

## Evening Prayer

March 18, 2026

Wednesday after the Fourth Sunday in Lent

[Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, 386](#)

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

### 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 you, forgive you all your 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.**

### Invitatory and Psalter

BCP p. 117

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.**

## O Gracious Light

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 29

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.**

9 And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

**10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.**

11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**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 Lessons

### The First Lesson

1 Cor. 12:1-11

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Q. A Song of Christ's Goodness

*Anselm of Canterbury*

Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you; \*  
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.  
**Often you weep over our sins and our pride, \***  
**tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgment.**  
**You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, \***  
**in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.**  
**Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; \***  
**by your anguish and labor we come forth in joy.**  
**Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; \***  
**through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.**  
**Your warmth gives life to the dead, \***  
**your touch makes sinners righteous.**  
**Lord Jesus, in your mercy, heal us; \***  
**in your love and tenderness, remake us.**

**In your compassion, bring grace and forgiveness, \*  
for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare us.**

## **The Second Lesson**

**Mark 8:11-26**

A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark.

The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him. And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, 'Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation.' And he left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other side.

Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. And he cautioned them, saying, 'Watch out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod.' They said to one another, 'It is because we have no bread.' And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, 'Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?' They said to him, 'Twelve' 'And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?' And they said to him, 'Seven' Then he said to them, 'Do you not yet understand?'

They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, 'Can you see anything?' And the man looked up and said, 'I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.' Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. Then he sent him away to his home, saying, 'Do not even go into the village.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **17. The Song of Simeon**

**Luke 2:29-32**

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 for ever. Amen.**

## Cyril of Jerusalem

*Your accumulated offences do not surpass the multitude of God's mercies: your wounds do not surpass the great Physician's skill.*

*The Spirit comes gently and makes himself known by his fragrance. He is not felt as a burden for God is light, very light. Rays of light and knowledge stream before him as the Spirit approaches. The Spirit comes with the tenderness of a true friend to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen and to console.*

*Let us then, my brethren, endure in hope. Let us devote ourselves, side-by-side with our hoping, so that the God of all the universe, as he beholds our intention, may cleanse us from all sins, fill us with high hopes from what we have in hand, and grant us the change of heart that saves. God has called you, and you have your calling.*

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

- *What do you notice?*
- *What is speaking to you?*
- *What difference does it make?*
- *Do you have any beliefs about God that have changed over the years?*

## 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 B

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 Cyril all  
your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, 386**

Strengthen, O God, your church in the sacraments of your grace, that we, in union with the teaching and prayers of your servant Cyril of Jerusalem, may enter more fully into your Paschal mystery; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Seasonal Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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 Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, 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.**

### **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.**

*Please add your own thanksgivings or prayers, silently, or aloud, or in the chat*

We pray for healing for those on the parish prayer list, including:

John Aalto, Donna Boudreau, Debbie Bourne, Evelyn Bourne, Peter Brown, Lydia Cedrone, Wallie Cook, Jacob DeCarlen-Bumiller, John and Richard DeNatale, Peggy Downs, Matthew Dyer, David Fieldhouse, Michael Flynn, Connor Gallagher, Mary Gasson, Kristen Goddard, Louise Haldeman, Heidi, Karen Dodd Howard, JD, CJ, Jack Jephson, Ted Jobe, Ginny Johnson, Tim Kelsey, Kevin, Larry, Ken Leach, Linda, Kevin MacKenzie, Keith Manville, Mark Martino, Don McCarter, Sara Murphy, Neil, Gayle Gammon Nelson, Steve Newman, Judith Oder, Jim O'Reilly, Joe, Jane Pennacchia, Muriel Peters, Dustin Pollard, JP Quinn,

Rebecca, Linda Russo, Trudy, Vanessa, Amy Walsh, Bill & Jan, Vicky Wegweiser, Kelly, and Alan Wright.

**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.  
**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.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*