

Evening Prayer

The Seventh Saturday after Pentecost

Saturday, July 26, 2025 5:30 PM



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

www.oslc-warrenton.org

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Because Pastor Michael and Pastor Terri are on vacation, we will celebrate Morning Prayer today, rather than Holy Communion. We will have Communion again next weekend!

Evening Prayer, or Vespers, is a part of the cycle of Daily Prayer. Our version is adapted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship. We sing a different musical setting on Wednesdays in Lent.

We are grateful to our lay leaders for guiding us in worship today.

OPENING

PRELUDE

INVITATORY

The assembly stands. The leader begins the dialogue, and the assembly responds.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.
Let your light scatter the darkness
and illumine your church.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT *Christ Be Our Light (1-2, 5)* **ELW 715**

As we sing, a large lighted candle may be placed on a table near the font. Other candles may be lit and the lights may be raised.

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|---|--|
| 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see. | Refrain Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today. |
| 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice. Refrain | 5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come. Refrain |

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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PSALMODY

The assembly is seated.

PSALM 141: *Let My Prayer Be a Fragrant Offering* **W&P 86**

Refrain

| | |
|---|--|
| Let my prayer be a fragrant offering, as incense to you arise. Let my prayer be a fragrant offering, my hands lifted up in praise. | 2 Please watch my lips, O Lord, and guard the words I say. Please turn my heart to you; chase my sin away. <i>Refrain</i> |
|---|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| 1 O Lord, I call to you, come quickly to my side. O Lord, please hear my voice; listen when I cry. <i>Refrain</i> | 3 My eyes are turned to you, O Lord, my living God. I look to you for help; be my faithful rock. <i>Refrain</i> |
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Text: Psalm 141, adapt.
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PSALM OF THE DAY: PS. 138

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because
of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**
- ³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
- ⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- ⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- ⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand
shall save me.
- ⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works of your hands.**

THE PSALM PRAYER

Compassionate God, you look with favor upon the lowly. Keep us safe in the midst of trouble, make known your love in our words and deeds, and bring us to new life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

The assembly is seated.

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Abraham undertakes the role of mediator between God and humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham seeks mercy for the city of Sodom.

A reading from Genesis.

²⁰ Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹ I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know."

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. ²³ Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"

²⁶ And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake."

²⁷ Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?"

And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."

²⁹ Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there."

He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it."

³⁰ Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there."

³¹ He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there."

He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it."

³² Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.”

He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW 742

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

A reading from St. Luke.

¹ [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

The assembly stands to sing the song of Mary, based on Luke 1:46-55

- 1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

- 2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

- 3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

- 4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *Refrain*

OFFERING

OFFERING

Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love.

An offering is received for the work of the church. Please give generously! Our Saviour depends entirely on the kindness of its friends and members.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Music is played as the gifts are gathered and brought forward.

All may rise to pray.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER

The assembly stands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In peace, let us pray to the Lord
Lord, have mercy.

The people may call out the names of those persons, places or purposes dear to their hearts this night.

In particular, they may pray for those they know to be in special danger, as from warfare or violence; for those they know to be suffering physically or emotionally, as from illness, loneliness or poverty; and for those on our Prayer List

The prayers conclude:

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

To you, O Lord.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

From the Small Catechism, 1529

Let us pray.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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, forever and ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, the Father, ☩ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

- 1 All praise to thee, my God, this night
for all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
beneath thine own almighty wings.
- 2 Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,
the ill that I this day have done;
that with the world, myself, and thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
- 3 Teach me to live, that I may dread
the grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die, that so I may
rise glorious at the awesome day.
- 4 Oh, may my soul in thee repose,
and may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
to serve my God when I awake!
- 5 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

As we leave, let us share a sign of peace with one another.

Adapted from sundaysandseasons.com.

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