

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Evening Prayer: Rite Two  
Wednesday, May 15, 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.**

**Psalm 101. . . . . BCP 730**

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.**

[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. . . . . Ephesians 4:1-16**

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup>with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

7 But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'

<sup>9</sup>(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended\* into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup>We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each

part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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 . . . . . **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: Mahlon Kidd