

Friday, October 16  
Evening Prayer  
Orthodox Saints

Opening Sentence

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. *Psalms 16:7,8*

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most holy and merciful Father:

We confess to you and to one another,  
and to the whole communion of saints  
in heaven and on earth,  
that we have sinned by our own fault  
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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

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 22 *Deus, Deus meus*

1

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry  
and from the words of my distress?

2

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.

3

Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

4

Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5

They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

6

But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.

7

All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*

they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

8

"He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."

9

Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.

10

I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

11

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.

12

Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

13

They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.

14

I am poured out like water;  
all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

15

My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

16

Packs of dogs close me in,  
and gangs of evildoers circle around me; \*  
they pierce my hands and my feet;  
I can count all my bones.

17

They stare and gloat over me; \*  
they divide my garments among them;  
they cast lots for my clothing.

18

Be not far away, O LORD; \*  
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

19

Save me from the sword, \*  
my life from the power of the dog.

20

Save me from the lion's mouth, \*  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

21

I will declare your Name to my brethren; \*  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

22

Praise the LORD, you that fear him; \*  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

23

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them; \*  
but when they cry to him he hears them.

24

My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*  
"May your heart live for ever!"

26

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*  
and all the families of the nations bow before him.

27

For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*  
he rules over the nations.

28

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29

My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him; \*  
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

30

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

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.

Gospel

## Matthew 11:1-6 (NRSV)

1 Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities. 2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" 4 Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6 And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Canticle 15 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.

- Martyrdom of St. Paul, Patriarch of Constantinople
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## Martyrdom of St. Paul, Patriarch of Constantinople

On this day we commemorate the martyrdom of St. Paul, Patriarch of Constantinople. He was a disciple of Abba Alexandros, Patriarch of Constantinople and was appointed to the Patriarchy after the departure of Abba Alexandros. Soon after that he expelled all the followers of the Arian sect from Constantinople and its surroundings.

When Emperor Constantine the Great died, his three sons reigned after him. Constandius reigned over Constantinople, Constance over Rome and Constantinus reigned over France.

Constandius held the same belief as Arius and was exceedingly upset by what Abba Paul had done to the Arians. He asked him to stop excommunicating them, but the Patriarch did not listen to him. He exiled him from Constantinople as he had exiled Abba Athanasius the Apostolic from Alexandria.

The two exiled Patriarchs gathered in Rome and stood before Emperor Constance to inform him of their concern. He wrote a letter on their behalf to his brother Constandius threatening him if he did not receive them back, there would be no peace but war between them. When the two saints came to Constantinople, they gave the letter to Emperor Constandius, who accepted his brother's request and returned them to their Chairs.

After the slaying of Emperor Constance in Rome, Constandius exiled St. Paul again to the country of Armenia. A few days later, he sent for one of the followers of Arius commanding him to slay him. He went to him at night and strangled him. The Saint received the crown of martyrdom after serving as Patriarch for four years.

May his prayers be with us. Glory be to God forever. 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: Pentecost, proper 23

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; 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 Fridays

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

For Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

World Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the people of Mongolia.

<http://www.montsame.mn/>

Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our sisters and brothers, members of the American Association of Lutheran Churches.

## The American Association of Lutheran Churches

### For Clergy and People

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift: Send down upon our bishops, and other clergy, and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### For the Unity of the Church

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### For Monastic Orders and Vocations

O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### A Prayer of Self-Dedication

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 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. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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. Amen.

*Ephesians 3:20,21*