

---

## EVENING PRAYER

March 15, 2024 • 6 p.m.

---

*We will remain muted during the service, and designated readers will speak the congregational responses and lessons.*

### OPENING SENTENCE

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 you, forgive you all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

### THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

O God, make speed to save us.

**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 forever. Amen.**

### PHOS HILARON

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 34:15-22 *(read responsively)*

- 15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.
- 18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

**19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, \***  
**but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.**  
20 He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.  
**21 Evil shall slay the wicked, \***  
**and those who hate the righteous will be punished.**  
22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in him.  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **A READING FROM THE BOOK OF WISDOM**

*Wisdom 2:1a, 12-24*

They reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves,  
“Short and sorrowful is our life.  
“Let us lie in wait for the righteous man,  
because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions;  
he reproaches us for sins against the law,  
and accuses us of sins against our training.  
He professes to have knowledge of God,  
and calls himself a child of the Lord.  
He became to us a reproof of our thoughts;  
the very sight of him is a burden to us,  
because his manner of life is unlike that of others,  
and his ways are strange.  
We are considered by him as something base,  
and he avoids our ways as unclean;  
he calls the last end of the righteous happy,  
and boasts that God is his father.  
Let us see if his words are true,  
and let us test what will happen at the end of his life;  
for if the righteous man is God’s child, he will help him,  
and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries.  
Let us test him with insult and torture,  
so that we may find out how gentle he is,  
and make trial of his forbearance.  
Let us condemn him to a shameful death,  
for, according to what he says, he will be protected.”

Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray,  
for their wickedness blinded them,  
and they did not know the secret purposes of God,  
nor hoped for the wages of holiness,  
nor discerned the prize for blameless souls;  
for God created us for incorruption,  
and made us in the image of his own eternity,  
but through the devil’s envy death entered the world,  
and those who belong to his company experience it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **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 forever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as It was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

*John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30*

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jewish authorities were looking for an opportunity to kill him. Now the Jewish festival of Booths was near.

But after his brothers had gone to the festival, then he also went, not publicly but as it were in secret.

Now some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, "Is not this the man whom they are trying to kill? And here he is, speaking openly, but they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Messiah? Yet we know where this man is from; but when the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from." Then Jesus cried out as he was teaching in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I am from. I have not come on my own. But the one who sent me is true, and you do not know him. I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me." Then they tried to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him, because his hour had not yet come.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **THE SONG OF SIMEON**

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 forever. Amen.

## THE APOSTLE'S 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

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
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

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 St. John the Evangelist and all your saints,  
entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
**We entreat you, O Lord.**

## THE COLLECTS

### Collect of the Day

O God, you have given us the Good News of your abounding love in your Son Jesus Christ: So fill our hearts with thankfulness that we may rejoice to proclaim the good tidings we have received; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Christ's Presence

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.**

### Prayer for Those in Need

Loving God, we pray for healing for all who are ill or in need, especially Presiding Bishop Michael, Sylvent, Carl, Joan P., Elmada, Jackie, Brett, Lori S., Charlotte M., Michelle J., Nathan and Steve D. And give strength and comfort to those who care for them. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Evening Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

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.**