

## Evening Prayer: Rite Two

Thursday, March 26, 2026

### Opening Sentence (BCP 115)

*Officiant:* 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*

### Confession of Sin (BCP 116)

*Officiant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*All:* **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.**

*Priest:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*All:* **Amen.**

### The Invitatory and Psalter (BCP 117)

*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.**

## **O Gracious Light** *Phos hilaron* (BCP 118)

*All:* **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 133, BCP 787)**

- 1 Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
when brethren live together in unity!
- 2 It is like fine oil upon the head \*  
that runs down upon the beard,
- 3 Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
and runs down upon the collar of his robe.
- 4 It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.
- 5 For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \*  
life for evermore.

*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**

*Reader:* A reading from Paul's first letter to Timothy. (6:6-10)

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Song of Mary *Magnificat* (BCP 119)**

*All:* **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.**

### **The Gospel**

*Reader:* A reading from the Gospel according to John. (3:25-30)

Now a discussion about purification arose between John's disciples and a Jew. They came to John and said to him, 'Rabbi, the one who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you testified, here he is baptizing, and all are going to him.' John answered, 'No one can receive anything except what has been given from heaven. You yourselves are my witnesses that I said, "I am not the Messiah, but I have been sent ahead of him." He who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him,

rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. For this reason my joy has been fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease.'

**Homily** ..... The Rev. Dr. Mark W. Frazier

**The Apostles' Creed (BCP 120)**

*All:* 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 (BCP 121)**

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

*All:* **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.**

## Suffrages A (BCP 121)

*Officiant:* Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*All:* **And grant us your salvation.**

*Officiant:* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*All:* **Let your people sing with joy.**

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

*All:* **For only in you can we live in safety.**

*Officiant:* Lord, keep this nation under your care;

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

*Officiant:* Let your way be known upon earth;

*All:* **Your saving health among all nations.**

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

*All:* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

*Officiant:* Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*All:* **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## The Collects

*The Collect for Harriet Monsell.*

*Officiant:* Gracious God, who led your servant Harriet Monsell through grief to a new vocation; grant that we, inspired by her example, may grow in the life of prayer and the work of service so that in sorrow or joy, your presence may increase among us and our lives reveal the mind of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever.

*All:* **Amen.**

*A Collect for Protection (BCP 124)*

*Officiant:* 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.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **Prayer for Mission (BCP 124)**

*Officiant:* 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.

*All:*       **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

### **The General Thanksgiving (BCP 125)**

*All:*     **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 (BCP 126)**

*Officiant:* 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.

*All:*       **Amen.**

## Dismissal

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

## Grace

*Officiant:* 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. *Ephesians 3:20, 21*

*All:* **Amen.**

## Hagiography

**Harriet Monsell, Monastic** ..... *satucket.com*

**Harriet Monsell** (1811 – 25 March 1883) founded the Community of St John Baptist, an order of Augustinian nuns in the Church of England dedicated to social service, which by her death had expended to numerous houses, including in India and the Americas. She was born Harriet O'Brien, in 1811, to one of Ireland's oldest Anglo-Irish families. Harriet married Charles Monsell in 1839 while he was studying and receiving medical treatment at the University of Dublin, and they moved to Oxford the following year to complete his studies. He was later ordained, but, due to his continued delicate health, much of their later married life was spent in Europe, including Naples. After her husband's death in 1850, she began working in Clewer near Windsor among former prostitutes and unwed mothers at a House of Mercy. Soon, Harriet Monsell professed religious vows with two other women. Initially they were called the Sisters of Mercy but later changed their name to reflect their inspiration from John the Baptist's call to penitence. She thus became Mother Superior of the Community of St John Baptist, established on 30 November 1852, and one of the first Anglican religious orders since the Reformation. Because of their affiliation with the town of Clewer they are commonly called the 'Clewer Sisters'. The women lived according to a rule attributed to St Augustine of Hippo. During the new order's first five

years, it expanded from assisting about thirty marginalized women to dedicating a building to serve about eighty. As the Community of St John Baptist, guided by Mother Harriet's energy, extensive correspondence and humor, the nuns extended their original mission to running about forty institutions, including mission houses in various parishes, as well as orphanages, schools and hospitals.

Mother Harriet retired to Folkestone in 1875 for health reasons, although she was occasionally able to visit the communities she founded. She died on the morning of 26 March 1883, which was Easter Sunday that year.

*More at Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harriet\\_Monsell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harriet_Monsell), and at Project Canterbury: <https://anglicanhistory.org/women/monsell/index.html>.*