

Evening Prayer

The First Saturday After the Epiphany

Saturday, January 16, 2021

The Officiant says

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

Confession of Sin

The Officiant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Officiant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

Psalm 141:1-3, 8ab

Domine, clamavi

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; *
hear my voice when I cry to you.
Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, *
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips; *
let not my heart incline to any evil thing.
My eyes are turned to you, Lord God; *
in you I take refuge.

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Psalms Appointed

Psalms 110:1-5(6-7), 116, & 117

Psalms 110:1-7

- 1 The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, *
until I make your enemies your footstool."
- 2 The LORD will send the scepter of your power out of Zion, *
saying, "Rule over your enemies round about you."
- 3 Princely state has been yours from the day of your birth; *
in the beauty of holiness have I begotten you,
like dew from the womb of the morning."

- 4 The LORD has sworn and he will not recant: *
 “You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.”
- 5 The Lord who is at your right hand
will smite kings in the day of his wrath; *
 he will rule over the nations.
- 6 [He will heap high the corpses; *
 he will smash heads over the wide earth.
- 7 He will drink from the brook beside the road; *
 therefore he will lift high his head.]

Psalm 116

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of
 my supplication, *
 because he has inclined his ear to me whenever
 I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
 I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
 “O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”
- 4 Gracious is the LORD and righteous; *
 our God is full of compassion.
- 5 The LORD watches over the innocent; *
 I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul, *
 for the LORD has treated you well.
- 7 For you have rescued my life from death, *
 my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 I will walk in the presence of the LORD*
 in the land of the living.
- 9 I believed, even when I said,
 “I have been brought very low.” *
 In my distress I said, “No one can be trusted.”
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD*

for all the good things he has done for me?

- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD*
in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD*
is the death of his servants.
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD*
in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the LORD's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

Psalm 117

- 1 Praise the LORD, all you nations; *
laud him, all you peoples.
- 2 For his loving-kindness toward us is great, *
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for ever.
Hallelujah!

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.

Readings

A period of silence will follow each reading.

First Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle B

A Song of Pilgrimage *Priusquam errarem*

Before I ventured forth,
even while I was very young, *
 I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.
In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, *
 and I will seek her to the end.
From first blossom to early fruit, *
 she has been the delight of my heart.
My foot has kept firmly to the true path, *
 diligently from my youth have I pursued her.
I inclined my ear a little and received her; *
 I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.
To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, *
 for I have resolved to live according to her way.
From the beginning I gained courage from her, *
 therefore I will not be forsaken.
In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, *

therefore have I gained a good possession.
As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language,*
and with it will I offer praise to God.

Gospel Reading

Mark 2:23—3:6

A Reading from Mark.

One sabbath Jesus and his disciples were going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions.” Then he said to them, “The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.” Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.” Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children 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.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The Officiant and People say responsively

Suffrages A.

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 with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

The Officiant then says

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

For our Country

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly ask you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Saturdays

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect for Mission

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

Prayers of the People

Intercessor

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

A Prayer in Time of Great Sickness and Mortality

O most mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succor. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Oppressed

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Litany of Remembrance

As the world continues to respond to the pandemic of the virus, help us, O Lord, to remember.

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have no risk factors remember those who are vulnerable.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between their health or paying their rent.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who settle in for quarantine at home remember those who have no home.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

As fear grips our country let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

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.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Officiant

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask
or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in
Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*