



Prayer **VIGIL**



An Evening Prayer Vigil for All Saints Episcopal Church April 22, 2020

The Officiant greets the people with these words.

Officiant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Officiant continues

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Let us pray.

O Lord God Almighty, as you have taught us to call the evening, the morning, and the noonday one day; and have made the sun to know its going down: Dispel the darkness of our hearts, that by your brightness we may know you to be the true God and eternal light, living and reigning for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

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 Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

All say 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.**

Psalm 46 *Read in unison*

**1 God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.**

**2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the
depths of the sea;**

**3 Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.**

**4 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**6 God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.**

**7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.**

**8 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**9 Come now and look upon the works of the LORD, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.**

**10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.**

**11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth."**

**12 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**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 Lessons

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so

that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen. (*1 Peter 4:7-11*)

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A Litany For The Mission Of The Church

Holy God, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being,

Be among us.

Jesus the Christ, through whom the world is reconciled to God,

Be among us.

Holy Spirit, whose glory fills the world and searches the depths of God,

Be among us.

Blessed Trinity, source of both unity and diversity,

Be among us.

From blind hearts and petty spirits, that refuse to see the need of all humankind for your love,

O God, deliver us.

From pride, self-sufficiency and the unwillingness to admit our own need of your compassion,

O God, deliver us.

From discouragement in the face of pain and disappointment, and from lack of persistence and thoroughness,

O God, deliver us.

From ignorance, apathy, and complacency that prevent us from spreading the your love,

O God, deliver us.

God, we pray for the gifts of ministry.

Inspire our minds with a vision of your kingdom in this time and place.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our eyes, that we may see your glory in all creation.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our lips, that we may tell in every tongue and dialect the wonderful works of God.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our hearts, that we may discern the mission to which you call us.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our feet, that we may take your Good News into our neighborhoods, communities, and all parts of the world.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our hands, that we may each accomplish the work you give us to do.

Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen and encourage all who minister in your name in lonely, dangerous and unresponsive places.

Hear us, O Christ.

Open the hearts and hands of many to support your Church in this and every place.

Hear us, O Christ.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:16-20*)

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Homily

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.

A Litany After The Vandalism Of All Saints Episcopal Church

As the congregation prays, you will hear me say, "Hear our cries, O God!" Please respond, "Attend unto our prayers."

Litanist Hear our cries, O God!
People **Attend unto our prayers.**

O God, someone has destroyed things that were holy in the sanctuary. They have roared within your holy place. Hear our cries O God!

People **Attend unto our prayers.**

They set your sanctuary afire; they desecrated the dwelling place of your Holy Name. Hear our cries, O God!

People **Attend unto our prayers.**

They said in their hearts, "We will utterly subdue them." Hear our cries, O God!

People **Attend unto our prayers.**

But now, as we hear the word "Amen," please respond, "How we thank you, Lord!"

But you, Lord, are our sovereign from of old, working salvation on all the earth. You divided the sea with your might: you made Chaos itself food for the beasts of the field. Amen.

***People* How we thank you, Lord!**

Yours is the day, yours also the night; you are Sovereign in the light and in the darkness, and always by our side. Amen!

***People* How we thank you, Lord!**

Though the dark places of the land are full of the haunts of violence, we know you always have regard for your covenant; you remember your promises forever. Amen.

***People* How we thank you, Lord!**

You do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild animals; you do not neglect the cries of the needy. Amen.

***People* How we thank you, Lord!**

You will remember your congregation in our time of need. Amen.

***People* How we thank you, Lord!**

Our prayers go up to you, O Lord, not only for ourselves, but also for those in need throughout the world; any who are victims of such violations.

For those who perpetrated these acts, we pray that their hearts may be changed and for the course of justice.

And for ourselves, we pray that anger and fear do not dim Christ's love in our hearts, or our courage to profess your grace and love for the sake of your Son's dear name. Teach us how to balance justice and forgiveness.

Make this terrible deed a testimony to the redemptive grace we know in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus our Lord.

And now, as Jesus taught us, we are bold to say

Officiant and People

**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.**

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

A prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.**
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you. **Amen.**
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of the risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**