

# EVENING PRAYER

## TIME AFTER PENTECOST

L = Leader (in light print)

**C = Congregation / Viewers (in bold print)**

*Rubrics and instructions are italicized in red print.*



### OPENING DIALOGUE

*A large, lighted candle may be carried in procession to its place. A dialogue may accompany or follow the procession. The opening may be sung or spoken.*

L Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**C The light no darkness can overcome.**

L Stay with us Lord, for it is evening.

**C And the day is almost over.**

L Light your light scatter the darkness.

**C And illumine your church.**

### HYMN OF LIGHT (ELW #229)

*The following hymn of praise to Christ the light may be sung or spoken in unison:*

L Joyous light of glory

**C of the im- | mortal Father;**

**heavenly, holy, blessed | Jesus Christ.**

**We have come to the setting | of the sun,**

**and we look to the | evening light.**

**We sing to God, the Father, Son, and | Holy Spirit:**

**You are worthy of being praised with pure voic- | es forever.**

**O Son of God, O giv- | er of life:**

**The universe pro- | claims your glory.**

*OR: The following hymn selections may also be sung from the ELW hymnal:  
(ELW #229-231, 560, 563)*

## THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

*The leader and the assembly give thanks, using the following or another appropriate form.*

L The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ: may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## PSALMODY

*The psalmody begins with Psalm 141 (below), a song of forgiveness and protection; Psalm 121; or another psalm appropriate for evening. The psalmody may be sung or spoken in unison:*

**C Let my prayer rise before | you as incense;  
the lifting up of my hands as the | evening sacrifice.  
O Lord, I call to you; come | to me quickly;  
hear my voice when I | cry to you.  
Let my prayer rise before | you as incense;  
the lifting up of my hands as the | evening sacrifice.  
Set a watch before my | mouth, O Lord,  
and guard the door | of my lips.  
Let not my heart incline to any | evil thing;  
let me not be occupied in wickedness with | evildoers.  
But my eyes are turned to | you, Lord God;  
in you I take refuge. Strip me not | of my life.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning is now and will be | forever. Amen.  
Let my prayer rise before | you as incense;  
the lifting up of my hands as the | evening sacrifice.**

*Silence for reflection.*

L Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

**C Amen.**

*The psalmody may continue with one or more additional psalms. Each is followed by a time of silence, which may be concluded by a psalm prayer; the assembly responds: Amen.*

**Psalm 119:65-72 (Tet)**

*We pray responsively by whole verse.*

<sup>65</sup>O LORD, you have dealt graciously | with your servant,  
according | to your word.

<sup>66</sup>**Teach me discern- | ment and knowledge,  
for I have believed in | your commandments.**

<sup>67</sup>Before I was afflicted I | went astray,  
but now I | keep your word.

<sup>68</sup>**You are good and you | bring forth good;  
teach | me your statutes.**

<sup>69</sup>The proud have smeared | me with lies,  
but I will keep your commandments with | my whole heart.

<sup>70</sup>**Their heart is con- | gealed like fat,  
but my delight is | in your teaching.**

<sup>71</sup>It is good for me that I have | been afflicted,  
that I might | learn your statutes.

<sup>72</sup>**The teaching of your mouth is dear- | er to me  
than thousands in | gold and silver.**

*Silence for reflection.*

L Holy God, you are just in all your ways and your commandments are the greatest of treasures. Teach us to love you with all our hearts and to love our neighbors as ourselves, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## READINGS

*The service includes one or more scripture readings. After the conclusion of each reading, the assembly may respond: **Thanks be to God.***

*The reading of scripture is followed by silence for reflection. Other forms of reflection may also follow, such as brief commentary, teaching, or personal witness; nonbiblical readings; interpretation through music or other art forms; or guided conversation among those present. The reflection may conclude with the following or another scriptural dialogue.:*

L Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

**C Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.**

## OR

L Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

**C but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.**

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

*The Gospel Canticle, also known as the song of Mary, may be used. It may be sung or spoken.*

**C My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in | God my Savior,  
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your | lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will | call me blessed:  
you, the Almighty, have done great | things for me  
and holy | is your name.**

**You have mercy on | those who fear you,  
from generation to | generation.**

**You have shown strength | with your arm  
and scattered the proud in | their conceit,  
casting down the mighty | from their thrones  
and lifting | up the lowly.**

**You have filled the hungry | with good things  
and sent the rich | away empty.**

**You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel,  
to remember the prom- | ise of mercy,**

**the promise made | to our forebears,  
to Abraham and his chil- | dren forever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the | Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning is now and will be | forever. Amen.**

*OR: The following hymn selections may also be sung from the ELW hymnal:  
(ELW #234, 235, 251, 573, 723, 882).*

## **PRAYERS**

*The following litaney or another form of the prayers may be sung or spoken:*

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For *name/s and* all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For all the prayers of the faithful and all who present their prayers and concerns at this time, silently or aloud, let us pray to the Lord.

*Other petitions may be added.*

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

*Silence for reflection.*

L Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of *name/s and* all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

**C To you, O Lord.**

*The litany may be followed by one or more additional prayers:*

L O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

OR

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**C Amen.**

OR

L We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

**C Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

L Gathered into one body by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**C Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

L Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

L Almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C Amen.**

## **DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**

*The Daily Lectionary Readings can be found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal beginning on page 1121.*

### **Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-28**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they drew near before the LORD and died. <sup>2</sup>The LORD said to Moses: Tell your brother Aaron not to come just at any time into the sanctuary inside the curtain before the mercy seat that is upon the ark, or he will die; for I appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat. <sup>3</sup>Thus shall Aaron come into the holy place: with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. <sup>4</sup>He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and shall have the linen undergarments next to his body, fasten the linen sash, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy vestments. He shall bathe his body in water, and then put them on. <sup>5</sup>He shall take from the congregation of the people of Israel two male goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering.

<sup>20</sup>When he has finished atoning for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall present the live goat. <sup>21</sup>Then Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and sending it away into the wilderness by means of someone designated for the task. <sup>22</sup>The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a barren region; and the goat shall be set free in the wilderness.

<sup>23</sup>Then Aaron shall enter the tent of meeting, and shall take off the linen vestments that he put on when he went into the holy place, and shall leave them there. <sup>24</sup>He shall bathe his body in water in a holy place, and put on his vestments; then he shall come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, making atonement for himself and for the people. <sup>25</sup>The fat of the sin offering he shall turn into smoke on the altar. <sup>26</sup>The one who sets the goat free for Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward may come into the camp. <sup>27</sup>The bull of the sin offering and the goat of the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, shall be taken outside the camp; their skin and their flesh and their dung shall be consumed in fire. <sup>28</sup>The one who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward may come into the camp.

## **DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**

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### **Matthew 21:18-22**

<sup>8</sup>In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. <sup>19</sup>And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once. <sup>20</sup>When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?" <sup>21</sup>Jesus answered them, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' it will be done. <sup>22</sup>Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive."