

## Evening Prayer

### Thursday after the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

*Psalm 141:2*

### 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You have withdrawn all your fury \*  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 Lessons**

### **The First Lesson**

**James 1:1-15**

A Reading from the Letter of James.

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Let the believer who is lowly boast in being raised up, and the rich in being brought low, because the rich will disappear like a flower in the field. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the field; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. It is the same way with the rich; in the midst of a busy life, they will wither away. Blessed is anyone who endures temptation. Such a one has stood the test and will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

No one, when tempted, should say, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. But one is tempted by one's own desire, being lured and enticed by it; then, when that desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and that sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death.

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 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**

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil  
and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may  
purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may  
be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*2 Corinthians 13:14*