

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: 18:21-50**

<sup>21</sup> For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.

<sup>22</sup> For all his ordinances were before me, and his statutes I did not put away from me.

<sup>23</sup> I was blameless before him, and I kept myself from guilt.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

<sup>25</sup> With the loyal you show yourself loyal; with the blameless you show yourself blameless;

<sup>26</sup> with the pure you show yourself pure; and with the crooked you show yourself perverse.

<sup>27</sup> For you deliver a humble people, but the haughty eyes you bring down.

<sup>28</sup> It is you who light my lamp; the LORD, my God, lights up my darkness.

<sup>29</sup> By you I can crush a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall.

<sup>30</sup> This God — his way is perfect; the promise of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all who take refuge in him.

<sup>31</sup> For who is God except the LORD? And who is a rock besides our God? —

<sup>32</sup> the God who girded me with strength, and made my way safe.

<sup>33</sup> He made my feet like the feet of a deer, and set me secure on the heights.

<sup>34</sup> He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

<sup>35</sup> You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand has supported me; your help has made me great.

<sup>36</sup> You gave me a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip.

<sup>37</sup> I pursued my enemies and overtook them; and did not turn back until they were consumed.

<sup>38</sup> I struck them down, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet.

<sup>39</sup> For you girded me with strength for the battle; you made my assailants sink under me.

<sup>40</sup> You made my enemies turn their backs to me, and those who hated me I destroyed.

<sup>41</sup> They cried for help, but there was no one to save them; they cried to the LORD, but he did not

answer them.

<sup>42</sup> I beat them fine, like dust before the wind; I cast them out like the mire of the streets.

<sup>43</sup> You delivered me from strife with the peoples; you made me head of the nations; people whom I had not known served me.

<sup>44</sup> As soon as they heard of me they obeyed me; foreigners came cringing to me.

<sup>45</sup> Foreigners lost heart, and came trembling out of their strongholds.

<sup>46</sup> The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation,

<sup>47</sup> the God who gave me vengeance and subdued peoples under me;

<sup>48</sup> who delivered me from my enemies; indeed, you exalted me above my adversaries; you delivered me from the violent.

<sup>49</sup> For this I will extol you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing praises to your name.

<sup>50</sup> Great triumphs he gives to his king, and shows steadfast love to his anointed, to David and his descendants forever.

## The Lesson

### Matthew 24:1-14

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away, his disciples came to point out to him the buildings of the temple. Then he asked them, "You see all these, do you not? Truly I tell you, not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" Jesus answered them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs. "Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

## 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**

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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*