Evening Prayer

Eve of Trinity Sunday

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

Psalm 96:9

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.

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.

104 Benedic, anima mea

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul; * O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness! you are clothed with majesty and splendor.

2 You wrap yourself with light as with a cloak * and spread out the heavens like a curtain.

3 You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters above; * you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind.

4 You make the winds your messengers * and flames of fire your servants.

5 You have set the earth upon its foundations, * so that it never shall move at any time.

6 You covered it with the Deep as with a mantle; * the waters stood higher than the mountains.

7 At your rebuke they fled; * at the voice of your thunder they hastened away.

8 They went up into the hills and down to the valleys beneath, * to the places you had appointed for them.

9 You set the limits that they should not pass; * they shall not again cover the earth.

10 You send the springs into the valleys; * they flow between the mountains.

11 All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, * and the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 Beside them the birds of the air make their nests * and sing among the branches.

13 You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; * the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.

14 You make grass grow for flocks and herds * and plants to serve mankind;

15 That they may bring forth food from the earth, * and wine to gladden our hearts,

16 Oil to make a cheerful countenance, * and bread to strengthen the heart.

17 The trees of the Lord are full of sap, * the cedars of Lebanon which he planted,

18 In which the birds build their nests, * and in whose tops the stork makes his dwelling.

19 The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, * and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.

20 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, * and the sun knows the time of its setting.

21 You make darkness that it may be night, * in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.

22 The lions roar after their prey * and seek their food from God.

23 The sun rises, and they slip away * and lay themselves down in their dens.

24 Man goes forth to his work * and to his labor until the evening.

25 O Lord, how manifold are your works! * in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

26 Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, * creatures both small and great.

27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, * which you have made for the sport of it.

28 All of them look to you * to give them their food in due season.

29 You give it to them; they gather it; * you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; * you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; * and so you renew the face of the earth.

32 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; * may the Lord rejoice in all his works.

33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; * he touches the mountains and they smoke.

34 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; * I will praise my God while I have my being.

35 May these words of mine please him; * I will rejoice in the Lord.

36 Let sinners be consumed out of the earth, * and the wicked be no more.

37 Bless the Lord, O my soul. * Hallelujah!

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

Sirach 42:15-45

I will now call to mind the works of the Lord. and will declare what I have seen. By the word of the Lord his works are made; and all his creatures do his will.* The sun looks down on everything with its light, and the work of the Lord is full of his glory. The Lord has not empowered even his holy ones to recount all his marvellous works. which the Lord the Almighty has established so that the universe may stand firm in his glory. He searches out the abyss and the human heart; he understands their innermost secrets. For the Most High knows all that may be known; he sees from of old the things that are to come.* He discloses what has been and what is to be, and he reveals the traces of hidden things. No thought escapes him, and nothing is hidden from him. He has set in order the splendours of his wisdom; he is from all eternity one and the same. Nothing can be added or taken away, and he needs no one to be his counsellor. How desirable are all his works. and how sparkling they are to see!* All these things live and remain for ever; each creature is preserved to meet a particular need.* All things come in pairs, one opposite to the other, and he has made nothing incomplete. Each supplements the virtues of the other. Who could ever tire of seeing his glory? The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

15. The Song of Mary

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.

Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,* 15 from whom every family* in heaven and on earth takes its name. 16I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, 21to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Song of Simeon Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, you now have set your servant free * to go in peace as you have promised;

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, * whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

- A Light to enlighten the nations, * and the glory of your people Israel.
- 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

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

OfficiantThe Lord be with you.People And also with you.OfficiantLet 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. **BCP p. 96**

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 and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Of the Holy Trinity

Almighty God, you have revealed to your Church your eternal Being of glorious majesty and perfect love as one God in Trinity of Persons: Give us grace to continue steadfast in the confession of this faith, and constant in our worship of you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; for you live and reign, one God, now and for 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.

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