

## Evening Prayer

May 14, 2025

[Frances Perkins, Public Servant and Prophetic Witness, 1965](#)

*Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name.*

Amos 5:8

### Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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

*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 ever-living 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 37:27-31**

The righteous are always generous in their lending, \*  
and their children shall be a blessing.

**Turn from evil, and do good, \***  
**and dwell in the land for ever.**

For the Lord loves justice; \*  
he does not forsake his faithful ones.

**They shall be kept safe for ever, \***  
**but the offspring of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

The righteous shall possess the land \*  
and dwell in it 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. Alleluia!**

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

Eph. 4:25-5:2

A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians.

So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil. Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy.

Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Canticle 12. A Song of Creation

*Song of the Three Young Men, 35-65*

#### *Invocation*

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, \***  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

#### *I The Cosmic Order*

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, \*  
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.

**Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, \***  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, \*  
all winds and fire and heat.

**Winter and Summer, glorify the Lord, \***  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, \*  
drops of dew and flakes of snow

**Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, \***  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, \*  
O shining light and enfolding dark.

**Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, \***  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

### *Doxology*

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

**In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, \***  
**praise him and highly exalt him for ever.**

## **The Second Lesson**

**Luke 9:10-17**

A Reading from the Gospel According to Luke.

On their return the apostles told Jesus all they had done. He took them with him and withdrew privately to a city called Bethsaida. When the crowds found out about it, they followed him; and he welcomed them, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed to be cured.

The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, 'Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside, to lodge and get provisions; for we are here in a deserted place.' But he said to them, 'You give them something to eat.' They said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, 'Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each.' They did so and made them all sit down. And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle B. A Song of Pilgrimage**

*Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16,20b-22*

Before I ventured forth, even while I was very young, \*

I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.

**In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, \***

**and I will seek her to the end.**

From first blossom to early fruit, \*

she has been the delight of my heart.

**My foot has kept firmly to the true path, \***

**diligently from my youth have I pursued her.**

I inclined my ear a little and received her; \*

I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.

**To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, \***

**for I have resolved to live according to her way.**

From the beginning I gained courage from her, \*

therefore I will not be forsaken.

**In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, \***

**therefore have I gained a good possession.**

As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language, \*

and with it will I offer praise to God.



*The people are what matter to government, and a government should aim to give all the people under its jurisdiction the best possible life.*

*It's only when we're relaxed that the thing way down deep in all of us - call it the subconscious mind, the spirit, what you will - has a chance to well up and tell us how we shall go.*

*I came to Washington to work for God, FDR, and the millions of forgotten, plain common workingmen.*

As quoted by David Brooks in *The Road to Character*:

*I began to see what the great teachers of religion meant when they said that humility is the greatest of virtues, and if you can't learn it, God will teach it to you by humiliation. Only so can a man be really great, and it was in those accommodations to necessity that Franklin Roosevelt began to approach the stature of humility and inner integrity which made him truly great."*

*We share reflections on the day's scripture and readings.*

*What do you notice?*

*What is speaking to you?*

*What difference does it make?*

*One of my favorite passages of Scripture: "Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." How can we live this today?*

## **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.

*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 A

V.    Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R.    **And grant us your salvation.**  
V.    Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R.    **Let your people sing with joy.**  
V.    Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R.    **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
V.    Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R.    **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V.    Let your way be known upon earth;  
R.    **Your saving health among all nations.**  
V.    Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R.    **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V.    Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R.    **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## **The Collect of the Day**

O 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.**

## **A Collect to Commend Frances Perkins**

Loving God, we bless your Name for Frances Perkins who in faithfulness to her baptism envisioned a society in which all may live in health and decency: Help us, following her example and in union with her prayers, to contend tirelessly for justice and for the protection of all, that we may be faithful followers of Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We offer intercessions and thanksgivings from our heart  
either silently or aloud or in the chat function.*



## The General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 101

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## 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. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**  
*Ephesians 3:20,21*