

VESPERS (*Week 1*)

Presider (P): God, + come to my assistance.

All Respond (A): Lord, make haste to help me.

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

A: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. (Alleluia.)

HYMN & PSALMODY

Ant. 1 P: The Lord looks tenderly on those who are poor (Psalm 11).

Mary Side of Church (M): In the Lord I have taken my refuge. † How can you say to my soul: * “Fly like a bird to its mountain.

Joseph Side of Church (J): See the wicked one bracing his bow; * they are fixing their arrows on the string to shoot upright men in the dark. * Foundations once destroyed, what can the just do?”

M: The Lord is in his holy temple, * the Lord, whose throne is in heaven. His eyes look down on the world; * his gaze tests mortal men.

J: The Lord tests the just and the wicked: * the lover of violence he hates. He sends fire and brimstone on the wicked; * he sends a scorching wind as their lot.

M: The Lord is just and loves justice: * the upright shall see his face.

J: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

M: as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be forever. Amen.

A: The Lord looks tenderly on those who are poor.

Ant. 2 P: Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God (Psalm 15).

M: Lord, who shall be admitted to your tent * and dwell on your holy mountain?

J: He who walks without fault: * he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart; * he who

does not slander with his tongue;

M: he who does no wrong to his brother, * who casts no slur on his neighbor, who holds the godless in disdain, * but honors those who fear the Lord;

J: he who keeps his pledge, come what may; * who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. * Such a man will stand firm forever.

M: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

J: as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be forever. Amen.

A: Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Ant. 3 P: God chose us in his son to be his adopted children (Ephesians 1:3-10).

M: Praised be the God and Father * of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has bestowed on us in Christ * every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

J: God chose us in him * before the world began to be holy * and blameless in his sight.

M: He predestined us * to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ, such was his will and pleasure, † that all might praise the glorious favor * he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

J: In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed, * and our sins forgiven, so immeasurably generous * is God's favor to us.

M: God has given us the wisdom * to understand fully the mystery, the plan he was pleased * to decree in Christ.

J: A plan to be carried out * in Christ, in the fullness of time, to bring all things into one in him, * in the heavens and on earth.

M: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit:

J: as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be forever. Amen.

A: God chose us in his son to be his adopted children.

READING: Colossians 1:9-11

May you attain full knowledge of God's will through perfect wisdom and spiritual insight. Then you will lead a life worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way. You will multiply good works of every sort and grow in the knowledge of God. By the might of his glory you will be endowed with the strength needed to stand fast, even to endure joyfully whatever may come.

RESPONSORY

P: Lord, you alone can heal me, for I have grieved you by my sins.

A: Lord, you alone can heal me, for I have grieved you by my sins.

P: Once more I say: O Lord, have mercy on me,

A: for I have grieved you by my sins.

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

A: Lord, you alone can heal me, for I have grieved you by my sins.

GOSPEL CANTICLE: LUKE 1:46-55

Ant.: **P:** My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

A: 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 forever. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, * and will be forever. Amen.

A: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, for he

has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

INTERCESSIONS

P: God has made an everlasting covenant with his people, and he never ceases to bless them. Grateful for these gifts, we confidently direct our prayer to him:

A: Lord, bless your people.

P: Save your people, Lord,

A: and bless your inheritance.

P: Gather into one body all who bear the name of Christian,

A: that the world may believe in Christ whom you have sent.

P: Give our friends and our loved ones a share in divine life,

A: let them be symbols of Christ before men.

P: Show your love to those who are suffering,

A: open their eyes to the vision of your revelation.

P: Be compassionate to those who have died,

A: welcome them into the company of the faithful departed.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Father, may this evening pledge of our service to you bring you glory and praise. For our salvation you looked with favor, on the lowliness of the Virgin Mary; lead us to the fullness of the salvation you have prepared for us. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.