

# AN ORDER FOR EVENING PRAYER

## ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*The Officiant begins the service with one or more sentences of Scripture.*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Officiant says to the people*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together*

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

*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.

## **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.

*Then follows*

### **THE PSALM OR PSALMS APPOINTED**

*At the end of the Psalms 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 LESSONS**

### **A READING from the Gospel**

*After the Lesson the Reader may say*

Here ends the Reading.

### **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.

## 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

*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.

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 [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, entrusting one  
another and all our life to Christ,  
*We entreat you, O Lord.*

*The Officiant then says several Collects, followed by*

*A Prayer in Time of Isolation*

Almighty God: Our times are in your hand. We call upon you in this hour of our need, when we are lonely and must stand apart. Be our strength, O Sovereign Lord, our calm in the midst of raging seas, our refuge and our dwelling place. Sanctify to us this time drawn away from others, even as your Son, O Father, drew away to a lonely place for prayer. Deepen our need of you, O Lord, that every breath may be a whisper of the Spirit's prompting, a renewed searching of the deep things of God. Stir up in us the great act of intercession, that we may spend our time apart in prayer for the world you created and sustain. Bless us in our turning toward you, and make us a blessing to those who stand in need of you, the whole fragile earth. All this we ask in the name of great Physician, even Jesus Christ our Lord. *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.*

*Then may be said*

Let us bless the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

*The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following*

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*

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*