Evening Prayer

Thursday after the Second Sunday after Pentecost

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

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 Lessons

The First Lesson Gal. 3:1-14

A Reading from the Letter to the Galatians.

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? Did you experience so much for nothing? —if it really was for nothing. Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

Just as Abraham "believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you." For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed. For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of the law." Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law; for "The one who is righteous will live by faith." But the law does not rest on faith; on the contrary, "Whoever does the works of the law will live by them." Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"— in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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 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

O God, your never-failing providence sets in order all things both in heaven and earth: Put away from us, we entreat you, all hurtful things, and give us those things which are profitable

for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Collect for Aid against Perils

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.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20,21