



EVENING PRAYER

EVE of the ASCENSION

May 13, 2026

6:30 P.M.



St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church
in the Admiral District of West Seattle

EVENING PRAYER: RITE II

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<https://sjbwestseattle.org/give>

Year Two

Opening Sentence of Scripture

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Presider Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
– 1 Corinthians 15:57

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is,
seated at the right hand of God. – Colossians 3:1

Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into
heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. – Hebrews 9:24

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my
witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

– Acts 1:8

The Invitatory

Presider 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.**

Christ our Passover • *Pascha nostrum: 1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

**Alleluia. Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,**

**Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.**

**Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.**

**The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
the life he lives, he lives to God.**

**So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

**For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.**

**For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.**

The Psalter

Psalm 68:1-20 • *Exsurgat Deus*

- 1 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered; *
let those who hate him flee before him.
- 2 **Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away; ***
as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
let them also be merry and joyful.
- 4 **Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides upon the heavens; ***
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
- 5 Father of orphans, defender of widows; *
God in his holy habitation!
- 6 **God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom; ***
but the rebels shall live in dry places.
- 7 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 **The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,**
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
you refreshed the land when it was weary.
- 10 **Your people found their home in it; ***
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.
- 11 The Lord gave the word; *
great was the company of women who bore the tidings:
- 12 **Kings with their armies are fleeing away; ***
the women at home are dividing the spoils.
- 13 Though you lingered among the sheepfolds, *
you shall be like a dove whose wings are covered with silver,
whose feathers are like green gold.
- 14 **When the Almighty scattered kings, ***
it was like snow falling in Zalmon.
- 15 O mighty mountain, O hill of Bashan! *
O rugged mountain, O hill of Bashan!
- 16 **Why do you look with envy, O rugged mountain,**
at the hill which God chose for his resting place? *
truly, the LORD will dwell there for ever.
- 17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; *
the Lord comes in holiness from Sinai.
- 18 **You have gone up on high and led captivity captive;**
you have received gifts even from your enemies, *
that the LORD God might dwell among them.
- 19 Blessed be the Lord day by day, *
the God of our salvation, who bears our burdens.
- 20 **He is our God, the God of our salvation; ***
God is the LORD, by whom we escape death.

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

2 Kings 2:1-15

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? Where is he?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.

When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle

The Song of Mary • *Magnificat: Luke 1:46-55*

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.

Reading

Revelation 5:1-14

Then I saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals, and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. And I began to weep bitterly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, with seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song:

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to break its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth."

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle

The Song of Simeon • *Nunc dimittis: Luke 2:29–32*

**Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;**

**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

**A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your 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.**

Reflection

Silence may be kept.

The Apostles’ Creed

People **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

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

People **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.

The Suffrages

Set B

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 Saint John
the Baptist and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day

Eve of the Ascension

Presider Almighty God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things: Mercifully give us faith to perceive that, according to his promise, he abides with his Church on earth, even to the end of the ages; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Choose one or more of the following Collects.

A Collect for Peace

Presider 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 Collect for Aid Against Perils

Presider 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

Presider 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 Prayer for the Presence of Christ

Presider 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.**

Prayer for Mission

People 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.

Prayers of the People

Presider To Christ who is lifted up. Life giver, bringer of hope, lift us up and bring us close.
Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider In the mystery of resurrection, the darkness of the tomb, you find us. Bring us out into the light. Strengthen and renew your global church.
In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church of Pakistan (United).
In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Christ Church, Blaine;
and Emmanuel, Eastsound.
Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider We ask you to embolden those who lead. Guided by love, may they put first the needs of those who are so often last.
Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Shine your hope on all who seek wholeness. We pray for all who are sick and suffering loss. We pray for those who are desperate to have their basic needs met of food, shelter, and healthcare. We pray for all who are in need of compassion. We pray for the earth that is our home and our responsibility. May we see the needs around us and be equipped to respond.
Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider You listen to our prayers as a parent listens to the cries of her children. We offer the intercessions of our community, especially _____, fill us with your light as we offer you our prayers silently or aloud. _____.

Silence may be kept.

Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider We offer our thanksgivings as a sunrise of praise. We are grateful for all things great and small, especially _____. Join our light with yours as we offer these thanksgivings silently or aloud _____.
Silence may be kept.

Silence may be kept.

Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider We pray for our loved ones who have died. Remember those whose light will always burn brightly within our hearts, especially _____. Take our hands in yours as we offer you our prayers either silently or aloud _____.
Silence may be kept.

Silence may be kept.

Risen Christ,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider In resurrection joy we give you thanks for the new life you breathe into us and our world. Connect us to one another and to your church throughout time and space. Teach us how to join with you in making all things new. In the name of our redeemer, Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

One or both of the following may be used.

A General Thanksgiving

People **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

People **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.**

The Blessing

Presider Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Presider 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