

# Evening Prayer

October 9, 2025

Thursday after the Seventeenth Sunday after  
Pentecost

*ROBERT GROSSETESTE, Bishop, 1253*

Worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness; let the whole earth  
tremble before him.

*Psalm 96:9*

## Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

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 and Psalter**

*All stand*

**BCP p. 117**

<i>Officiant</i>	<b>O God, make speed to save us.</b>
<i>People</i>	<b>O Lord, make haste to help us.</b>

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.

### **O Gracious Light**

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 134**

**BCP p. 787**

<sup>1</sup> Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, \*  
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; \*  
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

**Psalm 135**

**BCP p. 788**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

Praise the Name of the LORD; \*

give praise, you servants of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> You who stand in the house of the LORD, \*  
in the courts of the house of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; \*  
sing praises to his Name, for it is lovely.

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself \*  
and Israel for his own possession.

<sup>5</sup> For I know that the LORD is great, \*  
and that our Lord is above all gods.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD does whatever pleases him, in heaven and on earth, \*  
in the seas and all the deeps.

<sup>7</sup> He brings up rain clouds from the ends of the earth; \*  
he sends out lightning with the rain,  
and brings the winds out of his storehouse.

<sup>8</sup> It was he who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, \*  
the firstborn both of man and beast.

<sup>9</sup> He sent signs and wonders into the midst of you, O Egypt, \*  
against Pharaoh and all his servants.

<sup>10</sup> He overthrew many nations \*  
and put mighty kings to death:

<sup>11</sup> Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
and Og, the king of Bashan, \*  
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.

<sup>12</sup> He gave their land to be an inheritance, \*  
an inheritance for Israel his people.

<sup>13</sup> O LORD, your Name is everlasting; \*  
your renown, O LORD, endures from age to age.

<sup>14</sup> For the LORD gives his people justice \*  
and shows compassion to his servants.

<sup>15</sup> The idols of the heathen are silver and gold, \*  
 the work of human hands.  
<sup>16</sup> They have mouths, but they cannot speak; \*  
 eyes have they, but they cannot see.  
<sup>17</sup> They have ears, but they cannot hear; \*  
 neither is there any breath in their mouth.  
<sup>18</sup> Those who make them are like them, \*  
 and so are all who put their trust in them.  
<sup>19</sup> Bless the LORD, O house of Israel; \*  
 O house of Aaron, bless the LORD.  
<sup>20</sup> Bless the LORD, O house of Levi; \*  
 you who fear the LORD, bless the LORD.  
<sup>21</sup> Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, \*  
 who dwells in Jerusalem.  
 Hallelujah!  
 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

### The First Lesson

Micah 3:1-8

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah.

And I said: Listen, you heads of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel!  
 Should you not know justice?— you who hate the good and love the  
 evil, who tear the skin off my people, and the flesh off their bones; who  
 eat the flesh of my people, flay their skin off them, break their bones in  
 pieces, and chop them up like meat in a kettle, like flesh in a caldron.  
 Then they will cry to the LORD, but he will not answer them; he will  
 hide his face from them at that time, because they have acted wickedly.  
 Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who lead my people  
 astray, who cry “Peace” when they have something to eat, but declare  
 war against those who put nothing into their mouths. Therefore it shall  
 be night to you, without vision, and darkness to you, without revelation.  
 The sun shall go down upon the prophets, and the day shall be black  
 over them; the seers shall be disgraced, and the diviners put to shame;  
 they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.

But as for me, I am filled with power, with the spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.

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

### **J. A Song of Judith**

*Judith 16:13-16*

I will sing a new song to my God, \*  
for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.  
Let the whole creation serve you, \*  
for you spoke and all things came into being.  
You sent your breath and it formed them, \*  
no one is able to resist your voice.  
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, \*  
rocks melt like wax at your presence.  
But to those who fear you, \*  
you continue to show mercy.  
No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, \*  
but whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight for ever.

### **The Second Lesson**

**1 Cor. 12:1-11**

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To

one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**S. A Song of Our True Nature**      *Julian of Norwich*

Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, \*  
our trespasses and our humiliations.

Christ also revealed his blessed power, \*  
his blessed wisdom and love.

He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need;  
\*

he raises us in spirit  
and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.

God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature; \*

God is the true father and mother of natures.

We are all bound to God by nature, \*  
and we are all bound to God by grace.

And this grace is for all the world, \*  
because it is our precious mother, Christ.

For this fair nature was prepared by Christ  
for the honor and nobility of all, \*  
and for the joy and bliss of salvation.

**The Apostles' Creed**

**BCP p. 96**

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

<i>Officiant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Officiant</i>	Let us pray.

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

### Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful.  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be  
condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the  
communion of [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, entrusting one another  
and all our life to Christ,  
We entreat you, O Lord.

### The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than  
we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve: Pour



upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **Robert Grosseteste, Bishop, 1253**

O God, our heavenly Father, who raised up your faithful servant Robert Grosseteste to be a bishop and pastor in your church and to feed your flock: Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of your Holy Spirit, that they may minister in your household as true servants of Christ and stewards of your divine mysteries; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **A Collect for Protection**

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Mission**

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Here may be sung a hymn or anthem.*

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

5. For the Nation

Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

*Heal us.*

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

*Forgive us.*

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

*Inspire us.*

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

*Enlighten us.*

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

*Renew us.*

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name.

*Amen.*

*Before the close of the Office one or both of the following may be used*

#### **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

**BCP p. 102**

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.**

*Then may be said*

**Let us bless the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*

*Robert Grosseteste*

*Robert Grosseteste, one of the outstanding English bishops of the thirteenth century, rose to preeminence in the church from humble beginnings in Suffolk. He distinguished himself as a scholar in all branches of study—law, medicine, languages, sciences, and theology. He was appointed Master of the Oxford School, and teacher of theology to the Franciscans when they established a house at Oxford. Grosseteste translated Aristotle's works from the Greek, wrote commentaries on them, and sought to refute the philosopher's views by developing a scientific method based on Augustine's theories. Because of Grosseteste, Oxford began to emphasize the study of the sciences, especially physics, geometry, and mathematics. One notable pupil of Grosseteste was Roger Bacon, a brilliant proponent of the scientific method. Both as a teacher and as a bishop, Grosseteste had a strong influence on John Wycliffe.*

*In 1235, Grosseteste was consecrated as Bishop of Lincoln. He exercised his office with efficiency and conscientiousness, remarking that a bishop's pastoral responsibility was not merely to give instructions but to see that they were carried out. "I am obligated to visit the sheep committed to me with all diligence, as Scripture prescribes," he said. He traveled regularly to each rural deanery, called together the clergy and laity, preached, confirmed, and dealt with questions of*

doctrine. "My lord, you are doing something new and exceptional," remarked some of the people during his first visitation. He replied, "Every new thing which implants and promotes and perfects the new man, corrupts and destroys the old. Blessed is the new, and in every way welcome to him who comes to re-create the old man in newness." Grosseteste actively opposed royal infringements on church liberties and he did not fear to protest even papal abuses of local prerogatives. He once refused to accept the appointment of the pope's nephew to a living in his diocese, saying, "As an obedient son, I disobey, I contradict, I rebel . . . my every word and act is not rebellion, but filial honor due by God's blessed command to father and mother."