

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Evening Prayer: Rite Two
Wednesday, November 22, 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 119:121-144.BCP 773

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.Revelation 21:9-21

9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, ‘Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.’ ¹⁰And in the spirit* he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites; ¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The angel* who talked to me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. ¹⁶The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width; and he measured the city with his rod, fifteen hundred miles;* its length and width and height are equal. ¹⁷He also measured its wall, one hundred and forty-four cubits* by human measurement, which the angel was using. ¹⁸The wall is built of jasper, while the city is pure gold, clear as glass. ¹⁹The foundations of the wall of the city are adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰the fifth onyx, the sixth cornelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. ²¹And the twelve gates are twelve pearls, each of the gates is a single pearl, and the street of the city is pure gold, transparent as glass.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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 **Brian Wood**

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: Brian Wood

Reader/Voice of the People: Delores Wood