



SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

# EVENING PRAYER

## THE FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS (TR.)

December 29, 2020 ♦ 6:30 PM

*Welcome to this service of Evening Prayer at Saint Mark's Cathedral via Zoom. Tonight, on the fifth day of Christmas, we observe the Feast of the Holy Innocents (transferred).*

**Note: Everyone will be muted upon entry to this Zoom meeting.**

### OPENING VERSICLE & RESPONSE

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 109*

*Officiant* Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

### SHORT LESSON OF SCRIPTURE & PRAYER FOR LIGHT

*Officiant* In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. *John 1:1-5*

Let us pray.

*Officiant* Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*All* Amen.

*You are invited to light a candle while the Officiant leads us in the Phos hilaron.*

### PHOS HILARON

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 112*

*Officiant* O gracious light,

*All* 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.

*The Officiant leads the Psalms.*

**Psalm 19** *Cæli enarrant*

- T**HE HEAVENS declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

WHEN THE LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.

- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**All 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.**

**READING** *Isaiah 54:1-13*

*Read by: Alan Carter*

*Reader* A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

SING, O barren one who did not bear; burst into song and shout, you who have not been in labor! For the children of the desolate woman will be more than the children of her that is married, says the LORD. Enlarge the site of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left, and your descendants will possess the nations and will settle the desolate towns. Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; do not be discouraged, for you will not suffer disgrace; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the disgrace of your widowhood you will remember no more. For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.

For the LORD has called you like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, like the wife of a man's youth when she is cast off, says your God. For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will gather you. In overflowing wrath for a moment I hid my face from you, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the LORD, your Redeemer. This is like the days of Noah to me: Just as I swore that the waters of Noah would never again go over the earth, so I have sworn that I will not be angry with you and will not rebuke you. For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted, I am about to set your stones in antimony, and lay your foundations with sapphires. I will make your pinnacles of rubies, your gates of jewels, and all your wall of precious stones. All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the prosperity of your children.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**CANTICLE: THE SONG OF MARY**

*Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)*  
*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 119*

*Officiant* My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

**All** 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.

**READING** *Mark 10:13-16*

*Read by: Juanita Gardner*

*Reader* A reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

**P**EOPLE were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

**CANTICLE: THE SONG OF SIMEON**

*Nunc dimittis (Luke 2:29-32)*  
*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 120*

*Officiant* Lord, you now have set your servant free \*

**All** to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your 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

*Officiant* I believe in God,

**All** 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

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

**All** 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 SUFFRAGES

*Officiant* Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*People* **And grant us your salvation.**

*Officiant* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*People* **Let your people sing with joy.**

*Officiant* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*People* **For only in you can we live in safety.**

*Officiant* Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*People* **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

*Officiant* Let your way be known upon earth;

*People* **Your saving health among all nations.**

*Officiant* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*People* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

*Officiant* Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*People* **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY *Feast of the Holy Innocents*

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 238*

*Officiant* **W**E REMEMBER today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## A COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

*Officiant* **B**E OUR LIGHT in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

## A 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.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Officiant bids our prayers. On the Cathedral Cycle of Prayer, we give thanks for the Homeless Advocacy ministry, the Hunger Offering, and the Interfaith Dialogue Group.*

*After a time of reflection, the service continues.*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*Officiant* Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

**All** 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.

## CONCLUDING SENTENCE

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

**All** Amen.

### OFFICIANT

The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason, *Dean & Rector*