



EVENING PRAYER

SEASON after PENTECOST: Proper 22

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

6:30 P.M.



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

EVENING PRAYER: RITE II

If you wish to make online donations to the ministry of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, please visit:
<https://sjbwestseattle.org/give>

Year Two

Opening Sentence of Scripture

Presider 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*

Confession

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

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.**

O Gracious Light • *Phos hilaron*

**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 Psalter

Psalm 37:1-18 Part I • *Noli æmulari*

- 1 Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; *
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 **For they shall soon wither like the grass, ***
and like the green grass fade away.
- 3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; *
dwell 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 noon day.
- 7 Be still before the LORD *
and wait patiently for him.
- 8 **Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, ***
the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
- 9 Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; *
do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.
- 10 **For evildoers shall be cut off, ***
but those who wait upon the LORD shall possess the land.
- 11 In a little while the wicked shall be no more; *
you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.
- 12 **But the lowly shall possess the land; ***
they will delight in abundance of peace.
- 13 The wicked plot against the righteous *
and gnash at them with their teeth.
- 14 **The Lord laughs at the wicked, ***
because he sees that their day will come.
- 15 The wicked draw their sword and bend their bow
to strike down the poor and needy, *
to slaughter those who are upright in their ways.
- 16 **Their sword shall go through their own heart, ***
and their bow shall be broken.
- 17 The little that the righteous has *
is better than great riches of the wicked.
- 18 **For the power of the wicked shall be broken, ***
but the Lord upholds the righteous.

- 19 The Lord cares for the lives of the godly, *
and their inheritance shall last for ever.
- 20 They shall not be ashamed in bad times, ***
and in days of famine they shall have enough.
- 21 As for the wicked, they shall perish, *
and the enemies of the Lord, like the glory of the meadows, shall vanish;
they shall vanish like smoke.
- 22 The wicked borrow and do not repay, ***
but the righteous are generous in giving.
- 23 Those who are blessed by God shall possess the land, *
but those who are cursed by him shall be destroyed.
- 24 Our steps are directed by the Lord; ***
he strengthens those in whose way he delights.
- 25 If they stumble, they shall not fall headlong, *
for the Lord holds them by the hand.
- 26 I have been young and now I am old, ***
but never have I seen the righteous forsaken, or their children begging bread.
- 27 The righteous are always generous in their lending, *
and their children shall be a blessing.
- 28 Turn from evil, and do good, ***
and dwell in the land for ever.
- 29 For the Lord loves justice; *
he does not forsake his faithful ones.
- 30 They shall be kept safe for ever, ***
but the offspring of the wicked shall be destroyed.
- 31 The righteous shall possess the land *
and dwell in it for ever.
- 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.
- 34 The wicked spy on the righteous ***
and seek occasion to kill them.
- 35 The Lord will not abandon them to their hand, *
nor let them be found guilty when brought to trial.
- 36 Wait upon the Lord and keep his way; ***
he will raise you up to possess the land, and when the wicked are cut off,
you will see it.

- 37 I have seen the wicked in their arrogance, *
flourishing like a tree in full leaf.
- 38 **I went by, and behold, they were not there; ***
I searched for them, but they could not be found.
- 39 Mark those who are honest; observe the upright; *
for there is a future for the peaceable.
- 40 **Transgressors shall be destroyed, one and all; ***
the future of the wicked is cut off.
- 41 But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the LORD; *
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.
- 42 **The LORD will help them and rescue them; ***
he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because they seek refuge in him.
- 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

Micah 2:1-13

Alas for those who devise wickedness and evil deeds on their beds! When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in their power. They covet fields, and seize them; houses, and take them away; they oppress householder and house, people and their inheritance. Therefore thus says the LORD: Now, I am devising against this family an evil from which you cannot remove your necks; and you shall not walk haughtily, for it will be an evil time. On that day they shall take up a taunt song against you, and wail with bitter lamentation, and say, "We are utterly ruined; the LORD alters the inheritance of my people; how he removes it from me! Among our captors he parcels out our fields." Therefore you will have no one to cast the line by lot in the assembly of the LORD.

"Do not preach" — thus they preach — "one should not preach of such things; disgrace will not overtake us." Should this be said, O house of Jacob? Is the Lord's patience exhausted? Are these his doings? Do not my words do good to one who walks uprightly? But you rise up against my people as an enemy; you strip the robe from the peaceful, from those who pass by trustingly with no thought of war. The women of my people you drive out from their pleasant houses; from their young children you take away my glory forever. Arise and go; for this is no place to rest, because of uncleanness that destroys with a grievous destruction. If someone were to go about uttering empty falsehoods, saying, "I will preach to you of wine and strong drink," such a one would be the preacher for this people!

I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob, I will gather the survivors of Israel; I will set them together like sheep in a fold, like a flock in its pasture; it will resound with people. The one who breaks out will go up before them; they will break through and pass the gate, going out by it. Their king will pass on before them, the LORD at their head.

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

Acts 23:23-35

Then he summoned two of the centurions and said, "Get ready to leave by nine o'clock tonight for Caesarea with two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen. Also provide mounts for Paul to ride, and take him safely to Felix the governor." He wrote a letter to this effect: "Claudius Lysias to his Excellency the governor Felix, greetings. This man was seized by the Jews and was about to be killed by them, but when I had learned that he was a Roman citizen, I came with the guard and rescued him. Since I wanted to know the charge for which they accused him, I had him brought to their council. I found that he was accused concerning questions of their law, but was charged with nothing deserving death or imprisonment. When I was informed that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, ordering his accusers also to state before you what they have against him." So the soldiers, according to their instructions, took Paul and brought him during the night to Antipatris. The next day they let the horsemen go on with him, while they returned to the barracks. When they came to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they presented Paul also before him. On reading the letter, he asked what province he belonged to, and when he learned that he was from Cilicia, he said, "I will give you a hearing when your accusers arrive." Then he ordered that he be kept under guard in Herod's headquarters.

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.

Reading

Luke 7:18–35

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John summoned two of his disciples and sent them to the Lord to ask, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?” When the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or are we to expect someone else?’ ” Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, afflictions, and evil spirits and had given sight to many who were blind. And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight; the lame walk; those with a skin disease are cleansed; the deaf hear; the dead are raised; the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

“I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John, yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” (And all the people who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, having been baptized with John’s baptism. But the Pharisees and the experts in the law, not having been baptized by him, rejected God’s purpose for themselves.)

“To what, then, will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not weep.’

“For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”

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

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

Proper 22

Presider Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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

Form IV

Presider Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil (Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil).

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, The Order of Saint Francis, and Earth Ministry.

Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.
Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.
Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.
Lord, in your mercy,
People **Hear our prayer.**

Presider Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.
People **Thanks be to God.**

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