

Evening Prayer

Advent 1

November 29, 2020
St. James Episcopal Church
Alexandria, Louisiana

These are a few pointers that might be of help if you are not familiar with Evening Prayer. This long-standing prayer service is found in the Book of Common Prayer. You can find a free electronic version at <https://bcponline.org/>

We invite you to have a Bible at your side and marked for the various lessons.

Jim Leggett leads us as we begin on **page 116 with this Opening Sentence:** Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

Jim leads us in the **Invitatory and Psalter - on page 117.**

Jim leads us as we pray in unison the *Phos hilaron - on page 118.*

Babs Leggett will lead us in **praying Psalms 111, 112, 113, responsively by whole verse.**

Babs reads from the **prophet Isaiah (1.1-9).**

Jim leads us as we pray in unison the **Nunc dimittis - on page 120.**

Babs reads from **the second letter of Peter (3.1-10).**

Jim leads us as we affirm our faith in the words of **The Apostles' Creed - on page 120.**

We pray the **Lord's Prayer** in unison- **on page 121.**

Babs leads us as we **pray Suffrages A responsively - on pages 121-122.**

Jim prays the **Collect for Sundays - on page 123.**

Babs prays the **Collect for the Presence of Christ - on page 124.**

Jim prays for the **Mission of the Church - on page 124.**

Babs invites our prayers and thanksgivings - **on page 125.**

Jim leads us as we pray **The General Thanksgiving** in unison - **on page 125.**

Jim leads us as we pray **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom** in unison - **on page 126.**

Jim then ends the service with the dismissal.

We will share in a brief, virtual "Narthex time" to greet one another following the service, when you can say hello to fellow parishioners.

People pray/respond in bold.

111 *Confitebor tibi*

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.**

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

**4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.**

5 He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**6 He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

**8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.**

9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

**10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.**

112 *Beatus vir*

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *
and have great delight in his commandments!

**2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *
and their righteousness will last for ever.

**4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**6 For they will never be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *
their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.

**8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, *
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**10 The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away; *
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

113 *Laudate, pueri*

1 Hallelujah!
Give praise, you servants of the Lord; *
praise the Name of the Lord.

**2 Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.**

3 From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the Lord be praised.

**4 The Lord is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.**

5 Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high, *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

**6 He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.**

7 He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.

**8 He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.**

At the end of the Psalms is said:

**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 prophet Isaiah

(1.1-9)

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

² Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth;
for the LORD has spoken:
I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.

³ The ox knows its owner,
and the donkey its master's crib;
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand.

⁴ Ah, sinful nation,
people laden with iniquity,
offspring who do evil,
children who deal corruptly,
who have forsaken the LORD,
who have despised the Holy One of Israel,
who are utterly estranged!

⁵ Why do you seek further beatings?
Why do you continue to rebel?
The whole head is sick,
and the whole heart faint.

⁶ From the sole of the foot even to the head,
there is no soundness in it,
but bruises and sores
and bleeding wounds;
they have not been drained, or bound up,

or softened with oil.

⁷ Your country lies desolate,
your cities are burned with fire;
in your very presence
aliens devour your land;
it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.

⁸ And daughter Zion is left
like a booth in a vineyard,
like a shelter in a cucumber field,
like a besieged city.

⁹ If the LORD of hosts
had not left us a few survivors,
we would have been like Sodom,
and become like Gomorrah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A reading from the second letter to Peter

(3.1-10)

This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you; in them I am trying to arouse your sincere intention by reminding you ²that you should remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets, and the commandment of the Lord and Saviour spoken through your apostles. ³First of all you must understand this, that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and indulging their own lusts ⁴and saying, 'Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since our ancestors died,^{*} all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation!' ⁵They deliberately ignore this fact, that by the word of God heavens existed long ago and an earth was formed out of water and by means of water, ⁶through which the world of that time was deluged with water and perished. ⁷But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, being kept until the day of judgement and destruction of the godless.

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you,^{*} not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.