

Saturday, March 15  
Evening Prayer

Opening Sentence

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

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

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.

Invitatory

O God, make speed to save us.

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.

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.

Psalm 42 *Quemadmodum*

1

As the deer longs for the water-brooks, \*  
so longs my soul for you, O God.

2

My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; \*  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

3

My tears have been my food day and night, \*  
while all day long they say to me,  
"Where now is your God?"

4

I pour out my soul when I think on these things; \*  
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,

5

With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, \*  
among those who keep holy-day.

6

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

7

Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

8

My soul is heavy within me; \*  
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,  
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.

9

One deep calls to another in the noise of your cataracts; \*  
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.

10

The LORD grants his loving-kindness in the daytime; \*  
in the night season his song is with me,  
a prayer to the God of my life.

11

I will say to the God of my strength,  
"Why have you forgotten me? \*  
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?"

12

While my bones are being broken, \*

my enemies mock me to my face;

13

All day long they mock me \*  
and say to me, "Where now is your God?"

14

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

15

Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Psalm 43 *Judica me, Deus*

1

Give judgment for me, O God,  
and defend my cause against an ungodly people; \*  
deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

2

For you are the God of my strength;  
why have you put me from you? \*  
and why do I go so heavily while the enemy oppresses me?

3

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, \*  
and bring me to your holy hill  
and to your dwelling;

4

That I may go to the altar of God,  
to the God of my joy and gladness; \*  
and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

5

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? \*  
and why are you so disquieted within me?

6

Put your trust in God; \*  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Gloria Patri

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.

Mark 10:46-52

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.

47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

48 Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

49 Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you."

50 So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.

51 Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again."

52 Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Canticle 17 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.

Apostles' Creed

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 Lord's Prayer

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

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Collect for Saturdays

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth your unending day upon us who watch for you, that our lips may praise you, our lives may bless you, and our worship on the morrow give you glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

World Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the people of Honduras.

Honduras This Week magazine

Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our sisters and brothers, members of the United Church of Christ.

The United Church of Christ

For Sound Government

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To all who have executive authority and to all who have administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To those who make our laws give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our

society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.

### For Schools and Colleges

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### For the Harvest of Lands and Waters

O gracious Father, who open your hand and fills all living things: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let your Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show your loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what thou give, that men and women everywhere may give you thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

### General Thanksgiving

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

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.

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen. *Romans 15:13*