

## Evening Prayer

April 1, 2025

Tuesday after the Fourth Sunday in Lent

*FREDERICK DENISON MAURICE, Priest, 1872*

Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun. You fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.

*Psalm 74:15,16*

### Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

**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 and Psalter

*All stand*

BCP p. 117

*Officiant*                    **O God, make speed to save us.**

*People*                        **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.

### **O Gracious Light**

O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the everliving 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.

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.

**Psalm 94**

BCP p. 722

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD God of vengeance, \*  
    O God of vengeance, show yourself.
- <sup>2</sup> Rise up, O Judge of the world; \*  
    give the arrogant their just deserts.
- <sup>3</sup> How long shall the wicked, O LORD, \*  
    how long shall the wicked triumph?
- <sup>4</sup> They bluster in their insolence; \*  
    all evildoers are full of boasting.

- <sup>5</sup> They crush your people, O LORD, \*  
and afflict your chosen nation.
- <sup>6</sup> They murder the widow and the stranger \*  
and put the orphans to death.
- <sup>7</sup> Yet they say, "The LORD does not see, \*  
the God of Jacob takes no notice."
- <sup>8</sup> Consider well, you dullards among the people; \*  
when will you fools understand?
- <sup>9</sup> He that planted the ear, does he not hear? \*  
he that formed the eye, does he not see?
- <sup>10</sup> He who admonishes the nations, will he not punish? \*  
he who teaches all the world, has he no knowledge?
- <sup>11</sup> The LORD knows our human thoughts; \*  
how like a puff of wind they are.
- <sup>12</sup> Happy are they whom you instruct, O Lord! \*  
whom you teach out of your law;
- <sup>13</sup> To give them rest in evil days, \*  
until a pit is dug for the wicked.
- <sup>14</sup> For the LORD will not abandon his people, \*  
nor will he forsake his own.
- <sup>15</sup> For judgment will again be just, \*  
and all the true of heart will follow it.
- <sup>16</sup> Who rose up for me against the wicked? \*  
who took my part against the evildoers?
- <sup>17</sup> If the LORD had not come to my help, \*  
I should soon have dwelt in the land of silence.
- <sup>18</sup> As often as I said, "My foot has slipped," \*  
your love, O LORD, upheld me.
- <sup>19</sup> When many cares fill my mind, \*  
your consolations cheer my soul.
- <sup>20</sup> Can a corrupt tribunal have any part with you, \*  
one which frames evil into law?
- <sup>21</sup> They conspire against the life of the just \*  
and condemn the innocent to death.
- <sup>22</sup> But the LORD has become my stronghold, \*  
and my God the rock of my trust.

<sup>23</sup> He will turn their wickedness back upon them  
and destroy them in their own malice; \*  
the LORD our God will destroy them.

**Psalm 95**

**BCP p. 724**

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
<sup>2</sup> Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
<sup>3</sup> For the LORD is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
<sup>4</sup> In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
<sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
<sup>6</sup> Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.  
<sup>7</sup> For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!  
<sup>8</sup> Harden not your hearts,  
as your forebears did in the wilderness, \*  
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,  
when they tempted me.  
<sup>9</sup> They put me to the test, \*  
though they had seen my works.  
<sup>10</sup> Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \*  
“This people are wayward in their hearts;  
they do not know my ways.”  
<sup>11</sup> So I swore in my wrath, \*  
“They shall not enter into my rest.”  
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 Lessons**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Then he charged them, saying to them, "I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my ancestors—in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave in the field at Machpelah, near Mamre, in the land of Canaan, in the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite as a burial site. There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried; there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried; and there I buried Leah—the field and the cave that is in it were purchased from the Hittites." When Jacob ended his charge to his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

Then Joseph threw himself on his father's face and wept over him and kissed him. Joseph commanded the physicians in his service to embalm his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel; they spent forty days in doing this, for that is the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him seventy days. When the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph addressed the household of Pharaoh, "If now I have found favor with you, please speak to Pharaoh as follows: My father made me swear an oath; he said, I am about to die. In the tomb that I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me.' Now therefore let me go up, so that I may bury my father; then I will return." Pharaoh answered, "Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear to do."

