

Evening Prayer Wednesday after Pentecost, Proper 4, June 3, 2020

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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 *Phos hilaron*

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 though all the worlds.

Psalm 49 *Audite haec, omnes*

- 1 Hear this, all you peoples;
hearken, all you who dwell in the world, *
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.
- 2 My mouth shall speak of wisdom, *
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- 3 I will incline my ear to a proverb *
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.
- 4 Why should I be afraid in evil days, *
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
- 5 The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, *
and boast of their great riches?
- 6 We can never ransom ourselves, *
or deliver to God the price of our life;

- 7 For the ransom of our life is so great, *
that we should never have enough to pay it,
- 8 In order to live for ever and ever, *
and never see the grave.
- 9 For we see that the wise die also;
like the dull and stupid they perish *
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- 10 Their graves shall be their homes for ever,
their dwelling places from generation to generation, *
though they call the lands after their own names.
- 11 Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; *
they are like the beasts that perish.
- 12 Such is the way of those who foolishly trust in themselves, *
and the end of those who delight in their own words.
- 13 Like a flock of sheep they are destined to die;
Death is their shepherd; *
they go down straightway to the grave.
- 14 Their form shall waste away, *
and the land of the dead shall be their home.
- 15 But God will ransom my life; *
he will snatch me from the grasp of death.
- 16 Do not be envious when some become rich, *
or when the grandeur of their house increases;
- 17 For they will carry nothing away at their death, *
nor will their grandeur follow them.
- 18 Though they thought highly of themselves while they lived, *
and were praised for their success,

19 They shall join the company of their forebears, *
who will never see the light again.

20 Those who are honored, but have no understanding, *
are like the beasts that perish.

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.

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes. Chapter 3 verses 1 – 15.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

² a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
³ a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
⁴ a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
⁵ a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
⁶ a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
⁷ a time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

⁹ What gain has the worker from his toil?

¹⁰ I have seen the business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. ¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time; also he has put eternity into man's mind, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³ also that it is God's gift to man that every one should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil. ¹⁴ I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has made it so, in order that men should fear before him. ¹⁵ That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already has been; and God seeks what has been driven away.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed 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.

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew. Chapter 14 verses 1 – 12

At that time Herod the tetrarch heard about the fame of Jesus; ² and he said to his servants, “This is John the Baptist, he has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him.” ³ For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison, for the sake of Hero’di-as, his brother Philip’s wife,^[a] ⁴ because John said to him, “It is not lawful for you to have her.” ⁵ And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet. ⁶ But when Herod’s birthday came, the daughter of Hero’di-as danced before the company, and pleased Herod, ⁷ so that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. ⁸ Prompted by her mother, she said, “Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter.” ⁹ And the king was sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he commanded it to be given; ¹⁰ he sent and had John beheaded in the prison, ¹¹ and his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. ¹² And his disciples came and took the body and buried it; and they went and told Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis*

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 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 Apostles' Creed

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.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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 thee, O Lord.

That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and
goodwill,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins
and offenses,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That there may be peace to thy Church and to the whole
world,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in thy faith and fear, and
not be condemned before the great judgment seat
of Christ,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by thy Holy Spirit in
the communion of [_____ and] all thy saints,
entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

The Officiant then says one or more Collects

Collect of the Day

O God, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things
both in heaven and earth: We humbly beseech thee to put
away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those things
which are profitable for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one
God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Protection on p. 70

O God, who art the life of all who live, the light of the faithful,
the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead:
We thank thee for the timely blessings of the day, and humbly
beseech thy merciful protection all the night. Bring us, we
pray thee, in safety to the morning hours; through him who
died for us and rose again, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen.

A Collect for Mission on p. 71

O God, who dost manifest in thy servants the signs of thy presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another thine abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for the Unity of the Human Family

O God, thou hast made us in thine own image and redeemed us through thy Son Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy and unjust divisions; look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggles and confusion to accomplish thy purposes on earth; that we may be united in one holy bond of truth, and justice, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

I bid your personal prayers here.... [silence for a time].

Lord in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

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.*