

Second Sunday Evening Prayer
The Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 14th, 2020; 3:00 p.m. – via Zoom



Welcome to St. Mark's!

Evensong is one of the oldest and most uniquely “Anglican” services in our tradition, dating back to 1549 and the first Book of Common Prayer compiled by Thomas Cranmer. To create Evensong, Cranmer drew from sources as ancient as the sixth century Rule of St. Benedict, which had governed life in monasteries throughout England and Europe for nearly a thousand years, and from even older psalms, songs, and prayers from both Testaments of the Bible itself. Evensong’s richly woven tapestry of sacred Scripture, religious wisdom, and spiritual insight, together with its morning-time twin, Matins, have formed the foundation of Anglican prayer and spirituality for nearly five hundred years. When set to music, these prayers are invested with an extra element of beauty that heightens all our senses and lifts us all the more readily into the presence of God: where we meet the One who died for us and rose again, and who holds the whole world — and our own souls — in his loving embrace.

The readings for Evensong (as for Matins) are on a daily, two-year cycle designed so that most of the Bible can be read in church on a regular basis. One of the things this means is that the readings can be more obscure than the ones we normally hear at the Eucharist on Sunday mornings. Just remember that with any kind of prayer, and especially with Evensong, we are always stepping into a stream that is already flowing. If you hear something jarring or confusing, let it be an invitation to pick up the Bible yourself, to discuss it with a friend, or to offer the matter to God in prayer, so that you, too, might be part of the current. Our tradition is full of dissonances and harmonies that do not find their final resolution until the culmination of all things, when love unseats death as the arbiter of history and meaning, and every tear is wiped from every eye. In the meantime there are always more questions to be asked, more forgiveness to offer and receive, and further depths to be plumbed in God and in one another, as by prayer we join the Holy Spirit’s work of stitching more tightly together the fabric of the world.

Invitatory and Psalter

O Lord, open Thou our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son;

and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and ever shall be:

world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 116

1 I am well pleased *

that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer;

2 That he hath inclined his ear unto me *

therefore will I call upon him as long as I live.

3 The snares of death compassed me round about *

and the pains of hell gat hold upon me.

4 I shall find trouble and heaviness, and I will call upon the Name of the Lord *

O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.

5 Gracious is the Lord, and righteous *

yea, our God is merciful

6 The Lord preserveth the simple *

I was in misery, and he helped me. 7 Turn again then unto thy rest, O my soul *

for the Lord hath rewarded thee.

8 And why? thou hast delivered my soul from death *

mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

- 9 I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.
- 10 I believed, and therefore will I speak; but I was sore troubled *
I said in my haste, All men are liars.
- 11 What reward shall I give unto the Lord *
for all the benefits that he hath done unto me?
- 12 I will receive the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 13 I will pay my vows now in the presence of all His people *
right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.
- 14 Behold, O Lord, how that I am thy servant *
I am thy servant, and the son of thine handmaid; thou hast broken my bonds in sunder.
- 15 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and will call upon the Name of the Lord.
- 16 I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the sight of all his people *in the courts of the Lord's
house, even in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

First Lesson 1 Kings 19:1-8

Magnificat in C

*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 be to the Father, and to the Son: And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.
- Luke 1:46-55*

Second Lesson Hebrews 12:18-24

Nunc dimittis in C

*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 be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.
- Luke 2:29-32*

The Apostles' Creed

*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.
And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.
Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.
Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Officiant: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant: O Lord, save the State.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant: Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant: O Lord, save thy people,
And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant: Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant: O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of thy Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see thee in thy one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Second Collect

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsel, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

The Third Collect

Lighten out darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Reading

Selections from *Hope as Old as Fire*

Steven Charleston (b. 1949)

1. How hard to live in anxious times, when pixelated pain surrounds us, streaming feed of struggle, flashed in sorrowed news, never ending. Hurt, hurt, they say, all is hurt around us. Within this storm I may stand weak, only a fragile thing, a single soul, but I have a God graced voice. Life, life I cry into the electric night, life, hope and healing. Into the black wind I shout, love, deep love, love never ending.
2. There is someone close to you who shelters your soul with a love that may be strained but never broken. Knowing you for who you are, this one loves you still and, by so doing, shares with you a source of strength beyond measure. Turn to see this beloved again and do not let the sun go down without some small gesture to the gift they have been.

