

The Feast of Alcuin, Deacon, and Abbot of Tours, 804
Evening Prayer: Rite Two **May 20, 2020**

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 115

The Officiant begins the service with one or more of the following sentences of Scripture.

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. *Psalm 141:2*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

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

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*

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalm 16:7, 8*

Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning, and darkens the day into night; who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out upon the surface of the earth: The Lord is his name. *Amos 5:8*

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*

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*

The Invitatory and Psalter

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. Alleluia.**

O Gracious Light

Phos hilaron

BCP, p. 118

**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.**

The Psalm Appointed: Psalm 37:3–6, 32–33

BCP, pp. 633, 635

3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *

dwelt in the land and feed on its riches.

4 Take delight in the LORD, *

and he shall give you your heart's desire.

- 5 Commit your way to the LORD and put your trust in him, *
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 He will make your righteousness as clear as the light *
and your just dealing as the noonday.
- 32 The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, *
and their tongue speaks what is right.
- 33 The law of their God is in their heart, *
and their footsteps shall not falter.

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.

First Reading: A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus. (39:1–9)

He seeks out the wisdom of all the ancients, and is concerned with prophecies;
 he preserves the sayings of the famous and penetrates the subtleties of parables;
 he seeks out the hidden meanings of proverbs and is at home with the obscurities of parables.
 He serves among the great and appears before rulers;
 he travels in foreign lands and learns what is good and evil in the human lot.
 He sets his heart on rising early to seek the Lord who made him, and to petition the Most High;
 he opens his mouth in prayer and asks pardon for his sins.
 If the great Lord is willing, he will be filled with the spirit of understanding;
 he will pour forth words of wisdom of his own and give thanks to the Lord in prayer.
 The Lord will direct his counsel and knowledge, as he meditates on his mysteries.
 He will show the wisdom of what he has learned, and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant.
 Many will praise his understanding; it will never be blotted out.
 His memory will not disappear, and his name will live through all generations.
 The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah *Luke 1:68-79* BCP, pp. 92-93

Read responsively, breaking at the asterisk.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, *

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, *

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation *

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

Second Reading: A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew. (13:10–16)

Then the disciples came and asked him, ‘Why do you speak to them in parables?’ He answered, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables is that “seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.” With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: “You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. For this people’s heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.” But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Saint of the Day (see last page)

The Apostles’ Creed

BCP, p. 120

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.

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..

Then follows one of these sets of 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 by your Holy Spirit.**

BCP, pp. 121-122

B BCP, p. 122
 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 all your saints,
 entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects

The Collect of the Day, for Alcuin

Almighty God, who raised up your servant Alcuin as a beacon of learning: Shine, we pray, in our hearts, that in our generation we may show forth your praise, who called us out of darkness into your marvelous light; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

BCP, p. 123

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, 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 Collect for Aid against Perils

BCP, p. 123

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.**

A Collect for Protection

BCP, p. 124

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

BCP, p. 124

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

One of these prayers for mission is added

BCP, p. 124

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.**

or this

BCP, p. 124

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

or the following

BCP, p. 125

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.**

Intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

The General Thanksgiving OR the following

BCP, p. 125

**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.

or this

CWTY, p. 67

Officiant Risen Christ, watch over us this night and keep us in the light of your presence.
May our praise continually blend with the song of creation.

People **Deep peace of the setting sun;
Deep peace of the forgiving heart;
Deep peace of the Risen Christ
be ours, tonight, forever.**

Officiant The eye of the Risen Christ be upon us as we sleep; the eye of affection and mercy;
the eye of joy and gladness; bringing to dawn our wholeness.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following

The God of life go with you. The Risen Christ beside you. The vibrant Spirit within you. **Amen.**

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

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy
Spirit. **Amen.** Romans 15:13

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.** Eph. 3:20, 21

Alcuin, Deacon, and Abbot of Tours, 730-804

Alcuin was born about 730 near York, into a noble family related to Willibrord, the first missionary to the Netherlands. He was educated the cathedral school in York under Archbishop Egbert, a pupil of Bede. He thus inherited the best traditions of learning and zeal of the early English Church. After ordination as a deacon in 770, he became head of the York school. Following a meeting in 781 with the Emperor Charlemagne in Pavia (Italy), he was persuaded to become the Emperor's "prime minister," with special responsibility for the revival of education and learning in the Frankish dominions.

Alcuin was named Abbot of Tours in 796, where he died on May 19, 804, and was buried in the church of St. Martin.

Alcuin was a man of vast learning, personal charm, and integrity of character. In his direction of Charlemagne's Palace School at Aachen, he was chiefly responsible for the preservation of the classical heritage of western civilization. Schools were revived in cathedrals and monasteries, and manuscripts of both pagan and Christian writings of antiquity were collated and copied.

Under the authority of Charlemagne, the liturgy was reformed, and service books gathered from Rome were edited and adapted. To this work we owe the preservation of many of the Collects that have come down to us, including the Collect for Purity at the beginning of the Holy Eucharist.