

NOONDAY PRAYER

An isle of respite in the turmoil of the day

The Church of the Holy Trinity

Juneau, Alaska

Readings for April 22 - 28, 2024



Roman Forum inThessaloniki

Monday, April 22 2024

The service for noonday can be found by going to our website trinityjuneau.org and clicking on the Noonday Prayers link.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.

44 *Deus, auribus*

1 We have heard with our ears, O God,
our forefathers have told us, *
the deeds you did in their days,
in the days of old.

2 How with your hand you drove the peoples out
and planted our forefathers in the land; *
how you destroyed nations and made your people flourish.

3 For they did not take the land by their sword,
nor did their arm win the victory for them; *
but your right hand, your arm, and the light of your countenance,
because you favored them.

4 You are my King and my God; *
you command victories for Jacob.

5 Through you we pushed back our adversaries; *
through your Name we trampled on those who rose up against us.

6 For I do not rely on my bow, *
and my sword does not give me the victory.

7 Surely, you gave us victory over our adversaries *
and put those who hate us to shame.

8 Every day we gloried in God, *
and we will praise your Name for ever.

9 Nevertheless, you have rejected and humbled us *
and do not go forth with our armies.

10 You have made us fall back before our adversary, *
and our enemies have plundered us.

11 You have made us like sheep to be eaten *
and have scattered us among the nations.

12 You are selling your people for a trifle *
and are making no profit on the sale of them.

13 You have made us the scorn of our neighbors, *
a mockery and derision to those around us.

14 You have made us a byword among the nations, *
a laughing-stock among the peoples.

15 My humiliation is daily before me, *
and shame has covered my face;

16 Because of the taunts of the mockers and blasphemers, *
because of the enemy and avenger.

17 All this has come upon us; *
yet we have not forgotten you,
nor have we betrayed your covenant.

18 Our heart never turned back, *
nor did our footsteps stray from your path;

19 Though you thrust us down into a place of misery, *
and covered us over with deep darkness.

20 If we have forgotten the Name of our God, *
or stretched out our hands to some strange god,

21 Will not God find it out? *
for he knows the secrets of the heart.

22 Indeed, for your sake we are killed all the day long; *
we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

23 Awake, O Lord! why are you sleeping? *
Arise! do not reject us for ever.

24 Why have you hidden your face *
and forgotten our affliction and oppression?

25 We sink down into the dust; *
our body cleaves to the ground.

26 Rise up, and help us, *
and save us, for the sake of your steadfast love.

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.

Colossians 3:18-4:18

18 Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
¹⁹Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your
acceptable duty in the Lord. ²¹Fathers, do not provoke your
children, or they may lose heart. ²²Slaves, obey your earthly
masters* in everything, not only while being watched and in order
to please them, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord.* ²³Whatever
your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for
your masters,* ²⁴since you know that from the Lord you will
receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve* the Lord Christ.
²⁵For the wrongdoer will be paid back for whatever wrong has
been done, and there is no partiality. ⁴¹Masters, treat your slaves
justly and fairly, for you know that you also have a Master in
heaven.

2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with
thanksgiving. ³At the same time pray for us as well that God will

open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison, ⁴so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should.

5 Conduct yourselves wisely towards outsiders, making the most of the time.* ⁶Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.

7 Tychicus will tell you all the news about me; he is a beloved brother, a faithful minister, and a fellow-servant* in the Lord. ⁸I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know how we are* and that he may encourage your hearts; ⁹he is coming with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you about everything here.

10 Aristarchus my fellow-prisoner greets you, as does Mark the cousin of Barnabas, concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him. ¹¹And Jesus who is called Justus greets you. These are the only ones of the circumcision among my co-workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. ¹²Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant* of Christ Jesus, greets you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills. ¹³For I testify for him that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis. ¹⁴Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas greet you. ¹⁵Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters* in Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. ¹⁶And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. ¹⁷And say to Archippus, ‘See that you complete the task that you have received in the Lord.’

18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

The Officiant then begins the Prayers

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

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.

Lord, hear our prayer;

And let our cry come to you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy: Give your blessings to the Diocese of Alaska. Watch over our churches, sustain our people, strengthen our leaders. Through the Holy Spirit, guide and guard the Diocese, keeping it always under your care and protection. Let us be a loving family, serving you in faithful devotion to the Gospel of your son, Jesus Christ.

Give your blessings to Mark our bishop. Give him a spirit of courage and right judgement, a spirit of knowledge and love. Let your Holy Spirit be his companion. Let your Gospel be always in his thoughts. May your presence in his life be a light for all to see, in every good work for the building up of your people and to the Glory of your Holy Name.

Give us the blessing of your example. Help us to follow in the Way of Jesus today and every day. Give us compassion at the center of all we do: Compassion for ourselves, as disciples still young in faith; compassion for others as members of our own family in God. Let us become examples for others as so many others have been examples to us, through your love and for the sake of your glory.

Watch over all elders and the brothers and sisters of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna. If any are in a time of sorrow, sickness or need, give them the touch of your healing hand. If any are in times of joy, thanksgiving, or fulfilment give them the song of angels to praise your name. Let us be your servants in this life, just as we will be your sons and daughters in the life to come.

Free intercessions may be offered.

Amen.

JOHN MUIR and HUDSON STUCK
NATURALIST & WRITER, 1914;
PRIEST & ENVIRONMENTALIST, 1920

Blessed Creator of the earth and all that inhabits it: We thank you for your prophets John Muir and Hudson Stuck, who rejoiced in your beauty made known in the natural world; and we pray that, inspired by their love of your creation, we may be wise and faithful stewards of the world you have created, that generations to come may also lie down to rest among the pines and rise refreshed for their work; in the Name of the one through whom you make all things new, Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen..

