

## Evening Prayer

### Wednesday after Pentecost

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

*John 8:12*

**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 12

**BCP p. 597**

Help me, LORD, for there is no godly one left; \*  
the faithful have vanished from among us.  
Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor; \*  
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.  
Oh, that the LORD would cut off all smooth tongues, \*  
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!  
Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; \*  
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"  
"Because the needy are oppressed,  
and the poor cry out in misery, \*

I will rise up," says the LORD,  
"and give them the help they long for."  
The words of the LORD are pure words, \*  
like silver refined from ore  
and purified seven times in the fire.  
O LORD, watch over us \*  
and save us from this generation for ever.  
The wicked prowl on every side, \*  
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

### Psalm 13

BCP p. 597

How long, O LORD?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?  
How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?  
Look upon me and answer me, O LORD my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;  
Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.  
But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.  
I will sing to the LORD, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

### Psalm 14

BCP p. 598

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.  
The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.  
Every one has proved faithless;  
all alike have turned bad; \*  
there is none who does good; no, not one.  
Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the LORD?  
See how they tremble with fear, \*  
because God is in the company of the righteous.  
Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
but the LORD is their refuge.

Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.  
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**

**1 John 5:1-12**

A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

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**

**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 A**

*V.* Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*R.* And grant us your salvation.  
*V.* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*R.* Let your people sing with joy.  
*V.* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.* For only in you can we live in safety.  
*V.* Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*R.* And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
*V.* Let your way be known upon earth;  
*R.* Your 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 your Holy Spirit.

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

Almighty and merciful God, in your goodness keep us, we pray, from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in mind and body, may accomplish with free hearts those things which belong to your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **A Collect for the Presence of Christ**

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. 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 God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

*Ephesians 3:20,21*