

## Evening Prayer

### Thursday after the Third Sunday after the Epiphany

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

*Psalm 139:10,11*

### 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 59****BCP p. 665**

Rescue me from my enemies, O God; \*  
protect me from those who rise up against me.  
Rescue me from evildoers \*  
and save me from those who thirst for my blood.  
See how they lie in wait for my life, how the mighty gather together against me; \*  
not for any offense or fault of mine, O LORD.  
Not because of any guilt of mine \*  
they run and prepare themselves for battle.  
Rouse yourself, come to my side, and see; \*  
for you, LORD God of hosts, are Israel's God.  
Awake, and punish all the ungodly; \*  
show no mercy to those who are faithless and evil.  
They go to and fro in the evening; \*  
they snarl like dogs and run about the city.  
Behold, they boast with their mouths, and taunts are on their lips; \*  
"For who," they say, "will hear us?"  
But you, O LORD, you laugh at them; \*  
you laugh all the ungodly to scorn.  
My eyes are fixed on you, O my Strength; \*  
for you, O God, are my stronghold.  
My merciful God comes to meet me; \*  
God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.  
Slay them, O God, lest my people forget; \*  
send them reeling by your might and put them down, O Lord our shield.  
For the sins of their mouths, for the words of their lips, for the cursing and lies that they utter, \*  
let them be caught in their pride.  
Make an end of them in your wrath; \*  
make an end of them, and they shall be no more.  
Let everyone know that God rules in Jacob, \*  
and to the ends of the earth.  
They go to and fro in the evening; \*  
they snarl like dogs and run about the city.  
They forage for food, \*  
and if they are not filled, they howl.  
For my part, I will sing of your strength; \*  
I will celebrate your love in the morning;  
For you have become my stronghold, \*  
a refuge in the day of my trouble.  
To you, O my Strength, will I sing; \*  
for you, O God, are my stronghold and my merciful God.

**Psalm 60****BCP p. 667**

O God, you have cast us off and broken us; \*  
you have been angry; oh, take us back to you again.  
You have shaken the earth and split it open; \*  
repair the cracks in it, for it totters.  
You have made your people know hardship; \*  
you have given us wine that makes us stagger.

You have set up a banner for those who fear you, \*  
 to be a refuge from the power of the bow.  
 Save us by your right hand and answer us, \*  
 that those who are dear to you may be delivered.  
 God spoke from his holy place and said: \*  
 "I will exult and parcel out Shechem; I will divide the valley of Succoth.  
 Gilead is mine and Manasseh is mine; \*  
 Ephraim is my helmet and Judah my scepter.  
 Moab is my wash-basin, on Edom I throw down my sandal to claim it, \*  
 and over Philistia will I shout in triumph."  
 Who will lead me into the strong city? \*  
 who will bring me to Edom?  
 Have you not cast us off, O God? \*  
 you no longer go out, O God, with our armies.  
 Grant us your help against the enemy, \*  
 for vain is the help of man.  
 With God we will do valiant deeds, \*  
 and he shall tread our enemies under foot.  
 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 Lesson**

### **Heb. 10:1-10**

A Reading from the Book of Hebrews.

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshipers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **11. The Third Song of Isaiah *Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19***

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
 and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land; \*  
    deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
    and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light, \*  
    and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open; \*  
    by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
    The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
    ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
    and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
    by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*  
    and your God will be your glory.  
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**

**BCP p. 96**

**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 in heaven,**  
    **hallowed be your Name,**  
    **your kingdom come,**  
    **your will be done,**  
    **on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins,**  
    **as we forgive those**  
    **who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial,**  
    **and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
    **and the glory are yours,**  
    **now and for 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

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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.**

### **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 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*