

## Evening Prayer

### Saturday after the Second Sunday after Pentecost

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.

*Psalm 74:15,16*

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*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 138

**BCP p. 793**

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; \*  
before the gods I will sing your praise.  
I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your Name, \*  
because of your love and faithfulness;  
For you have glorified your Name \*  
and your word above all things.  
When I called, you answered me; \*  
you increased my strength within me.

All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, \*  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.  
They will sing of the ways of the LORD, \*  
that great is the glory of the LORD.  
Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; \*  
he perceives the haughty from afar.  
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; \*  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.  
The LORD will make good his purpose for me; \*  
O LORD, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.

### Psalm 139

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LORD, you have searched me out and known me; \*  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.  
You trace my journeys and my resting-places \*  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.  
You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.  
Where can I go then from your Spirit? \*  
where can I flee from your presence?  
If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \*  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.  
If I take the wings of the morning \*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
Even there your hand will lead me \*  
and your right hand hold me fast.  
If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, \*  
and the light around me turn to night,"  
Darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day; \*  
darkness and light to you are both alike.  
For you yourself created my inmost parts; \*  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I will thank you because I am marvelously made; \*  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.  
My body was not hidden from you, \*  
while I was being made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.  
Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;  
all of them were written in your book; \*

they were fashioned day by day,  
when as yet there was none of them.  
How deep I find your thoughts, O God! \*  
how great is the sum of them!  
If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand; \*  
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.  
[Oh, that you would slay the wicked, O God! \*  
You that thirst for blood, depart from me.  
They speak spitefully against you; \*  
your enemies take your Name in vain.  
Do I not hate those, O LORD, who hate you? \*  
and do I not loathe those who rise up against you?  
I hate them with a perfect hatred; \*  
they have become my own enemies.  
Search me out, O God, and know my heart; \*  
try me and know my restless thoughts.  
Look well whether there be any wickedness in me \*  
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.]  
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. 3:23-4:11**

A Reading from the Letter to the Galatians.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods. Now, however, that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits? How can you want to be

enslaved to them again? You are observing special days, and months, and seasons, and years.  
I am afraid that my work for you may have been wasted.

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 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 Saturdays**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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*