



*All Saints Episcopal Church
Vespers ~ Evening Prayer Rite I
Thursday, April 25, 2024 6:30 pm*

THE COMMEMORATION OF ST. MARK
The Evangelist

Officiant

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. *Psalm 141:2*

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him. *Psalm 96:9*

Thine is the day, O God, thine also the night; thou hast established the moon and the sun. Thou hast fixed all the boundaries of the earth; thou hast made summer and winter. *Psalm 74:15,16*

I will bless the Lord, who giveth me counsel; my heart teacheth 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*

Seek him that made the Pleiades and Orion, that turneth deep darkness into the morning, and darkeneth the day into night; that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his Name. *Amos 5:8*

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

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."
John 8:12

Confession of Sin

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

Officiant and People

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Officiant The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

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 forever. Amen.**

Alleluia.

Officiant and People

O Gracious Light

Phos hilaron

**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 thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Thou art 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 2:7-10

Quare fremuerunt gentes?

- 7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
he said to me, "You are my Son;
this day have I begotten you.**
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."**
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
be warned, you rulers of the earth.
Glory to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

THE LESSONS

A Reading from Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who
announces peace, who brings good news, who announces
salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord
has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader Here endeth the lesson

The Song of Mary

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed 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.

A Reading from Ephesians 4:7-8,11-16

Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets,
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the
work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us
come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,
to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no
longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of
doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.
But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him
who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and

knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Reader Here endeth the lesson.

The Song of Simeon

Nunc dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *

according to thy word;

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *

which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *

and to be the glory of thy 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.

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark 1:1-15

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Reader Here endeth the lesson.

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, 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 with thy Spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

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.

Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That there may be peace to thy Church and to the whole world,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

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

We entreat thee, O Lord.

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

We entreat thee, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day

**Almighty God, by the hand of Mark the evangelist you have given to
your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God: We thank you
for this witness, and pray that we may be firmly grounded in its truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

A Collect for Those Who Live Alone

**Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those
who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in
his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Collect 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.**

Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow. - All Saints Prayer List

The General Thanksgiving - Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

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

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.
2 Corinthians 13:14

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Romans 15:13

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

Officiant Let us go forth in peace. Alleluia, alleluia!
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**