St. Mark's Episcopal Church Evening Prayer: Rite Two Wednesday, August 13, 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 101, 109:1-4, 20-30......BCP 978

1 I will sing of mercy and justice; * to you, O Lord, will I sing praises.

2 I will strive to follow a blameless course; oh, when will you come to me? * I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.

3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; * I hate the doers of evil deeds; they shall not remain with me.

4 A crooked heart shall be far from me; *
I will not know evil.

5 Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will destroy; * those who have a haughty look and a proud heart I cannot abide.

6 My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me,
*
and only those who lead a blameless life shall be my servants.

7 Those who act deceitfully shall not dwell in my house, * and those who tell lies shall not continue in my sight.

8 I will soon destroy all the wicked in the land, * that I may root out all evildoers from the city of the Lord.

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1 Hold not your tongue, O God of my praise; * for the mouth of the wicked, the mouth of the deceitful, is opened against me.

2 They speak to me with a lying tongue; * they encompass me with hateful words and fight against me without a cause.

3 Despite my love, they accuse me; * but as for me, I pray for them.

4 They repay evil for good, * and hatred for my love.

20 But you, O Lord my God, oh, deal with me according to your Name; * for your tender mercy's sake, deliver me.

21 For I am poor and needy, * and my heart is wounded within me.

22 I have faded away like a shadow when it lengthens; * I am shaken off like a locust.

23 My knees are weak through fasting, * and my flesh is wasted and gaunt.

24 I have become a reproach to them; * they see and shake their heads.

25 Help me, O Lord my God; * save me for your mercy's sake.

26 Let them know that this is your hand, * that you, O Lord, have done it.

27 They may curse, but you will bless; * let those who rise up against me be put to shame, and your servant will rejoice.

28 Let my accusers be clothed with disgrace * and wrap themselves in their shame as in a cloak.

29 I will give great thanks to the Lord with my mouth; * in the midst of the multitude will I praise him;

30 Because he stands at the right hand of the needy, * to save his life from those who would condemn him.

[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.

- ¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- ¹⁸ "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.'"
- ²⁰ "Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."
- ²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."
- ²² At this the man's face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.
- ²³ Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!"
- ²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."
- ²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?"
- ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."
- ²⁸ Then Peter spoke up, "We have left everything to follow you!"
- ²⁹ "Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel ³⁰ will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this

present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

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, *

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: *

whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

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