



**Evening Prayer**  
**Orthodox Saints**

*for peace in our world*

**Prince of Peace Episcopal Church**  
**Saturday, January 10 , 2009**

# EVENING PRAYER

Prelude: "Sunset" .....Edwin Lemare

## Opening Sentence

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)

## Confession of Sin [Please Kneel]

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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.*

## Invitatory + [All Stand]

O God, make speed to save us.

*O Lord, make haste to help us.*

*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.*

## Hymn # 26 O Gracious Light

1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in you the  
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the lamps are  
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O Son of  
Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,  
lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and  
God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through  
blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.  
Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.  
all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

## Psalm 147 Laudate Domine

- 1 *Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!*
- 2 *The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.*
- 3 *He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.*
- 4 *He counts the number of the stars \*  
and calls them all by their names.*
- 5 *Great is our LORD and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.*
- 6 *The LORD lifts up the lowly, \**

- but casts the wicked to the ground.*
- 7 *Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; \**  
*make music to our God upon the harp.*
- 8 *He covers the heavens with clouds \**  
*and prepares rain for the earth;*
- 9 *He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \**  
*and green plants to serve mankind.*
- 10 *He provides food for flocks and herds \**  
*and for the young ravens when they cry.*
- 11 *He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \**  
*he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;*
- 12 *But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, \**  
*in those who await his gracious favor.*
- 13 *Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \**  
*praise your God, O Zion;*
- 14 *For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \**  
*he has blessed your children within you.*
- 15 *He has established peace on your borders; \**  
*he satisfies you with the finest wheat.*
- 16 *He sends out his command to the earth, \**  
*and his word runs very swiftly.*
- 17 *He gives snow like wool; \**  
*he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.*
- 18 *He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \**  
*who can stand against his cold?*
- 19 *He sends forth his word and melts them; \**  
*he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.*
- 20 *He declares his word to Jacob, \**  
*his statutes and his judgments to Israel.*
- 21 *He has not done so to any other nation; \**  
*to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!*

*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 Gospel: John 6:1-14 (NRSV)**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Canticle 17 The Song of Simeon [Nunc Dimittis Luke 2:29-32]**

*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.*

### **Meditations**

- Gregory of Nyssa
- Departure of Anba Theonas the 16th Pope of Alexandria
- Martyrdom of Abba Callinicus, Bishop of Oseem

#### *Gregory of Nyssa*

Gregory the bishop of Nyssa (which is commonly called Nysi) was the brother of St. Basil the Great and lived in 374. He was glorious in words and a zealot of the Orthodox faith. That is why he served as a protector of the Church of Christ. This blessed man was present in Constantinople together with the hundred and fifty bishops who gathered for the second council against those fighting against the Holy Spirit in 381. He was a champion of the Orthodox faith and an adversary to the impious heresy of those fighting the Holy Spirit. With Scriptural proof and with the power of his words he vanquished them. He ministered to his flock well and in holiness, and he departed to Christ full of holy years. In appearance he was like his brother Basil being different only in his white hair and in that he was a little bit more graceful than Basil was.

#### *Departure of Anba Theonas the 16th Pope of Alexandria*

On this day in the year 300 A.D., Anba Theonas the 16th Pope of Alexandria, departed. This saint was a righteous, meek scholar, gentle and loving to everyone. By the spirit of friendship and gentleness he was able to build a church in Alexandria, in the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Until that time, the faithful were praying and having the services in homes and in caves for fear of the unbelievers, whom he dealt with wisely. He converted many of them to Christianity and baptized them. In the first year of his papacy, he baptized St. Peter who succeeded him on the Apostolic throne as the 17th Pope of Alexandria. It was said that he ordained St. Peter as a reader at the age of five, then promoted him a deacon at the age of twelve, then as a priest at sixteen. At the time of this saint, a man by the name of Sabilius was teaching that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are one person. He excommunicated him and put an end to his heresy by convincing proofs. When he completed his course, he departed in peace after he had been on the throne of St. Mark for 19 years.

#### *Martyrdom of Abba Callinicus, Bishop of Oseem*

Also on this day, we commemorate the martyrdom of Abba Callinicus, Bishop of Oseem. When Emperor Diocletian heard that St. Callinicus was teaching the people to stop worshipping idols, he sent envoys to arrest and torture him. When the saint heard about the envoys of the Emperor, he called the people of his diocese to the City of Oseem. He prayed the Divine Liturgy and administered the Body and the Blood of Christ and told them, "You will not see my face again." The people wept bitterly, but they could not prevent him from delivering himself to the Emperor's envoys. They captured him and delivered him to "Arianus," the Governor of "Ansena." He tortured him, but the Lord healed him and strengthened him. The Governor took him to "Edku," and there he tortured him again. When he got tired of torturing him, he ordered that his arm be cut off. They then took him by ship to the city of "Toukh." While on the ship the saint felt that the time of his departure was drawing near, so he said to one of the sailors who was a believer, "If I die on this ship, when we arrive ashore cast my body on a hill". When he departed, the sailor did as he was commanded. Some believers, through a command of God, came and took the body of the saint and swathed it for burial and hid it in their homes until the end of the persecution. Glory be to God forever. Amen.

**Apostles' Creed** [Please Stand]

*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 Lord's Prayer** [*Please Kneel*]

*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**

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*And grant us your salvation.*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Let your people sing with joy.*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*For only in you can we live in safety.*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Your saving health among all nations.*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

**Collect of the Day: First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord**

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

### **A Collect for Saturdays**

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **For Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **World Cycle of Prayer / Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer**

We pray for our sisters and brothers, members of the Church in Wales and Kajo Keji, Sudan.

For Sound Government

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

*Lord, keep this nation under your care.*

To all who have executive authority and to all who have administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

*Give grace to your servants, O Lord.*

To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

*Give grace to your servants, O Lord.*

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

*Give grace to your servants, O Lord.*

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

*For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.*

### **For Schools and Colleges**

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **For the Harvest of Lands and Waters**

O gracious Father, who open your hand and fills all living things: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what thou give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

### **General Thanksgiving**

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 our selves 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.*

**Benediction**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

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

**Concluding Song: *Prayer of Saint Francis* verses 1,2, refrain, 3**  
(music can be found in the pew rack)

Postlude: "Prelude and Fugue in C".....J.S. Bach