

Evening Prayer
August 11, 2022

Welcome

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.

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Proverbs: 17:17-28

⁷A friend loves at all times, and kinsfolk are born to share adversity. ¹⁸It is senseless to give a pledge, to become surety for a neighbor. ¹⁹One who loves transgression loves strife; one who builds a high threshold invites broken bones. ²⁰The crooked of mind do not prosper, and the perverse of tongue fall into calamity. ²¹The one who begets a fool gets trouble; the parent of a fool has no joy. ²²A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones. ²³The wicked accept a concealed bribe to pervert the ways of justice. ²⁴The discerning person looks to wisdom, but the eyes of a fool to the ends of the earth. ²⁵Foolish children are a grief to their father and bitterness to her who bore them. ²⁶To impose a fine on the innocent is not right, or to flog the noble for their integrity. ²⁷One who spares words is knowledgeable; one who is cool in spirit has understanding. ²⁸Even fools who keep silent are considered wise; when they close their lips, they are deemed intelligent.

Psalms 82 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹God has taken his place in the divine council;
in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:

**²"How long will you judge unjustly
and show partiality to the wicked?"**

Selah

³Give justice to the weak and the orphan;
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.

**⁴Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked."**

⁵They have neither knowledge nor understanding,
they walk around in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**⁶I say, "You are gods,
children of the Most High, all of you;**

⁷nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince."

**⁸Rise up, O God, judge the earth;
for all the nations belong to 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.**

Hebrews 11:29—2:2

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1}Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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**

Written Offering

Benediction