

## **Evening Prayer**

### **Wednesday after the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

*Psalm 141:2*

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

### **Invitatory and Psalter**

**BCP p. 117**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.  
Alleluia.

## O Gracious Light

O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the everliving 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 81

BCP p. 704

Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.  
Raise a song and sound the timbrel, \*  
the merry harp, and the lyre.  
Blow the ram's-horn at the new moon, \*  
and at the full moon, the day of our feast.  
For this is a statute for Israel, \*  
a law of the God of Jacob.  
He laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, \*  
when he came out of the land of Egypt.  
I heard an unfamiliar voice saying, \*  
"I eased his shoulder from the burden;  
his hands were set free from bearing the load."  
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.  
Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: \*  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!  
There shall be no strange god among you; \*  
you shall not worship a foreign god.  
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."  
And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
and Israel would not obey me.  
So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \*  
to follow their own devices.  
Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
that Israel would walk in my ways!  
I should soon subdue their enemies \*  
and turn my hand against their foes.

Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, \*  
and their punishment would last for ever.  
But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \*  
and satisfy him with honey from the rock.

## Psalm 82

BCP p. 705

God takes his stand in the council of heaven; \*  
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:  
“How long will you judge unjustly, \*  
and show favor to the wicked?  
Save the weak and the orphan; \*  
defend the humble and needy;  
Rescue the weak and the poor; \*  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.  
They do not know, neither do they understand;  
they go about in darkness; \*  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.  
Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, \*  
and all of you children of the Most High;  
Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, \*  
and fall like any prince.’”  
Arise, O God, and rule the earth, \*  
for you shall take all nations for your own.  
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 Lessons

### The First Lesson

Mark 10:1-16

A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark.

He left that place and went to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan. And crowds again gathered around him; and, as was his custom, he again taught them.

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, **¶**God made them male and female.’ **¶**For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## 15. The Song of Mary

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.  
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 Apostles' Creed

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**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.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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 A**

*V.*      Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*R.*      And grant us your salvation.  
*V.*      Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*R.*      Let your people sing with joy.  
*V.*      Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.*      For only in you can we live in safety.  
*V.*      Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*R.*      And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
*V.*      Let your way be known upon earth;  
*R.*      Your saving health among all nations.  
*V.*      Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.*      Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
*V.*      Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.*      And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

### **The Collect of the Day**

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.*

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

**BCP p. 102**

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.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*2 Corinthians 13:14*