

Evening Prayer Wednesday in Holy Week, April 8, 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.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: O come, let us adore him.

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 74 *Ut quid, Deus?*

- 1 O God, why have you utterly cast us off? *
why is your wrath so hot against the sheep of your pasture?
- 2 Remember your congregation that you purchased long ago, *
the tribe you redeemed to be your inheritance,
and Mount Zion where you dwell.
- 3 Turn your steps toward the endless ruins; *
the enemy has laid waste everything in your sanctuary.
- 4 Your adversaries roared in your holy place; *
they set up their banners as tokens of victory.
- 5 They were like men coming up with axes to a grove of trees; *
they broke down all your carved work with hatchets
and hammers.
- 6 They set fire to your holy place; *
they defiled the dwelling-place of your Name
and razed it to the ground.
- 7 They said to themselves, "Let us destroy them altogether." *
They burned down all the meeting-places of God
in the land.

- 8 There are no signs for us to see;
there is no prophet left; *
there is not one among us who knows how long.
- 9 How long, O God, will the adversary scoff? *
will the enemy blaspheme your Name for ever?
- 10 Why do you draw back your hand? *
why is your right hand hidden in your bosom?
- 11 Yet God is my King from ancient times, *
victorious in the midst of the earth.
- 12 You divided the sea by your might *
and shattered the heads of the dragons upon the waters;
- 13 You crushed the heads of Leviathan *
and gave him to the people of the desert for food.
- 14 You split open spring and torrent; *
you dried up ever-flowing rivers.
- 15 Yours is the day, yours also the night; *
you established the moon and the sun.
- 16 You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; *
you made both summer and winter.
- 17 Remember, O LORD, how the enemy scoffed, *
how a foolish people despised your Name.
- 18 Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; *
never forget the lives of your poor.
- 19 Look upon your covenant; *
the dark places of the earth are haunts of violence.
- 20 Let not the oppressed turn away ashamed; *
let the poor and needy praise your Name.
- 21 Arise, O God, maintain your cause; *
remember how fools revile you all day long.
- 22 Forget not the clamor of your adversaries, *
the unending tumult of those who rise up against you.
- 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 Lamentations.

Chapter 2 verses 1 through 9.

¹ How the Lord in his anger
has set the daughter of Zion under a cloud!
He has cast down from heaven to earth
the splendor of Israel;
he has not remembered his footstool
in the day of his anger.

² The Lord has destroyed without mercy
all the habitations of Jacob;
in his wrath he has broken down
the strongholds of the daughter of Judah;
he has brought down to the ground in dishonor
the kingdom and its rulers.

³ He has cut down in fierce anger
all the might of Israel;
he has withdrawn from them his right hand
in the face of the enemy;
he has burned like a flaming fire in Jacob,
consuming all around.

⁴ He has bent his bow like an enemy,
with his right hand set like a foe;
and he has slain all the pride of our eyes
in the tent of the daughter of Zion;
he has poured out his fury like fire.

⁵ The Lord has become like an enemy,
he has destroyed Israel;
he has destroyed all its palaces,
laid in ruins its strongholds;
and he has multiplied in the daughter of Judah
mourning and lamentation.

⁶ He has broken down his booth like that of a garden,
laid in ruins the place of his appointed feasts;
the LORD has brought to an end in Zion
appointed feast and sabbath,
and in his fierce indignation has spurned
king and priest.

⁷ The Lord has scorned his altar,
disowned his sanctuary;
he has delivered into the hand of the enemy

the walls of her palaces;
a clamor was raised in the house of the LORD
as on the day of an appointed feast.
8 The LORD determined to lay in ruins
the wall of the daughter of Zion;
he marked it off by the line;
he restrained not his hand from destroying;
he caused rampart and wall to lament,
they languish together.
9 Her gates have sunk into the ground;
he has ruined and broken her bars;
her king and princes are among the nations;
the law is no more,
and her prophets obtain
no vision from the LORD.

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 Mark. Chapter 12 verses 1 through 11.

And Jesus began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a pit for the wine press, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. ² When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ³ And they took him and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴ Again he sent to them another servant, and they wounded him in the head, and treated him shamefully. ⁵ And he sent another, and him they killed; and so with many others, some they beat and some they killed. ⁶ He had still one other, a beloved son; finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ⁷ But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ ⁸ And they took him and killed him, and cast him out of the vineyard. ⁹ What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants, and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰ Have you not read this scripture:

‘The very stone which the builders rejected
has become the head of the corner;
¹¹ this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes?’”

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 Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his back to the smiters and hid not his face from shame: Give us grace to take joyfully the sufferings of the present time, in full assurance of the glory that shall be revealed; through the same Jesus Christ thy Son 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.

Second Collect 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.*

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.*