

# Evening Prayer

*from the Book of Common Prayer, Rite II*

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:30 p.m.

*Wednesday after the Fourth Sunday of Easter*

---

## THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.

*Assembly* O Lord, make haste to help us.

*All* 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.

*Said together in unison*

## O GRACIOUS LIGHT

*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.

*The officiant and assembly recite the psalm responsively by half-verse*

## PSALM 49

*Audite haec, omnes*

- 1 Hear this, all you peoples; hearken, all you who dwell in the world, \*  
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- 2 My mouth shall speak of wisdom, \*  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- 3 I will incline my ear to a proverb \*  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- 4 Why should I be afraid in evil days, \*  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- 5 The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, \*  
and boast of their great riches?

6 We can never ransom ourselves, \*  
or deliver to God the price of our life;

7 For the ransom of our life is so great, \*  
that we should never have enough to pay it,

8 In order to live for ever and ever, \*  
and never see the grave.

9 For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish \*  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

10 Their graves shall be their homes for ever,  
their dwelling places from generation to generation, \*  
though they call the lands after their own names.

11 Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; \*  
they are like the beasts that perish.

12 Such is the way of those who foolishly trust in themselves, \*  
and the end of those who delight in their own words.

13 Like a flock of sheep they are destined to die; Death is their shepherd; \*  
they go down straightway to the grave.

14 Their form shall waste away, \*  
and the land of the dead shall be their home.

15 But God will ransom my life; \*  
he will snatch me from the grasp of death.

16 Do not be envious when some become rich, \*  
or when the grandeur of their house increases;

17 For they will carry nothing away at their death, \*  
nor will their grandeur follow them.

18 Though they thought highly of themselves while they lived, \*  
and were praised for their success,

19 They shall join the company of their forebears, \*  
who will never see the light again.

20 Those who are honored, but have no understanding, \*  
are like the beasts that perish.

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.

*A Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon:*

The righteous who have died will condemn the ungodly who are living, and youth that is quickly perfected will condemn the prolonged old age of the unrighteous. For they will see the end of the wise, and will not understand what the Lord purposed for them, and for what he kept them safe. The unrighteous will see, and will have contempt for them, but the Lord will laugh them to scorn. After this they will become dishonored corpses, and an outrage among the dead forever; because he will dash them speechless to the ground, and shake them from the foundations; they will be left utterly dry and barren, and they will suffer anguish, and the memory of them will perish. They will come with dread when their sins are reckoned up, and their lawless deeds will convict them to their face. Then the righteous will stand with great confidence in the presence of those who have oppressed them and those who make light of their labors. When the unrighteous see them,

they will be shaken with dreadful fear, and they will be amazed at the unexpected salvation of the righteous. They will speak to one another in repentance, and in anguish of spirit they will groan, and say, "These are persons whom we once held in derision and made a byword of reproach-- fools that we were! We thought that their lives were madness and that their end was without honor. Why have they been numbered among the children of God? And why is their lot among the saints? So it was we who strayed from the way of truth, and the light of righteousness did not shine on us, and the sun did not rise upon us. We took our fill of the paths of lawlessness and destruction, and we journeyed through trackless deserts, but the way of the Lord we have not known. What has our arrogance profited us? And what good has our boasted wealth brought us?"

*Here ends the lesson.*

*Said together in unison*

### MAGNIFICAT

### 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.

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

*Matthew 5:17-20*

*A reading from the Gospel of Matthew:*

**J**esus said, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom

of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

*Here ends the lesson.*

*Said together in unison*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

The Song of Simeon

**L**ord, 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.

*Said together in unison*

**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

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*All*

**O**ur 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.

*Officiant* That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,  
*Assembly* 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  
the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, and all your saints, entrusting one another  
and all our life to Christ,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR PEACE**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

**COLLECT FOR MISSION**

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.**

**ADDITIONAL PRAYERS & PETITIONS**


*The assembly is invited to make additional prayer requests.*

**A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

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.**


**THE DISMISSAL**

*Deacon*



Let us bless the Lord, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*People*



Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**THE GRACE**

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.**

## DEPARTING HYMN 39



- 1 Je - sus, Re - deem - er of the world, Word of the  
2 The whole cre - a - tion's ar - chi - tect, you set the  
3 You broke the chains of death and hell: Lord, free us  
4 Lord, while we live for this short time as mor - tals  
\*5 All glo - ry be to you, Lord Christ, who, con - quering



- 1 Fa - ther throned on high, light from the light in - vi - si -  
2 bounds of night and day; give to our wea - ried bo - dies  
3 from our an - cient foe and let him nev - er lead a -  
4 clothed in earth - bound frame, re - fresh us now with rest - ful  
5 death, reign glo - rious - ly with God, Cre - a - tor of all



- 1 ble, and watch - ful guard - ian o - ver all:  
2 rest in night's en - fold - ing qui - et - ness.  
3 stray those you have ran - somed by your blood.  
4 sleep that wak - ing we may watch with you.  
5 things and with the Spi - rit, Com - for - ter.

Words: Latin, 10th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1982*. St. 1-4, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. St. 5, Anne K. LeCroy (b.1930) Copyright ©1982,  
Anne K. LeCroy. Music: *Wilderness*, Reginald Sparshatt Thatcher (1888-1957) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press.  
All rights reserved. Used with permission.