



Evening Prayer: Wednesday of Lent Week 2

March 8, 2023

(Leader: Before we begin, are there names to add to the prayer list?)

Opening

Leader: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

All: The light no darkness can overcome.

Leader: Stay with us Lord, for it is evening.

All: And the day is almost over.

Leader: Let the light scatter the darkness.

All: And illumine your church.

Psalm Reading Psalm 128

- ¹ Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
who walk in obedience to him.
- ² You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.
- ³ Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.
- ⁴ Yes, this will be the blessing
for the man who fears the Lord.
- ⁵ May the Lord bless you from Zion;
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.
- ⁶ May you live to see your children's children—
peace be on Israel.

Psalm Response

Leader: Sing for joy, God's chosen ones.

All: Give him the praise that is due.

Second Reading John 7:53-8:11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

² At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. ³ The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴ and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹ "No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world".

All: Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

Gospel Canticle (all but Leader and Reader should mute their audio)

Leader: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord

Reader and All: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

L: For you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

R/A: From whom this day all generations will call me blessed.

L: You, the Almighty, have done great things for me,

R/A: And holy is your name.

L: You have mercy on those who fear you.

R/A: From generation to generation.

L: You have shown strength with your arm

R/A: And scattered the proud in their conceit,

L: Casting down the mighty from their thrones

R/A: And lifting up the lowly.

L: You have filled the hungry with good things

R/A: And sent the rich away empty.

L: You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,

R/A: To remember your promise of mercy,

L: The promise made to our forebears,

R/A: To Abraham and his children forever.

Prayers

Leader: Let us take a minute to prepare ourselves for this part of our time together.

(Allow a time of silence, then say: "I will begin with my own prayer. We will each conclude our own prayer with "Lord, in your mercy, hear my prayer".)

Leader: 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 all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously protect us tonight. For into your hands, we commend ourselves, our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours.

All: Amen

Leader: Let us pray (all but the leader should mute their audio)

All: Our Father, who art in heaven...

Blessing

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: The peace of God which surpasses all understanding keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

All: Amen.