

# St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Evening Prayer: Rite Two



**4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in Advent**  
**St. Thomas, Apostle & Martyr**  
**(transferred from Dec 21)**

December 22, 2021 | 6:00pm Online Worship

The Reverend Daniel Leatherman, Vicar

## **OPENING SENTENCE**

*The Officiant says*

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike. *Psalm 139:10, 11*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*The Officiant says to the people*

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us be in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

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 Priest alone 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.*

## **The Invitatory and Psalter**

**VERSICLE S 58 Preces**

*All stand*

*Officiant*

O God, make speed to save us.

*People*

O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant and People*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

*Except in Lent, add:*

Al - le - lu - ia.

**INVITATORY HYMN S59 O Gracious Light (Plainsong/Ford/McGregor) (BCP p. 118)**

1. O gra - cious Light, pure bright - ness of the ev - er - liv - ing  
 Fa - ther in hea - ven, O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and bless - ed!

2. Now as we come to the set - ting of the sun, and our  
 eyes be - hold the ves - per light, we sing your prais - es, O God:  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit. 3. You are wor - thy at all times  
 to be praised by hap - py voic - es, O Son of God, O Giv - er  
 of life, and to be glo - ri - fied through all the worlds.

## 27 *Dominus illuminatio*

- 1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? \*  
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, \*  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, \*  
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, \*  
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; \*  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord \*  
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; \*  
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head \*  
above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great  
gladness; \*  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- 10 Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; \*  
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." \*  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.
- 12 Hide not your face from me, \*  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; \*

do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, \*

the Lord will sustain me.

15 Show me your way, O Lord; \*

lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, \*

for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.

17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord \*

in the land of the living!

18 O tarry and await the Lord'S pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your

heart; \*

wait patiently for the Lord.

*At the end of the Psalm is sung or said*

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 people sit.*

## The Lessons

### **Isaiah 43: 8-13**

<sup>8</sup>Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears!<sup>9</sup>Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this, and foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them, and let them hear and say, "It is true."<sup>10</sup>You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.<sup>11</sup>I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior.<sup>12</sup>I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses, says the Lord.<sup>13</sup>I am God, and also

henceforth I am He; there is no one who can deliver from my hand; I work and who can hinder it?

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

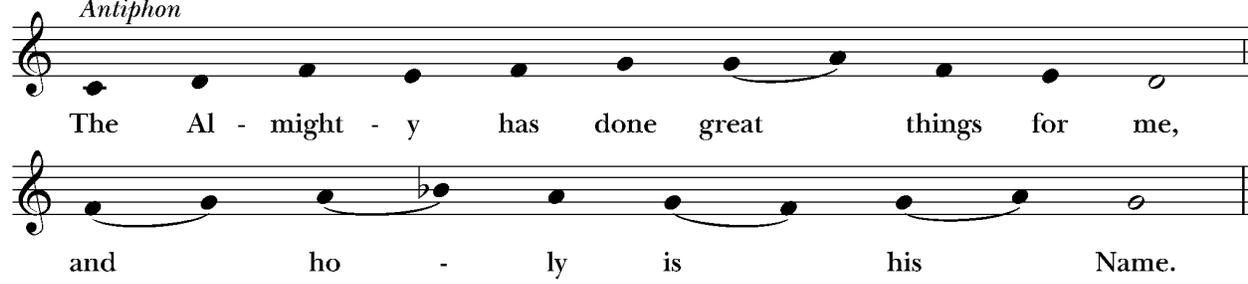
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**FIRST CANTICLE S 242 *The Song of Mary (Canticle 15) (Plainsong/Ford) (BCP p. 119)***

Canticle 15: The Song of Mary

*Antiphon*



The Al - might - y has done great things for me,  
and ho - ly is his Name.

1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices  
in God my Sav - ior; for he has looked with favor on his  
low - ly ser - vant.      2. From this day all generations will  
call me bless - ed: the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and ho - ly is his Name.      3. He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every gen - er - a - tion.      4. He has shown the strength of his arm,

he has scattered the proud in their con - ceit. 5. He has cast down  
the might - y from their thrones, and has lifted up the low - ly.  
6. He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way  
emp - ty. 7. He has come to the help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el,  
for he has remembered his promise of mer - cy, 8. The promise he  
made to our fa - thers, to Abraham and his children for ev - er. [Ant.]  
*(Gloria Patri may be omitted)*  
9. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit:  
10. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]

**SECOND READING: Matthew 24:45-51**

**John 14:1-7**

1“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.2In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.  
4And you know the way to the place where I am going.”5Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”6Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.7If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

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

*Silence may follow.*

**SECOND CANTICLE (BCP p. 119)**

*Antiphon*

These eyes of mine have seen the Sa - vior,  
whom you have pre - pared for all the world to see.

1. Lord, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in peace as you  
have prom - ised; 2. For these eyes of mine have seen the Sa - vior,  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:

3. A Light to enlight - en the na - tions, and the glory of your  
*(Gloria Patri may be omitted)*  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. [Ant.] 4. Glo - ry to the Father, and  
to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit: 5. As it  
was in the begin - ning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*Officiant and People together, all standing.*

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 LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 121)**

*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 forever. Amen.

## **SUFFRAGES (BCP p. 121)**

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

**We entreat you, O Lord.**

### **Collect of the Day: Saint Thomas the Apostle**

Everliving God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with sure and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **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 all for your love's sake. Amen.

### **World Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for the people of South Sudan

*Other prayers and intercessions may follow:*

*Birthdays, Roxanne, Dewey, Kurt, Angie, Grace, and Jana*

*Anniversaries, Recovery from sickness, Travelers, Those in trouble or bereavement, the departed, or other needs.*

### **A Collect for Peace**

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince

of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

### **For Those Who Need Continuing Care**

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all persons who have become ill, weak, distressed, or isolated. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

### **A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

#### *Officiant and People*

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.*

## CONCLUDING VERSICLE

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

## CONCLUDING SENTENCE

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*

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### ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

98-939 Moanalua Road | 'Aiea, HI 96701 | (808)488-5747

[Office@sttimothysaiea.org](mailto:Office@sttimothysaiea.org) | [www.sttimothysaiea.org](http://www.sttimothysaiea.org)



St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Aiea



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@sttimothysaiea

The Right Reverend Robert L. Fitzpatrick, *V Bishop of Hawai'i*

The Rev. Daniel L. Leatherman, *Vicar*

Angie Delight, *Musician*

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