

## **Morning Prayer    December 9, 2024**

*Good Morning from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.  
Let us join together in Morning Prayer on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of Advent, Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.*

Watch, for you know not when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning; lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

Mark 13:35, 36

### **Confession Of Sins**

*Officiant*     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.

*Officiant*     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.*

### **The Invitatory and Psalter**

*Officiant*     Lord, open our lips.  
*People*         And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

Alleluia.

Our King and Savior now draws near: Come, let us adore him.

## **Jubilate**

## **Psalm 100**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

## **The Psalms Appointed**

### **Psalm 25**

*Ad te, Domine, levavi*

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To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*

remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

For your Name's sake, O Lord, \*  
forgive my sin, for it is great.

Who are they who fear the Lord? \*  
he will teach them the way that they should choose.

They shall dwell in prosperity, \*  
and their offspring shall inherit the land.

The Lord is a friend to those who fear him \*  
and will show them his covenant.

My eyes are ever looking to the Lord, \*  
for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Turn to me and have pity on me, \*  
for I am left alone and in misery.

The sorrows of my heart have increased; \*  
bring me out of my troubles.

Look upon my adversity and misery \*  
and forgive me all my sin.

Look upon my enemies, for they are many, \*  
and they bear a violent hatred against me.

Protect my life and deliver me; \*  
let me not be put to shame, for I have trusted in you.

Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, \*  
for my hope has been in you.

Deliver Israel, O God, \*

out of all his troubles.

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

### A reading from Isaiah 5:8-12, 18-23

Ah, you who join house to house, who add field to field, until there is room for no one but you, and you are left to live alone in the midst of the land! The Lord of hosts has sworn in my hearing: Surely many houses shall be desolate, large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant. For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath, and a homer of seed shall yield a mere ephah. Ah, you who rise early in the morning in pursuit of strong drink, who linger in the evening to be inflamed by wine, whose feasts consist of lyre and harp, tambourine and flute and wine, but who do not regard the deeds of the Lord, or see the work of his hands!

Ah, you who drag iniquity along with cords of falsehood, who drag sin along as with cart ropes, who say, "Let him make haste, let him speed his work that we may see it; let the plan of the Holy One of Israel hasten to fulfillment, that we may know it!" Ah, you who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Ah, you who are wise in your own eyes, and shrewd in your own sight! Ah, you who are heroes in drinking wine and valiant at mixing drink, who acquit the guilty for a bribe, and deprive the innocent of their rights!

*Officiant*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*        Thanks be to God.

### 9 The First Song of Isaiah

*Ecce, Deus*

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say, \*  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of 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.

### **A reading from Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*Officiant*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*        Thanks be to God.

### **19      The Song of the Redeemed      *Magna et mirabilia*      Revelation 15:3-4**

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

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.

## **A reading from the Gospel of Luke chapter 21: verses 20-28**

“When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

*Officiant*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*          Thanks be to God.

## **The 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 Prayers**

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          And also with you.

*Officiant*     Let us pray.

### **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**

V.     Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R.     And grant us your salvation.  
V.     Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R.     Let your people sing with joy.  
V.     Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R.     For only in you can we live in safety.  
V.     Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R.     And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V.     Let your way be known upon earth;  
R.     Your saving health among all nations.  
V.     Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R.     Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
V.     Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R.     And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

### **The Collect of the Day**

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **A Collect for Peace**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

### **A Prayer 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.*

***At this time I invite your prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings***

### **The General Thanksgiving**

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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.*

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen*

*2 Corinthians 13:14*