







THE CHURCH  
OF ST. MICHAEL & ST. GEORGE

## The Order for Evening Prayer Wednesday in Holy Week March 31, 2021

### Opening Sentences

*Officiant* He was despised and rejected; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief;  
and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed  
him not. *Isaiah 53:3*

### Confession of Sin

*¶ The Officiant says*

**D**EARLY BELOVED, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*¶ Officiant and People, all kneeling*

Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
we have offended against thy holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;  
And there is no health in us.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

*¶ The Officiant alone stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution ✠ and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *¶ People Amen.*

*¶ All stand*

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* O Lord, open thou our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* O Lord, make haste to help us.

*All* 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.

*¶ All are then seated for the Psalm appointed for the evening*

### Psalm 74

*Ut quid, Deus?*

*¶ The Psalm is read by the Officiant and Congregation, alternating by whole verse*

O God, wherefore art thou absent from us so long? \*  
why is thy wrath so hot against the sheep of thy pasture?

O think upon thy congregation, \*  
whom thou hast purchased, and redeemed of old.

Think upon the tribe of thine inheritance, \*  
and Mount Sion, wherein thou hast dwelt.

Lift up thy feet, that thou mayest utterly destroy every enemy, \*  
which hath done evil in thy sanctuary.

Thine adversaries roar in the midst of thy congregations, \*  
and set up their banners for tokens.

He that hewed timber afore out of the thick trees, \*  
was known to bring it to an excellent work.

But now they break down all the carved work thereof \*  
with axes and hammers.

They have set fire upon thy holy places, \*  
and have defiled the dwelling place of thy Name, even unto the ground.



Yea, they said in their hearts, Let us make havoc of them altogether: \*  
thus have they burnt up all the houses of God in the land.

We see not our tokens; there is not one prophet more; \*  
no, not one is there among us, that understandeth any more.

O God, how long shall the adversary do this dishonour? \*  
shall the enemy blaspheme thy Name for ever?

Why withdrawest thou thy hand? \*  
why pluckest thou not thy right hand out of thy bosom to consume the enemy?

For God is my King of old; \*  
the help that is done upon earth, he doeth it himself.

Thou didst divide the sea through thy power; \*  
thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.

Thou smotest the heads of leviathan in pieces, \*  
and gavest him to be meat for the people of the wilderness.

Thou broughtest out fountains and waters out of the hard rocks; \*  
thou driedst up mighty waters.

The day is thine, and the night is thine; \*  
thou hast prepared the light and the sun.

Thou hast set all the borders of the earth; \*  
thou hast made summer and winter.

Remember this, O Lord, how the enemy hath rebuked; \*  
and how the foolish people hath blasphemed thy Name.

O deliver not the soul of thy turtledove unto the multitude of the enemies; \*  
and forget not the congregation of the poor for ever.

Look upon the covenant; \*  
for all the earth is full of darkness and cruel habitations.

O let not the simple go away ashamed; \*  
but let the poor and needy give praise unto thy Name.

Arise, O God, maintain thine own cause; \*  
remember how the foolish man blasphemeth thee daily.

Forget not the voice of thine enemies: \*  
the presumption of them that hate thee increaseth ever more and more.

*¶ At the conclusion of the Psalmody the Gloria Patri is said by all*

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

LAMENTATIONS 2:1-9

**H**OW THE LORD in his anger  
has set the daughter of Zion under a cloud!  
He has cast down from heaven to earth  
the splendor of Israel;  
he has not remembered his footstool  
in the day of his anger.

The Lord has destroyed without mercy  
all the habitations of Jacob;  
in his wrath he has broken down  
the strongholds of the daughter of Judah;  
he has brought down to the ground in dishonor  
the kingdom and its rulers.

He has cut down in fierce anger  
all the might of Israel;  
he has withdrawn from them his right hand  
in the face of the enemy;  
he has burned like a flaming fire in Jacob,  
consuming all around.

He has bent his bow like an enemy,  
with his right hand set like a foe;  
and he has slain all the pride of our eyes  
in the tent of the daughter of Zion;  
he has poured out his fury like fire.

The Lord has become like an enemy,  
he has destroyed Israel;  
he has destroyed all its palaces,  
laid in ruins its strongholds;  
and he has multiplied in the daughter of Judah  
mourning and lamentation.

He has broken down his booth like that of a garden,  
laid in ruins the place of his appointed feasts;  
the Lord has brought to an end in Zion  
appointed feast and sabbath,  
and in his fierce indignation has spurned  
king and priest.

