

## **Evening Prayer**

### **Friday after the First Sunday in Lent**

Seek him that made the Pleiades and Orion, that turneth deep darkness into the morning, and darkeneth the day into night; that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his Name.

*Amos 5:8*

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
we have offended against thy holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Invitatory and Psalter**

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*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*People* O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## 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 thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art 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 51

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness \*  
according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.  
Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.  
For I acknowledge my faults \*  
and my sin is ever before me.  
Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight \*  
that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou art judged.  
Behold, I was shapen in wickedness \*  
and in sin hath my mother conceived me.  
But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts \*  
and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.  
Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean \*  
thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.  
Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness \*  
that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.  
Turn thy face from my sins \*  
and put out all my misdeeds.  
Make me a clean heart, O God \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from thy presence \*  
and take not thy holy Spirit from me.  
O give me the comfort of thy help again \*  
and stablish me with thy free Spirit.  
Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked \*  
and sinners shall be converted unto thee.  
Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health \*  
and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.  
Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord \*  
and my mouth shall shew thy praise.  
For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee \*  
but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.  
O be favourable and gracious unto Sion \*  
build thou the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and  
oblations \*  
then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

**John 3:22-36**

A Reading from the Gospel According to John.

After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.

And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.

For John was not yet cast into prison.

Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying.

And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.

John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.

He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

He must increase, but I must decrease.

He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.

And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.

He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.

For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### 3. The Song of Mary

*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### The Apostles' Creed

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**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
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 with thy spirit.

*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 A

- V.* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;  
*R.* And grant us thy salvation.  
*V.* Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*R.* And make thy chosen people joyful.  
*V.* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.* For only in thee can we live in safety.  
*V.* Lord, keep this nation under thy care;  
*R.* And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
*V.* Let thy way be known upon earth;  
*R.* Thy saving health among all nations.  
*V.* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.* Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
*V.* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.* And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan; Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our

Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

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

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **A Collect for Fridays**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by thy death didst take away the sting of death: Grant unto us thy servants so to follow in faith where thou hast led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in thee, and awake up after thy likeness; for thy tender mercies' sake. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Mission**

O God, who dost manifest in thy servants the signs of thy presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another thine abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.*

### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

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Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world 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*