

## Evening Prayer

### Wednesday after the First Sunday after the Epiphany

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 12

BCP p. 597

Help me, LORD, for there is no godly one left; \*  
the faithful have vanished from among us.  
Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor; \*  
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.  
Oh, that the LORD would cut off all smooth tongues, \*  
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!  
Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; \*  
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"  
"Because the needy are oppressed,  
and the poor cry out in misery, \*  
I will rise up," says the LORD,  
"and give them the help they long for."

The words of the LORD are pure words, \*  
like silver refined from ore  
and purified seven times in the fire.  
O LORD, watch over us \*  
and save us from this generation for ever.  
The wicked prowl on every side, \*  
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

### Psalm 13

BCP p. 597

How long, O LORD?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?  
How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?  
Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;  
Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.  
But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.  
I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

### Psalm 14

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The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.  
The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.  
Every one has proved faithless;  
all alike have turned bad; \*  
there is none who does good; no, not one.  
Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the LORD?  
See how they tremble with fear, \*  
because God is in the company of the righteous.  
Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
but the LORD is their refuge.  
Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.  
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

Heb. 2:11-18

A Reading from the Book of Hebrews.

For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me."

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## 12. A Song of Creation

*Song of the Three Young Men, 35-65*

### *Invocation*

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

### *I The Cosmic Order*

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, \*  
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.  
Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, \*  
all winds and fire and heat.  
Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, \*  
drops of dew and flakes of snow

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, \*  
O shining light and enfolding dark.  
Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

## *II The Earth and its Creatures*

Let the earth glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,  
and all that grows upon the earth, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, \*  
O whales and all that move in the waters.  
All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, \*  
and all you flocks and herds.  
O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

## *III The People of God*

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

## *Doxology*

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.  
In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

## **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.

### **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 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.

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

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your  
beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his  
Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior;  
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. 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.

### **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*