The Lord has scorned his altar,  
disowned his sanctuary;  
he has delivered into the hand of the enemy  
the walls of her palaces;  
a clamor was raised in the house of the Lord  
as on the day of an appointed feast.

The Lord determined to lay in ruins  
the wall of the daughter of Zion;  
he marked it off by the line;  
he restrained not his hand from destroying;  
he caused rampart and wall to lament,  
they languish together.

Her gates have sunk into the ground;  
he has ruined and broken her bars;  
her king and princes are among the nations;  
the law is no more,  
and her prophets obtain  
no vision from the Lord.

*¶ Following the Lesson, all stand for the Canticle*

**Canticle**     *Magnificat anima mea*

LUKE 1:46-55

*¶ Officiant and People*

✠ My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed 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.

*¶ All are seated*

## The Second Lesson

JOHN 12:27-36

JESUS SAID, “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify thy name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing by heard it and said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” He said this to show by what death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, lest the darkness overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” When Jesus had said this, he departed and hid himself from them.

*¶ Following the Lesson, all stand for the Canticle*

## Canticle *Nunc dimittis*

LUKE 2:29-32

*¶ Officiant and People*

✠ Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,  
according to thy word;  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

*¶ All remain standing for the Apostles’ Creed*

## The Apostles’ Creed

*¶ Said by the Officiant and People together, all standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.



He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, †  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Prayers

¶ *The Officiant and People say the following*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

¶ *Then the short form of the Lord's Prayer is said by all, kneeling*

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.  
Amen.

¶ *Then follow these Suffrages, said by the Officiant and People*

*Officiant* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*People* And grant us thy salvation.

*Officiant* Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

*People* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Officiant* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*People* For only in thee can we live in safety.

*Officiant* Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

*People* And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

*Officiant* Let thy way be known upon earth;

*People* Thy saving health among all nations.

*Officiant* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*People* Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

*Officiant* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*People* And sustain us with thy Holy Spirit.

## The Collects

**O** LORD GOD, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his back to the smiters and hid not his face from shame: Grant us grace to take joyfully the sufferings of the present time, in full assurance of the glory that shall be revealed; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
*¶ People Amen.*

**L**IGHTEN OUR DARKNESS, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.  
*¶ People Amen.*

**L**ORD 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 thee as thou art revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of thy love. *¶ People Amen.*

## Benedicamus Domino

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

## The Grace

*¶ Officiant*

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

## Sermon

The Rev. Jamal Scarlett

## Closing Prayers

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

*¶ All kneel*

*¶ Then Prayers and Intercessions are offered*

**O** GOD OF PEACE, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *¶ People Amen.*

**O** GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly: Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *¶ People Amen.*

**B**LESSED LORD, who thyself hast borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: Hear thou our prayer for all that are in trouble, sickness, and distress. Draw them, we pray thee, to thyself, that they may find the comfort and strength which thou alone canst give; and grant to all of us the loving heart and ready hand to help, that serving the needs of others we may show forth our love and gratitude to thee, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *¶ People Amen.*

**G**RACIOUS FATHER, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. *¶ People Amen.*

**O** GOD, whose fatherly care reacheth to the uttermost parts of the earth: We humbly beseech thee graciously to behold and bless those whom we love, now absent from us. Defend them from all dangers of soul and body; and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to thee, may be bound together by thy love in the communion of thy Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *¶ People Amen.*

**O** LORD OUR GOD, accept the fervent prayers of thy people; in the multitude of thy mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to thee for help; for thou art gracious, O lover of souls, and to thee we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *¶ People Amen.*

*¶ The Officiant may offer additional prayers*

## The Blessing

**A**Lmighty GOD, we pray thee graciously to behold this thy family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; And the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *¶ People Amen.*

*¶ Then all stand and remain in place as the Ministers retire*

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF THE USHERS FOR DEPARTURE.**

You may take these leaflets home, but do not leave them in the seats.

# Holy Wednesday

March 31, 2021

5:30 PM

“Head of Jesus”

c.1600s

Philadelphia Museum of Art

Rembrandt

Public Domain

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

The Rev. Andrew John Archie *Rector*

The Rev. Peter James Speropulos *Assistant Rector*

The Rev. Thomas Roy Albinson *Assistant Rector*

The Rev. Anne Hunter Kelsey *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Dr. Stewart Douglas Clem *Priest Associate*

The Rev. Jamal Scarlett *Clergy Associate*

Dr. Robert Wylie Lehman *Organist and Choirmaster*

Dr. Nicholas Frazier Bideler *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*

Kathleen Guilfooy Beyers *Assistant Choirmaster*



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