So Joseph went up to bury his father. With him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his household, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, as well as all the household of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's household. Only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the land of Goshen. Both chariots and charioteers went up with him. It was a very great company. When they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, they held there a very great and sorrowful lamentation; and he observed a time of mourning for his father seven days. When the Canaanite inhabitants of the land saw the mourning on the threshing floor of Atad, they said, "This is a grievous mourning on the part of the Egyptians." Therefore the place was named Abel-mizraim; it is beyond the Jordan. Thus his sons did for him as he

had instructed them. They carried him to the land of Canaan and buried him in the cave of the field at Machpelah, the field near Mamre, which Abraham bought as a burial site from Ephron the Hittite. After he had buried his father, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone up with him to bury his father.

**The Word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **10. The Second Song of Isaiah *Isaiah 55:6-11***

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
    call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
    and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*  
    and to our God, for he will richly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
    nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
    so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \*  
    and return not again, but water the earth,  
Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
    seed for sowing and bread for eating,  
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
    it will not return to me empty;  
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
    and prosper in that for which I sent it.  
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.

A Reading from the Letter to the Romans.

Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, working death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**15. 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.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**BCP p. 96**

**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 Prayers

<i>Officiant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Officiant</i>	Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

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 for ever. Amen.

### Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful.  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

**That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,  
We entreat you, O Lord.**

**That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be  
condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,  
We entreat you, O Lord.**

**That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the  
communion of [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, entrusting one another  
and all our life to Christ,  
We entreat you, O Lord.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Frederick Denison Maurice, Priest, 1872**

Almighty God, who has restored our human nature to heavenly glory through the perfect obedience of our Savior Jesus Christ: Enliven in your Church, we pray, the passion for justice and truth, that, like your servant Frederick Denison Maurice, we may work and pray for the triumph of the kingdom of Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, **Amen.**

### **Seasonal Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **A Collect for Peace**

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

## **A Prayer for Mission**

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Here may be sung a hymn or anthem.*

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

### 22. For Sound Government

*The responses in italics may be omitted.*

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 the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

*Give grace to your servants, O Lord.*

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, 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.*

*Before the close of the Office one or both of the following may be used*

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**                      **BCP p. 102**

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.**

*Then may be said*

**Let us bless the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

*Frederick Denison Maurice*

*Priest, 1872*

*In the same year that Karl Marx declared religion to be the “opiate of the people,” Frederick Denison Maurice wrote, “We have been dosing our people with religion when what they want is not this but the living God.” Like Marx, Maurice wanted to solve the questions of our complex society; unlike Marx, he called for a radical, but non-violent, reform, by the renewal of “faith in a God who has redeemed mankind, in whom I may vindicate my rights as a man.” Maurice was a founder of the Christian Socialist Movement, which, he wrote, “will commit us at once to the conflict we must engage in sooner or later with the unsocial Christians and unchristian Socialists.”*

*Maurice was born in 1805 into the family of a Unitarian minister whose life was marked by intense religious controversy. Maurice studied civil law at Cambridge, but refused the degree in 1827, because, as a Dissenter, he could not subscribe to the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion. After several personal crises, however, he became an Anglican and was ordained in 1834. Soon afterwards he was appointed Professor of English Literature and History at King’s College, London, and, in 1846, to the chair of Theology.*

*In his book *The Kingdom of Christ*, published in 1838, Maurice investigates the causes and cures of Christian divisions. The book has become a source of Anglican ecumenism. Maurice was dismissed from his professorships because of his leadership in the Christian Socialist Movement, and because of the alleged unorthodoxy of his *Theological Essays* (1853).*

*Maurice saw worship as the meeting point of time and eternity, and as the fountain of energies for the church’s mission. He wrote, “I do not think we are to praise the liturgy but to use it. When we do not want it for our life, we may begin to talk of it as a beautiful composition.”*

*After the death of the Christian Socialist Movement in 1854, Maurice founded the Working Men’s College, and resumed teaching at Queen’s College, London. Maurice awakened Anglicanism to the need for concern with the problems of society. In later years, he was honored even by former opponents. He served as rector of two parishes, and was professor of Moral Theology at Cambridge from 1866 until his death.*