

Good Friday – April 18, 2025
Solemn Evening Prayer

+ +

Opening and Prayer of the Day

Behold, now is the acceptable time;

now is the day of salvation.

Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

that the light of your face may shine on us.

May your justice shine like the sun;

and may the poor be lifted up.

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Leader and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Thanksgiving for Light

We give thanks and glory to our holy God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set light in the sky to govern night and day.

**In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
you led your people into freedom.**

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ:

may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

**for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation,
and with all your creatures we give you glory,**

through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. **Amen**

The Vindication of God's Servant

HOLY GOSPEL: John 5:19-30

New Testament for Everyone

Jesus told the people, "I tell you for certain the Son cannot do anything on his own. He can do only what he sees the Father doing, and he does exactly what he sees the Father do. The Father loves the Son and has shown him everything he does. The Father will show him even greater things, and you will be amazed. Just as the Father raises the dead and gives life, so the Son gives life to anyone he wants to.

The Father doesn't judge anyone, but he has made his Son the judge of everyone. The Father wants all people to honor the Son as much as they honor him. When anyone refuses to honor the Son, this is the same as refusing to honor the Father who sent him. I tell you for certain that everyone who hears my message and has faith in the one who sent me has

eternal life and will never be condemned. They have already gone from death to life.

I tell you for certain the time will come, and it is already here, when all of the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God. And those who listen to it will live! The Father has the power to give life, and he has given that same power to the Son. And he has given his Son the right to judge everyone, because he is the Son of Man.

Don't be surprised! The time will come when all of the dead will hear the voice of the Son of Man, and they will come out of their graves. Everyone who has done good things will rise to life, but everyone who has done evil things will rise and be condemned.

I cannot do anything on my own. The Father sent me, and he is the one who told me how to judge. I judge with fairness, because I obey him, and I don't just try to please myself.

Hymn of the Day "O Christ, Thou Lamb of God"

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up-on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -
est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up-on us!
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace! A - men

Reflection

Litany

We praise and bless our Savior Jesus Christ,
who saves and redeems us from sin and death.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
**and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

May God be merciful and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
**and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
**and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.**

Evening Prayer

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* 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, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer We pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 forever. Amen**

Blessing

We bless the Crucified One.

We give our thanks to God.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen**