

Daily Evening Prayer, Rite Two  
St. John's Episcopal Church

**Opening Sentence**

**BCP p.115**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

**The 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. Alleluia.**

**O Gracious Light** *Phos hilaron* (or an invitatory Canticle)

**BCP p. 118**

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: 134**

<sup>1</sup> Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup> Lift up your hands to the holy place, and bless the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> May the LORD, maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion.

**Psalm: 135**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD; give praise, O servants of the LORD,

<sup>2</sup> you that stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for he is gracious.

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession.

<sup>5</sup> For I know that the LORD is great; our Lord is above all gods.

<sup>6</sup> Whatever the LORD pleases he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

<sup>7</sup> He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth; he makes lightnings for the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

<sup>8</sup> He it was who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, both human beings and animals;

<sup>9</sup> he sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants.

<sup>10</sup> He struck down many nations and killed mighty kings —

<sup>11</sup> Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan —

<sup>12</sup> and gave their land as a heritage, a heritage to his people Israel.

<sup>13</sup> Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages.

<sup>14</sup> For the LORD will vindicate his people, and have compassion on his servants.

<sup>15</sup> The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

<sup>16</sup> They have mouths, but they do not speak; they have eyes, but they do not see;

<sup>17</sup> they have ears, but they do not hear, and there is no breath in their mouths.

<sup>18</sup> Those who make them and all who trust them shall become like them.

<sup>19</sup> O house of Israel, bless the LORD! O house of Aaron, bless the LORD!

<sup>20</sup> O house of Levi, bless the LORD! You that fear the LORD, bless the LORD!

<sup>21</sup> Blessed be the LORD from Zion, he who resides in Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

## **The Lesson**

### **Matthew 22:1-14**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

## **Commentary on Gospel reading**

### **Canticle – A Song of Creation II The Earth and Its Creatures**

**BCP p. 89**

Let the earth glorify the Lord, \*

praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains and hills,

and all that grows upon the earth, \*

praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, \*

O whales and all that move in the waters.

All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, \*

praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, \*

and all you flocks and herds.

O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, \*

praise him and highly exalt him for ever.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**BCP p. 120**

**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**

**BCP p. 121**

Officiant     The Lord be with you

People        **And also with you**

Officiant     Let us pray.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**BCP p. 121**

**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.**

## **Suffrage A**

**BCP p. 121**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

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

R. For only in you can we live in safety.  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
R. Your 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 by your Holy Spirit.

## **Intercessions Form VI**

**BCP p. 392**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and John our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

## **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; 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.*

## **Prayer for Mission**

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

## **The General Thanksgiving**

**BCP p. 125**

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.*

Officiant      Let us bless the Lord

People        **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*    *2 Corinthians 13:14*