

## Evening Prayer

February 12, 2025

*ABSALOM JONES, Priest, 1818 (transferred)*

*If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to you, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.*  
(Psalm 139:10,11)

### Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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

*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.  
Alleluia.**

## O Gracious Light

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,  
in you the Father's glory shone.  
Immortal, holy, blest is he,  
and blest are you, his holy Son.

Now sunset comes, but light shines forth,  
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.  
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit:  
God who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise,  
O Son of God, Life-giving Lord;  
wherefore you are through all the earth  
and in the highest heaven adored.

## Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The Lord has done great things for them."

**The Lord has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**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

The First Lesson

Isaiah 42:5-9

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,\*  
a light to the nations,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the Lord, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle 11. The Third Song of Isaiah**

*Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
**For behold, darkness covers the land; \***  
**deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.**  
But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
and his glory will appear upon you.  
**Nations will stream to your light, \***  
**and kings to the brightness of your dawning.**  
Your gates will always be open; \*  
by day or night they will never be shut.  
**They will call you, The City of the Lord, \***  
**The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
**You will call your walls, Salvation, \***  
**and all your portals, Praise.**  
The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

**The Lord will be your everlasting light, \***  
**and your God will be your glory.**  
**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 Second Lesson**

**John 15:12-15**

A Reading from the Gospel According to John.

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants\* any longer, because the servant\* does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticle A. A Song of Wisdom**

*Wisdom 10:15-19,20b-21*

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors \*  
a holy people and a blameless race.

**She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, \***  
**withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.**

To the saints she gave the reward of their labors, \*  
and led them by a marvelous way;

**She was their shelter by day \***  
**and a blaze of stars by night.**

She brought them across the Red Sea, \*  
she led them through mighty waters;

**But their enemies she swallowed in the waves \***  
**and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.**

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name, \*  
and praised with one voice your protecting hand;

**For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, \***  
**and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.**

*The history of the world shows us, that the deliverance of the children of Israel from their bondage, is not the only instance, in which it has pleased God to appear in behalf of oppressed and distressed nations, as the deliverer of the innocent, and of those who call upon his name. He is as unchangeable in his nature and character, as he is in his wisdom and power.*

A Thanksgiving Sermon, preached January 1, 1808, in St. Thomas's, or the African Episcopal, Church, Philadelphia:

On Account of the Abolition of the African slave trade, on that day, by the Congress of the United States.

*Ye Minister, that are call'd to preaching,  
Teachers, and exhorters too;  
Awake! Behold your harvest wasting!  
Arise! There is no rest for you.*

*To think upon that strict commandment,  
That God has on his teachers laid,  
The sinner's blood, who dies unwarned,  
Shalt fall upon their Shepherd's head.*

*But oh! Dear brethren, let's be doin,  
Behold the nation's in distress,  
The Lord of Hosts forbid their ruin,  
Before the day of grace is past.*

*We read of wars and great commotions,  
Before the great and dreadful day,  
Oh, Sinners! Turn your sinful courses  
And trife not yoru time away.*

*But Oh! Dear sinners, that's not all that's dreadful!  
You must before your God appear!  
To give an account of your transactions,  
And how you spent your time, when here.*

From a manuscript note, Absalom Jones, 1793

*We share reflections on the day's scripture and readings.*

*What do you notice?*

*What is speaking to you?*

*What difference does it make?*

*What truth has God given us to proclaim bravely?*

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**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

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Officiant*      Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

**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

V.    Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R.    **And grant us your salvation.**  
V.    Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R.    **Let your people sing with joy.**  
V.    Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R.    **For only in you can we live in safety.**

- V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
 R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
 V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
 R. **Your saving health among all nations.**  
 V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
 R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
 V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
 R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

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

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Absalom Jones, Priest, 1818**

Set us free, heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We offer intercessions and thanksgivings from our heart  
either silently or aloud or in the chat function.*

We pray for healing for those on the parish prayer list, including: Allison, Phoebe Babb, Kristin Baird, Berry, Bruna, Heather Cameron, Cathie Cardelucci, Lydia Cedrone, Ann Daily, Dave, John DeNatale, Peggy Downs, Jonathan English, David Fieldhouse,

Claudette Forss, Connor Gallagher, Kristen Goddard, Louise Haldeman, Lester Hartman, Karen Dodd Howard, Jeffrey, Pete Jeffrey, Jerry, Jordan, Debra Katt-Lloyd, John & Theresa Kelly, Kevin MacKenzie, Keith & Joanne Manville, Mark Martino, Nancy McAllister, Melissa, Becky Miller, Sebastian Miller, Marcia Muir, Jim & Sara Murphy, T.A.N, Steve Newman, Jim O'Reilly, Emma Parese, Pat & Joe, Jane Pennacchia, Muriel Peters, Kirk Ronaldson, Cheryl Santarelli, Linda Shapiro, Carol Slaughter, Trudy, Bill & Jan Walsh, Jane Wilkins and Kelly Wood.

### **The General Thanksgiving**

**BCP p. 101**

**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**

**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.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*