3 There is no health in my flesh,
because of your indignation; *
there is no soundness in my body, because of my sin.
- 4 **For my iniquities overwhelm me; ***
like a heavy burden they are too much for me to bear.
- 5 My wounds stink and fester *
by reason of my foolishness.
- 6 **I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; ***
I go about in mourning all the day long.
- 7 My loins are filled with searing pain; *
there is no health in my body.
- 8 **I am utterly numb and crushed; ***
I wail, because of the groaning of my heart.
- 9 O Lord, you know all my desires, *
and my sighing is not hidden from you.
- 10 **My heart is pounding, my strength has failed me, ***
and the brightness of my eyes is gone from me.
- 11 My friends and companions draw back from my affliction; *
my neighbors stand afar off.
- 12 **Those who seek after my life lay snares for me; ***
those who strive to hurt me speak of my ruin
and plot treachery all the day long.

- 13 But I am like the deaf who do not hear, *
like those who are mute and do not open their mouth.
- 14 **I have become like one who does not hear *
and from whose mouth comes no defense.**
- 15 For in you, O Lord, have I fixed my hope; *
you will answer me, O Lord my God.
- 16 **For I said, “Do not let them rejoice at my expense, *
those who gloat over me when my foot slips.”**
- 17 Truly, I am on the verge of falling, *
and my pain is always with me.
- 18 **I will confess my iniquity *
and be sorry for my sin.**
- 19 Those who are my enemies without cause are mighty, *
and many in number are those who wrongfully hate me.
- 20 **Those who repay evil for good slander me, *
because I follow the course that is right.**
- 21 O Lord, do not forsake me; *
be not far from me, O my God.
- 22 **Make haste to help me, *
O Lord of my salvation.**

[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.Deuteronomy 4:25-31

When you have had children and children's children, and become complacent in the land, if you act corruptly by making an idol in the form of anything, thus doing what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God, and provoking him to anger, I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that you will soon utterly perish from the land that you are crossing the Jordan to occupy; you will not live long on it, but will be utterly destroyed. The LORD will scatter you among the peoples; only a few of you will be left among the nations where the LORD will lead you. There you will serve other gods made by human hands, objects of wood and stone that neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. From there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find him if you search after him with all your heart and soul. In your distress, when all these things have happened to you in time to come, you will return to the LORD your God and heed him. Because the LORD your God is a merciful God, he will neither abandon you nor destroy you; he will not forget the covenant with your ancestors that he swore to 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 **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: Chuck Geiger

Meditation: Walter Michael

Reader/Voice of the People: Delores Wood