



Please join us on Thursday, December 3 at 7:00pm for Evening Prayer, Rite Two, led by Rick Rowe.

**Note: We invite you to light a candle.**

**Leader:** I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7,8*

#### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Leader and People (together):** 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.

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

#### **The Invitatory and Psalter**

**Leader:** 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.***

#### **O Gracious Light** *Phos hilaron (together)*

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.

## Today's Appointed Psalm and Lessons

Psalm 18: 21-50 (in unison)

- 21 The Lord rewarded me because of my righteous dealing; \*  
because my hands were clean he rewarded me;
- 22 For I have kept the ways of the Lord \*  
and have not offended against my God;
- 23 For all his judgments are before my eyes, \*  
and his decrees I have not put away from me;
- 24 For I have been blameless with him \*  
and have kept myself from iniquity;
- 25 Therefore the Lord rewarded me according to my righteous dealing, \*  
because of the cleanness of my hands in his sight.
- 26 With the faithful you show yourself faithful, O God; \*  
with the forthright you show yourself forthright.
- 27 With the pure you show yourself pure, \*  
but with the crooked you are wily.
- 28 You will save a lowly people, \*  
but you will humble the haughty eyes.
- 29 You, O Lord, are my lamp; \*  
my God, you make my darkness bright.
- 30 With you I will break down an enclosure; \*  
with the help of my God I will scale any wall.
- 31 As for God, his ways are perfect;  
the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; \*  
he is a shield to all who trust in him.
- 32 For who is God, but the Lord? \*  
who is the Rock, except our God?
- 33 It is God who girds me about with strength \*  
and makes my way secure.
- 34 He makes me sure-footed like a deer \*  
and lets me stand firm on the heights.
- 35 He trains my hands for battle \*  
and my arms for bending even a bow of bronze.
- 36 You have given me your shield of victory; \*  
your right hand also sustains me;  
your loving care makes me great.
- 37 You lengthen my stride beneath me, \*  
and my ankles do not give way.
- 38 I pursue my enemies and overtake them; \*  
I will not turn back till I have destroyed them.
- 39 I strike them down, and they cannot rise; \*  
they fall defeated at my feet.
- 40 You have girded me with strength for the battle; \*  
you have cast down my adversaries beneath me;  
you have put my enemies to flight.
- 41 I destroy those who hate me;  
they cry out, but there is none to help them; \*  
they cry to the Lord, but he does not answer.

42 I beat them small like dust before the wind; \*  
 I trample them like mud in the streets.  
 43 You deliver me from the strife of the peoples; \*  
 you put me at the head of the nations.  
 44 A people I have not known shall serve me;  
 no sooner shall they hear than they shall obey me; \*  
 strangers will cringe before me.  
 45 The foreign peoples will lose heart; \*  
 they shall come trembling out of their strongholds.  
 46 The Lord lives! Blessed is my Rock! \*  
 Exalted is the God of my salvation!  
 47 He is the God who gave me victory \*  
 and cast down the peoples beneath me.  
 48 You rescued me from the fury of my enemies;  
 you exalted me above those who rose against me; \*  
 you saved me from my deadly foe.  
 49 Therefore will I extol you among the nations, O Lord, \*  
 and sing praises to your Name.  
 50 He multiplies the victories of his king; \*  
 he shows loving-kindness to his anointed,  
 to David and his descendants for ever.

### **The First Lesson: A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah 2: 12-22 (Agnes)**

For the Lord of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up and high; against all the cedars of Lebanon, lofty and lifted up; and against all the oaks of Bashan; against all the high mountains, and against all the lofty hills; against every high tower, and against every fortified wall; against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all the beautiful craft. The haughtiness of people shall be humbled, and the pride of everyone shall be brought low; and the Lord alone will be exalted on that day. The idols shall utterly pass away. Enter the caves of the rocks and the holes of the ground, from the terror of the Lord, and from the glory of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth. On that day people will throw away to the moles and to the bats their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, to enter the caverns of the rocks and the clefts in the crags, from the terror of the Lord, and from the glory of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth. Turn away from mortals, who have only breath in their nostrils, for of what account are they?

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **The Song of Simeon** *Nunc Dimittis, Luke 2:29-32 (together)*

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
 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 Second Lesson: A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians 3: 1-13 (Nakieta)**

Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we decided to be left alone in Athens; and we sent Timothy, our brother and co-worker for God in proclaiming the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you for the sake of your faith, so that no one would be shaken by these persecutions. Indeed, you yourselves know that this is what we are destined for. In fact, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we were to suffer persecution; so it turned out, as you know. For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith; I was afraid that somehow the tempter had tempted you and that our labour had been in vain.

But Timothy has just now come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love. He has told us also that you always remember us kindly and long to see us—just as we long to see you. For this reason, brothers and sisters, during all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you through your faith. For we now live, if you continue to stand firm in the Lord. How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **A Reading from the Gospel of Luke 20: 27-40 (Rick)**

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, 'Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her.'

Jesus said to them, 'Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive.' Then some of the scribes answered, 'Teacher, you have spoken well.' For they no longer dared to ask him another question.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*Reflections on the readings\*\***

### **The Apostles' Creed** *(in unison)*

**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**

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Let us pray.

### **Leader and People (together)**

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**

**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.**

**(Leader) A Prayer for our Country:** Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy 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 hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the

authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy 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 thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**(Leader) A Prayer for Protection:** O God, 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 you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**(Leader) A Prayer for Social Justice:** Almighty God, who created us in your image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**(Together) A Prayer for the Human Family:** O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Leader:** 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 all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

**\*\*Friends, who can we pray for tonight? Let us offer up our intercessions & thanksgivings\*\***

- Prayers for the reposed souls of over 267,000 souls who have died from Covid-19. We pray for their grieving families.
- Prayers for **Mother Rhoda, Fr. Roy Cole, Arthur Ellwell, Trevor Chase, Jennifer Sprosty, John Owens, Fr. Free, Victoria Lanning, Nelly Johnson, Rev. Roslyn Demerson, Francis Cheah and all those on our prayer list** and for all those who may be suffering in mind, body and spirit.
- Prayers for all those who may feel alone, hopeless or in despair
- Prayers for all school students, teachers, principals, school staff and parents during these challenging times.
- Prayers for all who are without a job, source of income or food insecurity
- Prayers for our St. John's and Canterbury House family

### ***The General Thanksgiving (together)***

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.

**(Leader) A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Leader:** 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. Ephesians 3:20,21*

*Have a restful night!*