

Evening Prayer

(Book of Common Prayer, Rite I)

October 22, 2025

Wednesday after the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

I will bless the Lord, who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalms 16:7, 8*

Confession of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

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People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: *

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Alleluia.**

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 thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thou art 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 119: He

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Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *

I shall keep it with all my heart.

Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.

Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.

Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

Psalm 119: Waw

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Let your loving-kindness come to me, O LORD, *
and your salvation, according to your promise.

Then shall I have a word for those who taunt me, *
because I trust in your words.

Do not take the word of truth out of my mouth, *
for my hope is in your judgments.

I shall continue to keep your law; *
I shall keep it for ever and ever.

I will walk at liberty, *
because I study your commandments.
**I will tell of your decrees before kings *
and will not be ashamed.**
I delight in your commandments, *
which I have always loved.
**I will lift up my hands to your commandments, *
and I will meditate on your statutes.**
**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: *
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson

1 Cor. 15:51-58

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 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

Matt. 12:1-14

A Reading from the Gospel According to Matthew.

At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the sabbath; his disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. When the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the sabbath." He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the priests. Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests in the temple break the sabbath and yet are guiltless? I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of Man is lord of the sabbath." He left that place and entered their synagogue; a man was there with a withered hand, and they asked him, "Is it lawful to cure on the sabbath?" so that they might accuse him. He said to them, "Suppose one of you has only one sheep and it falls into a pit on the sabbath; will you not lay hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a human being than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the sabbath." Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored, as sound as the other.

But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 5. The Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: *
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

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

What do you notice?

What is speaking to you?

What difference does it make?

I tell you, something greater than the temple is here...

'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.'

Where does mercy prevail over obligation in your life?

The Apostles' Creed

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I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
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 with thy spirit.**

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. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. **And grant us thy salvation.**

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in thee can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

R. **Thy 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 thy Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who in Christ hast revealed thy glory among the nations: Preserve the works of thy mercy, that thy Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of thy Name; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine 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 thy love's sake. **Amen.**

We pray for healing for those on the parish prayer list, including: Darryl Abbey, Kristin Baird, Annie Barr, Donna Boudreau, Bob, Bruna, Cathie Cardelucci, Lydia Cedrone, Noah Christian, Ann Daily, John and Richard DeNatale, Hayley Dorsey, Peggy Downs, Evelyn Bourne Fell, David Fieldhouse, Paula Fuller, Connor Gallagher, Kristen Goddard, Louise Haldeman, Lester Hartman, Heidi, Karen Dodd Howard, Devon Hoyt, JD, Jeffrey, Jack Jephson, Ted Jobe, Ginny Johnson, Greg Johnson, Jordan, Judy, Mike & Tim Kelsey, Ken Leach, Linda, Fred MacArthur, Kevin MacKenzie, Marie, Mark Martino, Don McCarter, Sara Murphy, T.A.N, Neil, Steve Newman, Jim O'Reilly, Emma Parese, Joe, Jane Pennacchia, Muriel Peters, Dustin Pollard, Susan Quinn, Rebecca, Cheryl Santarelli, Amy Walsh, Bill & Jan Walsh, and Kelly Wood.

The General Thanksgiving

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**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks**

for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*