

Evening Prayer

OPENING SENTENCES

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening
and the day is almost over.

Luke 24:29

You are our lamp, O Lord.
You lighten our darkness.
You are our God, our strong refuge,
and you have made our way safe.

2 Sam. 22:29, 33

EVENING HYMN

**O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everlasting 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.

**O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everlasting Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

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.

**O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everlasting Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God,
by your word you commanded:
“Let there be light!”
By your Spirit you have revealed
the light of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ.
Shine in our hearts this night
with the light of your good news
and illumine our dreams
with the vision of your holy realm;
through Christ our Lord

and in the unity of the Spirit
we give you thanks and praise
now and forever. **Amen.**

PSALM 91

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

**He shall say to the LORD,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust."**

He shall deliver you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly pestilence.

**He shall cover you with his pinions,
and you shall find refuge under his wings;
his faithfulness shall be a shield and buckler.**

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

**Of the plague that stalks in the darkness,
nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day.**

A thousand shall fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand,
but it shall not come near you.

**Your eyes have only to behold *
to see the reward of the wicked.**

Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

**There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.**

For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways.

**They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.

**Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him;
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.**

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him;
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

**With long life will I satisfy him,
and show him my salvation.**

SCRIPTURE

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.
Ephesians 3:20, 21

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE: The Song of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

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.

THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Let my prayer rise before you as incense, O Lord,
the lifting of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

Ps. 141:2

God of glory, we praise you for your presence in our lives,
and for all goodness that you shower upon us in Jesus Christ.

Especially we thank you for the communion of the Holy Spirit . . .
time to savor the goodness of creation . . .
the enjoyment of friends and family . . .
the pleasure and wonder of living . . .
all beauty that moves and delights us . . .

Individual prayers of thanksgiving.

God of grace, through Jesus Christ we are one with all your children and we offer our prayers for
all whom you love.

Especially we pray for independent, indigenous, and emerging churches . . .
refugees and homeless men, women, and children . . .
those who pass by their neighbors in need . . .
those who offer a prophetic witness . . .
your blessing on those we too often forget . . .

Individual prayers of intercession.

Lord, be our light when shadows are falling.
Lord, be our light when trouble is near.
Lord, be our light as we watch and wait for the dawning of your new creation; through Jesus
Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Silent prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISMISSAL

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord.
Take heart, for the day of the Lord is near. **Amen.**

Jas. 5:7–8

Bless the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

A SIGN OF PEACE MAY BE EXCHANGED