

Evening Prayer | Thursday *Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux*

May Jesus and his dear Mother be with us on our journey.

Pause to wish one another peace from the silence of our hearts.

V: O God make speed to save us.

R: O Lord make haste to help us.

V: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,*

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

OPENING

God has lifted up the humble and meek.

O gracious Light, shine upon us as day fades into evening:

Calm our anxious thoughts and draw us into your presence,
that we may rest in your mercy and praise your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A HYMN FOR HUMILITY

To the tune of our Community Hymn

O Lord, before your boundless love
Our striving fades, our boasting dies;
The crowns we fashioned for ourselves
We lay aside with open eyes.
Teach us the freedom of the small,
The wisdom found in simple things;
To trust the mercy of your heart
More than the strength our effort brings.
And as we sleep, let pride grow still,
Let gratefulness become our song;
For those who rest in you alone
Discover where they do belong.

PSALM 139:1-12

Responsively by HALF verse.

LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"

Darkness is not dark to you;

the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.

For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to

the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

MAGNIFICAT

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.

1979 BCP

COLLECT OF THE DAY

God of mercy,
you exalted the humble Virgin of Nazareth:
Deliver us from pride and self-seeking,
and teach us the way of humility and love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR ST THERESE

Gracious Father, who called your servant Therese to a life of fervent prayer, give to us the spirit of prayer and zeal for the ministry of the Gospel, that the love of Christ may be known throughout all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God,
you have sustained us through the labors of this day:
Remain with us through the evening hours
and kindle in us the light of your love;
through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

V: Let us bless the Lord

R: Thanks be to God.

V: May the needy not be forgotten

R: Or the hope of the poor be in vain.

V: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.