

## Evening Prayer

### Thursday after the Third Sunday after Pentecost

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

*Psalm 96:9*

### 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 85**

**BCP p. 708**

You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.  
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
and blotted out all their sins.  
You have withdrawn all your fury \*  
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.  
Restore us then, O God our Savior; \*  
let your anger depart from us.  
Will you be displeased with us for ever? \*  
will you prolong your anger from age to age?  
Will you not give us life again, \*  
that your people may rejoice in you?  
Show us your mercy, O LORD, \*  
and grant us your salvation.  
I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.  
Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.  
Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.  
The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.  
Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

**Psalm 86**

**BCP p. 709**

Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me, \*  
for I am poor and in misery.  
Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful; \*  
save your servant who puts his trust in you.  
Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God; \*  
I call upon you all the day long.  
Gladden the soul of your servant, \*  
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.  
For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving, \*  
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.  
Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, \*  
and attend to the voice of my supplications.  
In the time of my trouble I will call upon you, \*  
for you will answer me.  
Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD, \*  
nor anything like your works.  
All the nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD, \*  
and glorify your Name.  
For you are great; you do wondrous things; \*  
and you alone are God.  
Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; \*  
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.

I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, \*  
and glorify your Name for evermore.  
For great is your love toward me; \*  
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.  
The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent men seeks my life; \*  
they have not set you before their eyes.  
But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.  
Turn to me and have mercy upon me; \*  
give your strength to your servant; and save the child of your handmaid.  
Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; \*  
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.  
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**

### **Rom. 2:12-24**

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

All who have sinned apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous in God's sight, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles, who do not possess the law, do instinctively what the law requires, these, though not having the law, are a law to themselves. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, to which their own conscience also bears witness; and their conflicting thoughts will accuse or perhaps excuse them on the day when, according to my gospel, God, through Jesus Christ, will judge the secret thoughts of all.

But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast of your relation to God and know his will and determine what is best because you are instructed in the law, and if you are sure that you are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, a corrector of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth, you, then, that teach others, will you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal? You that forbid adultery, do you commit adultery? You that abhor idols, do you rob temples? You that boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? For, as it is written, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

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, 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 the Martyr Bernard and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

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

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Bernard, Mizeki, Catechist and Martyr in Rhodesia, 1896**

Almighty and everlasting God, who kindled the flame of your love in the heart of your holy martyr Bernard Mizeki: Grant unto us your servants a like faith and power of love, that we, who rejoice in his triumph, may profit by his example; 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 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, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; 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.**

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

*Ephesians 3:20,21*