

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

Evening Prayer: Rite Two



Wednesday in Ordinary Time Feast of the Holy Cross (tr 9/14)

September 15, 2021 | 6:00pm Online Worship

The Reverend Daniel Leatherman, Vicar

OPENING SENTENCE

The Officiant says

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15, 16*

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

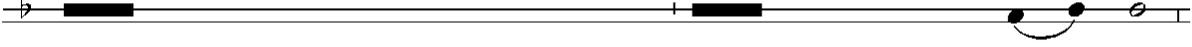


O Lord, make haste to help us.

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 S 59 *O Gracious Light (Plainsong/Ford/McGregor) (BCP p. 118)*



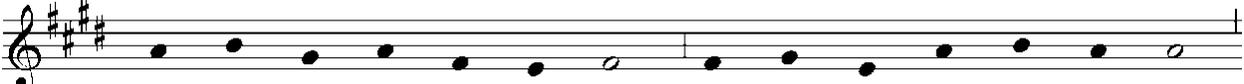
1. O gra - cious Light, pure bright - ness of the ev - er - liv - ing



Fa - ther in hea - ven, O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and bless - ed!



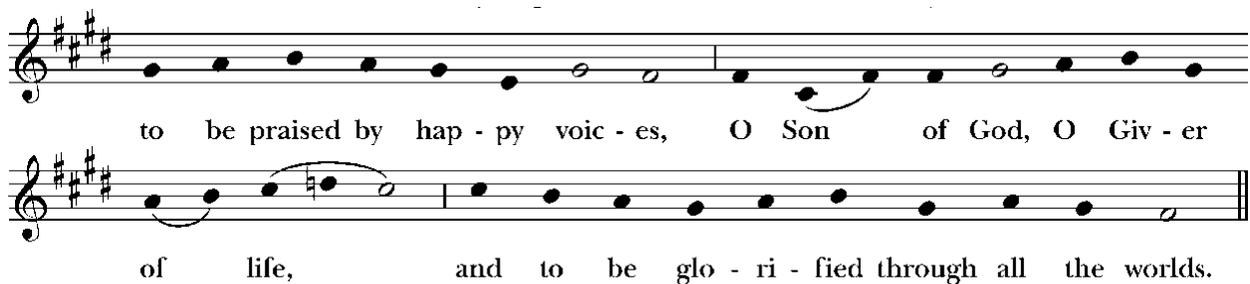
2. Now as we come to the set - ting of the sun, and our



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



PSALMS 118 *Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 3 Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 4 Let those who fear the Lord now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 5 I called to the Lord in my distress; *
the Lord answered by setting me free.
- 6 The Lord is at my side, therefore I will not fear; *
what can anyone do to me?
- 7 The Lord is at my side to help me; *
I will triumph over those who hate me.
- 8 It is better to rely on the Lord *
than to put any trust in flesh.
- 9 It is better to rely on the Lord *
than to put any trust in rulers.
- 10 All the ungodly encompass me; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.
- 11 They hem me in, they hem me in on every side; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.
- 12 They swarm about me like bees; they blaze like a fire of thorns; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel them.

- 13 I was pressed so hard that I almost fell, *
but the Lord came to my help.
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted! the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- 20 "This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! *
Lord, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the Lord.
- 27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 45:20-25

20 Assemble yourselves and come together, draw near, you survivors of the nations!
They have no knowledge—those who carry about their wooden idols,
and keep on praying to a god that cannot save.

21 Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together!

Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old?

Was it not I, the Lord? There is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Saviour;
there is no one besides me.

22 Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth!

For I am God, and there is no other.

23 By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness
a word that shall not return: 'To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.'

24 Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength;
all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed.

25 In the Lord all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.

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: John 12:31-36

31Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people* to myself.' 33He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. 34The crowd answered him, 'We have heard from the law that the Messiah* remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?' 35Jesus said to them, 'The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. 36While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.'

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

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 Prayers

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: Collect for Feat of the Holy Cross

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. 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 Iceland.

Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our sisters and brothers members of the Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church.

Other prayers and intercessions may follow:

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

A Collect for Protection

Be 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. Amen.

For Cities

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with

order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity. *Amen.*

For Quiet Confidence

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we will be saved, in quietness and confidence will be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through 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

Alleluia. Alleluia, 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*

The Christian custom of tracing the sign of the cross on persons and things as a sign of blessing is very old. Some think that it goes back to the very origins of Christianity and earlier. In Ezekiel 9, we read that Ezekiel had a vision of the throne-room of God, in which an angel was sent to go through Jerusalem and put a mark on the foreheads of the faithful few who mourned for the sins of the city. Afterwards, other angels were sent through the city to destroy all those who had not the mark. We find similar visionary material in Revelation 7:2-4; 9:4; 14:1, where the mark on the forehead again protects the faithful few in the day of wrath, and it is said to be the name of the Lamb and of His Father. Now, the Hebrew word used for "mark" in Ezekiel is TAU, which is the also the name of the last letter of the Hebrew alphabet (the ancestor of the Greek letter TAU and our letter T), and it refers to a mark like an X or a +, two short lines crossing at right angles.

What is the significance of the sign of the cross? Well, in the first place, we often place our initials or other personal mark on something to show that it belongs to us. The Cross is the personal mark of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and we mark it on ourselves as a sign that we belong to Him, just as in the book of Revelation, as noted above, the servants of God are sealed or marked on their foreheads as a sign that they are His.

Again, as one preacher has said, if you were telling someone how to make a cross, you might say (at least to an English speaker), "Draw an I and then cross it out." As we make the sign, we first draw a vertical stroke, as if to say to God, "Lord, here am I." Then we cancel it with a horizontal stroke, as if to say, "Help me, Lord, to abandon my self-centeredness and self-will, and to make you the center of my life instead. Fix all my attention and all my desire on you, Lord, that I may forget my self, cancel my self, abandon myself completely to your love and service."

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