



**All Saints Episcopal Church  
Vespers ~ Evening Prayer Rite II  
Thursday, April 16, 2026 6:30 pm**

**THE COMMEMORATION OF TOYOHICO KAGAWA  
SOCIAL REFORMER, 1960**

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

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

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. *Psalm 96:9*

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*

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*

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface 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 you, O Lord; the night is

as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.  
*Psalm 139:10, 11*

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will 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*

**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.**

*Officiant* 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**

*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. Alleluia. Amen.**

*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 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 140**

- 1 Rescue me, Lord, from evildoers;  
protect me from the violent,**
- 2 who devise evil plans in their hearts  
and stir up war every day.**
- 3 They make their tongues as sharp as a serpent's;  
the poison of vipers is on their lips.**
- 4 Keep me safe, Lord, from the hands of the wicked;  
protect me from the violent,  
who devise ways to trip my feet.**
- 5 The arrogant have hidden a snare for me;  
they have spread out the cords of their net  
and have set traps for me along my path.**
- 6 I say to the Lord, "You are my God."  
Hear, Lord, my cry for mercy.**
- 7 Sovereign Lord, my strong deliverer,  
you shield my head in the day of battle.**
- 8 Do not grant the wicked their desires, Lord;  
do not let their plans succeed.**
- 9 Those who surround me proudly rear their heads;  
may the mischief of their lips engulf them.**
- 10 May burning coals fall on them;  
may they be thrown into the fire,  
into miry pits, never to rise.**
- 11 May slanderers not be established in the land;  
may disaster hunt down the violent.**
- 12 I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor  
and upholds the cause of the needy.**
- 13 Surely the righteous will praise your name,  
and the upright will live in your presence.**

## THE LESSONS

### A Reading from Job 13:13-22

- <sup>13</sup> “Keep silent and let me speak;  
then let come to me what may.
- <sup>14</sup> Why do I put myself in jeopardy  
and take my life in my hands?
- <sup>15</sup> Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him;  
I will surely<sup>[a]</sup> defend my ways to his face.
- <sup>16</sup> Indeed, this will turn out for my deliverance,  
for no godless person would dare come before him!
- <sup>17</sup> Listen carefully to what I say;  
let my words ring in your ears.
- <sup>18</sup> Now that I have prepared my case,  
I know I will be vindicated.
- <sup>19</sup> Can anyone bring charges against me?  
If so, I will be silent and die.
- <sup>20</sup> “Only grant me these two things, God,  
and then I will not hide from you:
- <sup>21</sup> Withdraw your hand far from me,  
and stop frightening me with your terrors.
- <sup>22</sup> Then summon me and I will answer,  
or let me speak, and you reply to me.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

**People      Thanks be to God.**

### *The Song of Mary*

*Magnificat*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all  
generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, \***

**and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children 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 Paul's Letter to the Philippians 1:9-20**

I pray that your love will keep on growing and you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices. Then you will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.

My dear friends, I want you to know that what has happened to me has helped to spread the good news. The Roman guards and all the others know I am here in jail because I serve Christ. Now most of the Lord's followers have become brave and are fearlessly telling the message.

Some are preaching about Christ because they are jealous and envious of us. Others are preaching because they want to help. They love Christ and know I am here to defend the good news about him. But the ones who are jealous of us are not sincere. They just want to cause trouble for me while I am in jail. But that doesn't matter. All that matters is that people are telling about Christ, whether they are sincere or not. This is what makes me glad.

I will keep on being glad, because I know that your prayers and the help that comes from the Spirit of Christ Jesus will keep me safe. I honestly expect and hope I will never do anything to be ashamed of. Whether I live or die, I always want to be as brave as I am now and bring honor to Christ.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.

**People      Thanks be to God.**

### ***The Song of Simeon***

*Nunc dimittis*

**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.**

### **A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke 22:47-53**

While Jesus was still speaking, a crowd came up. It was led by Judas, one of the twelve apostles. He went over to Jesus and greeted him with a kiss.

Jesus asked Judas, “Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

When Jesus' disciples saw what was about to happen, they asked, “Lord, should we attack them with a sword?” One of the disciples even struck at the high priest's servant with his sword and cut off the servant's right ear.

“Enough of that!” Jesus said. Then he touched the servant's ear and healed it.

Jesus spoke to the chief priests, the temple police, and the leaders who had come to arrest him. He said, “Why do you come out with swords and clubs and treat me like a criminal? I was with you every day in the temple, and you didn't arrest me. But this is your time, and darkness is in control.”

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant and People together,*

**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

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*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 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.**

### The Collect of the Day

**Embolden our lives, O Lord, and inspire our faiths, that we, following the example of your servant Dietrich Bonhoeffer, might embrace your call with undivided hearts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, 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 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 ourselves 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**

**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.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

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

*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*

**DISMISSAL**

*Officiant* Let us go forth in peace. Allelulia, allelulia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Allelulia, allelulia.**