

Wednesday – Year 2 First Sunday after the Epiphany  
Evening Prayer

### **Opening Sentence**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him. Psalm 96:9

### **Versicle and Response**

O God, make speed to save us.

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.

### **Invitatory**

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.

### **Psalms**

#### **12 *Salvum me fac***

1 Help me, Lord, for there is no godly one left; \*  
the faithful have vanished from among us.

2 Everyone speaks falsely with his neighbor; \*  
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.

3 Oh, that the Lord would cut off all smooth tongues, \*  
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!

4 Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; \*  
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"

5 "Because the needy are oppressed,  
and the poor cry out in misery, "  
I will rise up," says the Lord,  
"and give them the help they long for."

6 The words of the Lord are pure words, \*  
like silver refined from ore  
and purified seven times in the fire.

7 O Lord, watch over us \*  
and save us from this generation for ever.

8 The wicked prowl on every side, \*  
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

### 13 *Usquequo, Domine?*

1 How long, O Lord?  
will you forget me for ever? \*  
how long will you hide your face from me?

2 How long shall I have perplexity in my mind,  
and grief in my heart, day after day? \*  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?

3 Look upon me and answer me, O Lord my God; \*  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;

4 Lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," \*  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.

5 But I put my trust in your mercy; \*  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.

6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has dealt with me richly; \*  
I will praise the Name of the Lord Most High.

### 14 *Dixit insipiens*

1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." \*  
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.

2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.

3 Every one has proved faithless;  
all alike have turned bad; \*  
there is none who does good; no, not one.

4 Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the Lord?

5 See how they tremble with fear, \*  
because God is in the company of the righteous.

6 Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
but the Lord is their refuge.

7 Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.

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.

## Reading

### Hebrews 2:11-18

11 For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. \* For this reason Jesus \*  
is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, \* 12 saying,  
'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

13 And again,  
'I will put my trust in him.'

And again,  
'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.'

14 Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so  
that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and free  
those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16 For it is clear that he did not come  
to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to become like his brothers and  
sisters \* in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to  
make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself was tested by what he  
suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### Canticle 15

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 Apostle's 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 Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
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**

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.  
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
Let your people sing with joy.  
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
For only in you can we live in safety.  
Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
Let your way be known upon earth;  
Your saving health among all nations.  
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

**Collect of the Day: The First Sunday after the Epiphany**

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

**A Collect for Protection**

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

**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.

**Prayers and Intercessions**

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

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.

**Benediction**

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 him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20,21