

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Evening Prayer: Rite Two  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024

*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.**

**81**

1 Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

**2 Raise a song and sound the timbrel, \*  
the merry harp, and the lyre.**

3 Blow the ram's-horn at the new moon, \*  
and at the full moon, the day of our feast.

**4 For this is a statute for Israel, \*  
a law of the God of Jacob.**

5 He laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, \*  
when he came out of the land of Egypt.

**6 I heard an unfamiliar voice saying, \*  
"I eased his shoulder from the burden;  
his hands were set free from bearing the load."**

7 You called on me in trouble, and I saved you; \*  
I answered you from the secret place of thunder  
and tested you at the waters of Meribah.

**8 Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: \*  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

9 There shall be no strange god among you; \*  
you shall not worship a foreign god.

**10 I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, \*  
"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."**

11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
and Israel would not obey me.

**12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \*  
to follow their own devices.**

13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
that Israel would walk in my ways!

**14 I should soon subdue their enemies \*  
and turn my hand against their foes.**

15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, \*  
and their punishment would last for ever.

**16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \*  
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.**

**82**

1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; \*  
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

**2 "How long will you judge unjustly, \*  
and show favor to the wicked?**

3 Save the weak and the orphan; \*  
defend the humble and needy;

**4 Rescue the weak and the poor; \*  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

5 They do not know, neither do they understand;  
they go about in darkness; \*  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, \*  
and all of you children of the Most High;**

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, \*  
and fall like any prince."

**8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, \*  
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

[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. . . . . John 8:12-20**

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid."

Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me."

Then they asked him, "Where is your father?"

“You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

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 . . . . . **Chuck Geiger**

*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: Walter Michael

Meditation: Chuck Geiger

Reader/Voice of the People: Mahlon Kidd