3. Have a blessing for any who pass by and see themselves in this mirror of hope: Yes, you made a difference. Yes, your life has mattered. Yes, the price you paid was sufficient to the good you were able to do. Yes, someone noticed and cared. Yes, God intended it so. Needed it so. Your faith made it so. Yes.
4. As a child I believed I had an angel guardian, who with wings widespread watched over me, night and day. Now that I am grown, I have seen life's struggle for what it is, I carry the scars to prove it. I am more convinced than ever that my child faith was innocent truth. God does send love alive to us all. Close your eyes. Hold your breath. You can hear wings rustling around you.
5. I looked and saw a glowing shroud against a dark horizon. Children ran while parents wept and elders huddled helpless. Fear is a toxic brew swept on poison air. Before it courage pales and edges to the brink of flight. If we link our lives in prayer protecting, we can drive this danger back. God calls us now to work as one, all our fears to face. Do not turn away but accept this day with heart as strong as grace.
6. I will stand beside you. Against all odds. Come what may. Smile if you want. I am broken, ragged around the edges of my tattered soul, a Don Quixote for your champion. But I am pure of heart, my prayers arrows of light flying through the darkest night. I will stand beside you. I believe in you and in my believing lies strength enough to make mountains move. As long as I draw breath, I will stand beside you.
7. Love as though it were your last day, with a heart unguarded in affection. Let no hurt contain you, but claim the high mountains of your spirit, a radiant freedom to forgive flowing from you like first light. Be the kindness you were born to be, the mercy for which you were made. Love as though it was your last day. For if you live as if you were in heaven, you will know why God eternal life has given.
8. Love comes to us, abides in us, transforms us, becomes us. Love finds us in hidden places but dances with us in public. Love lives in quiet but shouts our name, even if only we can hear it. Love fills any space we will make, follows any direction we will take. Love waits for an eternity to share one moment's grace. Love is who we are, when we are, what we are, as love first imagined.
9. I may be only a speck of dust, floating in a universe vast, but I am a very interesting speck. I intend to make some waves, even if they be as small as me. I will bring a speck's worth of love to life, a speck more of hope, a speck more of laughter. I will add a speck of compassion, to tip the scales of creation, toward the side of every speck who seeks mercy. A speck of dust I may only be, but a speck of light is still light to those who sit in darkness.
10. Come sit with me beside a pool of wonder. Take time to watch still water. See how deep your mind can go, when you drop it like a stone, into hidden depths of the heart, where even reason cannot follow. We will never know every answer. Our task is to be stewards of the mysteries of God, in awe of what we have yet to learn, mystics beside the pool of living water, where shadows are as welcome as the sun.
11. On one act of kindness a whole life can turn. In a single moment, a soul may be restored. Our lives are not crafted from great dramas alone, but shaped by the small asides of life, the unscripted encounters, that teach us to be who we are. Be mindful of the fire that fills you. Let it warm but never burn. Speak kindly, touch lightly, hold gently. The casual remark for you is destiny for another.
12. Open the eyes of your soul, behold the light that shines all around you. This is not the fancy of the poet's mind, the soft language of the sages, but a reality as clear as insight itself. Hearts darkened by pain, fear or sadness need the warmth of living light. You are that light. When you believe, you see. When you hope, you enlighten. When you touch, you warm. Live the light you are. You are the light you live.

Intercessions

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.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Our Second Sunday Organ Recital will continue on Facebook

Organ Recital at 4PM

<https://www.facebook.com/events/178015056845328/>

or visit <https://stmarksberkeley.org/livestreamedservices/>

Jonathan will be joined by St. Mark's rector, The Rev. Blake Sawicky, narrator.

Organ Recital Reception at 5PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83537714248?pwd=allJvaEw2N0N0xN29QRINIT0FnOU5NOT09>

Meeting ID: 835 3771 4248

Password: 789944

Dial in: 1(408) 638-0968 US

Staff

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Vestry

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To send a general message to the vestry you can email: vestry@stmarksberkeley.org

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