

## Evening Prayer

### Thursday after the Fifth Sunday of Easter

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall.

*Psalm 16:7,8*

### 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 74**

**BCP p. 689**

O God, why have you utterly cast us off? \*  
 why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your pasture?  
 Remember your congregation that you purchased long ago, \*  
 the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance, and Mount Zion where you dwell.  
 Turn your steps toward the endless ruins; \*  
 the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanctuary.  
 Your adversaries roared in your holy place; \*  
 they set up their banners as tokens of victory.  
 They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of trees; \*  
 they broke down all your carved work with hatchets and hammers.  
 They set fire to your holy place; \*  
 they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name and razed it to the ground.  
 They said to themselves, "Let us destroy them altogether." \*  
 They burned down all the meeting-places of God in the land.  
 There are no signs for us to see; there is no prophet left; \*  
 there is not one among us who knows how long.  
 How long, O God, will the adversary scoff? \*  
 will the enemy blaspheme your Name for ever?  
 Why do you draw back your hand? \*  
 why is your right hand hidden in your bosom?  
 Yet God is my King from ancient times, \*  
 victorious in the midst of the earth.  
 You divided the sea by your might \*  
 and shattered the heads of the dragons upon the waters;  
 You crushed the heads of Leviathan \*  
 and gave him to the people of the desert for food.  
 You split open spring and torrent; \*  
 you dried up ever-flowing rivers.  
 Yours is the day, 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.  
 Remember, O LORD, how the enemy scoffed, \*  
 how a foolish people despised your Name.  
 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; \*  
 never forget the lives of your poor.  
 Look upon your covenant; \*  
 the dark places of the earth are haunts of violence.  
 Let not the oppressed turn away ashamed; \*  
 let the poor and needy praise your Name.  
 Arise, O God, maintain your cause; \*  
 remember how fools revile you all day long.  
 Forget not the clamor of your adversaries, \*  
 the unending tumult of those who rise up against you.  
 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

## 2 Thess. 1:1-12

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Thessalonians.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.

This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, and is intended to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering. For it is indeed just of God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to give relief to the afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, separated from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, when he comes to be glorified by his saints and to be marveled at on that day among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

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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 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**

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **A Collect for Aid against Perils**

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only 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. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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*