

**Evening Prayer**  
**December 3, 2025**  
**Wednesday after the First Sunday of Advent**

Francis Xavier-Missionary to the Far East, 1552  
[http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/francis\\_xavier.htm](http://www.satucket.com/lectionary/francis_xavier.htm)

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. *Psalm 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.  
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 62**

1 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
from him comes my salvation.

**2 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \***  
**my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.**

3 How long will you assail me to crush me,  
all of you together, \*  
as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?

**4 They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor; \***  
**lies are their chief delight.**

5 They bless with their lips, \*  
but in their hearts they curse.

**6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \***  
**truly, my hope is in him.**

7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

**8 In God is my safety and my honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.**

9 Put your trust in him always, O people, \*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

**10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \*  
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.**

11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \*  
all of them together.

**12 Put no trust in extortion;  
in robbery take no empty pride; \*  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.**

13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \*  
that power belongs to God.

**14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, \*  
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.**

**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:**

A reading from Ecclesiasticus 2:1-7

My child, when you come to serve the Lord,  
prepare yourself for testing.\*  
Set your heart right and be steadfast,  
and do not be impetuous in time of calamity.  
Cling to him and do not depart,  
so that your last days may be prosperous.

Accept whatever befalls you,  
and in times of humiliation be patient.  
For gold is tested in the fire,  
and those found acceptable, in the furnace of humiliation.\*  
Trust in him, and he will help you;  
make your ways straight, and hope in him.  
You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy;  
do not stray, or else you may fall.

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

### **G. A Song of Ezekiel** Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you from among all nations; \*  
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.

**I will sprinkle clean water upon you; \***  
**and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.**

A new heart I will give you \*  
and a new spirit put within you.

**I will take the stone heart from your chest \***  
**and give you a heart of flesh.**

I will help you walk in my laws \*  
and cherish my commandments and do them.

**You shall be my people, \***  
**and I will be your God.**

### **The Second Lesson**

### **Mark 16:15-20**

<sup>15</sup>And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news\* to the whole creation. <sup>16</sup>The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. <sup>17</sup>And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; <sup>18</sup>they will pick up snakes in their hands,\* and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.'

19 So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. <sup>20</sup> And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.\* ]]

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

## 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?*  
*How does or will it impact your life today?*

## The Apostles' Creed

BCP p. 66

**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 God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer For Guidance**

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Commemoration: Francis Xavier**

God of all nations; Raise up, we beseech thee, in this and every land, evangelists and heralds of thy kingdom, that like thy servant Francis Xavier we may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. 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.**

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

We pray for healing for those on the parish prayer list, including: Kristin Baird, Donna Boudreau, Bob, Bruna, Cathie Cardelucci, Lydia Cedrone, Ann Daily, John and Richard DeNatale, Peggy Downs, Evelyn Bourne Fell, David Fieldhouse, Connor Gallagher, Kristen Goddard, Gwen, Louise Haldeman, Lester Hartman, Heidi, Karen Dodd Howard, JD, Jack Jephson, Ted Jobe, Ginny Johnson, Jordan, Judy, Mike & Tim Kelsey, Sean Kenney, Larry, Ken Leach, Linda, Kevin MacKenzie, Mark Martino, Mary, Don McCarter, Sara Murphy, T.A.N, Neil, Steve Newman, Judith Oder, Jim O'Reilly, Joe, Jane Pennacchia, Muriel Peters, PJ,

Dustin Pollard, Mo Pollman, Susan Quinn, Tony R., Rebecca, Timothy Springer, Trudy, Vanessa, Amy Walsh, Bill & Jan Walsh, and Kelly Wood.

## **The General Thanksgiving**

**BCP p. 71**

**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**

**BCP p. 72**

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*