

Evening Prayer  
August 4, 2022

Welcome

Prelude

Opening

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
**the light no darkness can overcome.**  
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
**and the day is almost over.**  
Let your light scatter the darkness  
**and illumine your church.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
Whose steadfast love endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.**  
**Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.**  
**When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us**  
**again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.**  
**Amen.**

Hear the good news!  
God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and  
mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. We are free to love as God  
loves.  
**Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Light

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being,  
and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.  
In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night  
you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Prayer**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Proverbs: 16:1-6, 16-18, 22-24, 31-33**

<sup>1</sup>The plans of the mind belong to mortals,  
but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>All one's ways may be pure in one's own eyes,  
but the LORD weighs the spirit.

<sup>3</sup>Commit your work to the LORD,  
and your plans will be established.

<sup>4</sup>The LORD has made everything for its purpose,  
even the wicked for the day of trouble.

<sup>5</sup>All those who are arrogant are an abomination to the LORD;  
be assured, they will not go unpunished.

<sup>6</sup>By loyalty and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for,  
and by the fear of the LORD one avoids evil.

<sup>16</sup>How much better to get wisdom than gold!  
To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

<sup>17</sup>The highway of the upright avoids evil;  
those who guard their way preserve their lives.

<sup>18</sup>Pride goes before destruction,  
and a haughty spirit before a fall.

<sup>22</sup>Wisdom is a fountain of life to one who has it,  
but folly is the punishment of fools.

<sup>23</sup>The mind of the wise makes their speech judicious,  
and adds persuasiveness to their lips.

<sup>24</sup>Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,  
sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

<sup>31</sup>Gray hair is a crown of glory;  
it is gained in a righteous life.

<sup>32</sup>One who is slow to anger is better than the mighty,  
and one whose temper is controlled than one who captures a city.

<sup>33</sup>The lot is cast into the lap,  
but the decision is the LORD's alone.

**Psalm 33:12-22**                    *(read responsively by whole verse)*

<sup>12</sup>Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven;  
he sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup>From where he sits enthroned he watches  
all the inhabitants of the earth —

<sup>15</sup>**he who fashions the hearts of them all,  
and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

<sup>17</sup>**The war horse is a vain hope for victory,  
and by its great might it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their soul from death,  
and to keep them alive in famine.**

<sup>20</sup>Our soul waits for the LORD;  
he is our help and shield.

<sup>21</sup>**Our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.**

<sup>22</sup>Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.

**Gloria Patri**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**Luke 12: 32-40**

<sup>32</sup>Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Reflection**

### **Response**

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,  
**but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.**

### **Gospel Canticle (*together*)**

#### **Magnificat A Prayer-Paraphrase of Luke 1: 46-55**

**We praise you, Lord,  
and our spirits rejoice in you – our Saviour;**

**For you take notice of the unnoticeable,  
and transform them into the blessed;  
You are strong and true to yourself and all that is good  
in everything you are and do and say;  
and you do great things for us;**

**Through the ages you have shown compassion  
to those who trust you,  
And in your strength you have scattered  
those who are arrogant and abusive;**

**You have made the thrones of tyrants topple  
and you have made humble people into leaders of many;  
You have cared for and provided for those who have nothing,  
and you have left the over-satisfied with empty hands;**

**You have always been a help to your people,  
and have shown mercy when we have gone astray;  
You made this promise to our ancestors,  
and you continue to stay true to it even now.**

**We praise you, Lord,  
and our spirits rejoice in you – our Saviour. Amen.**

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## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

## Prayers

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share,  
and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord,

**Lord, have mercy.**

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us;  
for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection  
in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in  
captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.  
**To you, O Lord.**

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.  
**Amen.**

#### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen**

#### **Benediction**

#### **Postlude**