Final Collect

Let our eyes be your eyes, sharing compassion, warmth and love. Let our hands be your hands bringing healing with their touch. Let our ears be your ears listening where there is need. Let our words be your words bringing comfort joy and peace. **Amen.**
(Celtic)

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May God bless the work of our hands. **Amen**



John Muir also known as "John of the Mountains" and "Father of the National Parks" was an influential Scottish-American naturalist, author, environmental philosopher, botanist, zoologist, glaciologist, and early advocate for the preservation of wilderness in the United States of America.

His letters, essays, and books describing his adventures in nature, especially in the Sierra Nevada, have been read by millions. His activism helped to preserve the Yosemite Valley and Sequoia National Park, and his example has served as an inspiration for the preservation of many other wilderness areas. The Sierra Club, which he co-founded, is a prominent American conservation organization. In his later life, Muir devoted most of his time to the preservation of the Western forests. The spiritual quality and enthusiasm toward nature expressed in his writings has inspired readers, including presidents and congressmen, to take action to help preserve large nature areas.

Hudson Stuck was an Episcopal priest who is best known for co-leading the first expedition to successfully climb Mount McKinley (Denali). He was also a social reformer, both in Texas and Alaska.

Stuck was born in London and graduated from King's College London. He then moved to Texas, graduated from Sewanee and was ordained a priest in 1892. From 1896 to 1904 he served as Dean of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Dallas. There he was active in social reforms, condemning lynching, and working for gun control and expansion of recreational areas. He also founded a night school for millworkers and was instrumental in having one of Texas' first child labor laws passed.

In 1904, looking for more challenges, he moved to Alaska, becoming Archdeacon of the Yukon and the Arctic. There he worked for the benefit of Alaska Natives, but became most famous for organizing and co-leading the first successful ascent of Mt. McKinley (Denali) in 1913.

Stuck continued to urge Alaska Native youths in their education, helping arrange scholarships and sponsors for education in the Lower 48. For instance, John Fredson was the first Alaska Native to finish high school and graduate from college. Sponsored by Stuck and the Episcopal Church, he went to the University of the South in Tennessee. After returning to Alaska, he developed as a [Gwich'in](#) leader. In 1941 he gained federal recognition of the [Venetie](#) Indian Reserve to protect his people's traditional territory. Walter Harper was accepted at medical school in Philadelphia, but died en route when his ship sank off the coast of Alaska.

Stuck worked as a priest in Alaska for the rest of his life, serving both Alaska Natives and American settlers. Like many other missionaries, he never married. He died of pneumonia in Fort Yukon. By his request, he was buried in the native cemetery there.

Tuesday April 23 2024

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O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.

47 *Omnes gentes, plaudite*

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.

2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared; *
he is the great King over all the earth.

3 He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.

4 He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the Lord with the sound of the ram's-horn.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

7 For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *

with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly exalted.

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.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in
our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father
your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in
our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters* beloved
by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the
gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the
Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of
people we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution
you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that
you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in
Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not
only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place where your faith
in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about
it. ⁹For the people of those regions* report about us what kind of
welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from
idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from
heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us
from the wrath that is coming.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

The Officiant then begins the Prayers

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

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.

Lord, hear our prayer;

And let our cry come to you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy: Give your blessings to the Diocese of Alaska. Watch over our churches, sustain our people, strengthen our leaders. Through the Holy Spirit, guide and guard the Diocese, keeping it always under your care and protection. Let us be a loving family, serving you in faithful devotion to the Gospel of your son, Jesus Christ.

Give your blessings to Mark our bishop. Give him a spirit of courage and right judgement, a spirit of knowledge and love. Let your Holy Spirit be his companion. Let your Gospel be always in his thoughts. May your presence in his life be a light for all to see, in every good work for the building up of your people and to the Glory of your Holy Name.

Give us the blessing of your example. Help us to follow in the Way of Jesus today and every day. Give us compassion at the center of all we do: Compassion for ourselves, as disciples still young in faith; compassion for others as members of our own family in God. Let us become examples for others as so many others have been examples to us, through your love and for the sake of your glory.

Watch over all elders and the brothers and sisters of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna.

If any are in a time of sorrow, sickness or need, give them the touch of your healing hand. If any are in times of joy, thanksgiving, or fulfilment give them the song of angels to praise your name. Let us be your servants in this life, just as we will be your sons and daughters in the life to come.

Free intercessions may be offered.

Amen.

GEORGE, SOLDIER and MARTYR

23 APRIL 303

Lord Jesus Christ, whose cross did seal your servant George: Grant that we, strengthened by his example and prayers, may triumph to the end over all evils, to the glory of your Name; for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Final Collect

Let our eyes be your eyes, sharing compassion, warmth and love. Let our hands be your hands bringing healing with their touch. Let our ears be your ears listening where there is need. Let our words be your words bringing comfort joy and peace. **Amen.**

(Celtic)

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace. **Amen.**



George is the patron saint of England by declaration of King Edward II in 1347. He is remembered as a martyr, having given his life in witness to the gospel during the persecution of the Church in the early fourth century. Very few details of his life have survived, and his story is replete with legend. By the middle of the fifth century, he was

commemorated in local calendars, and historical records of the period testify to his existence.

George was a soldier by vocation, serving as an officer in the Roman army. It is said that he “gave his goods to the poor and openly confessed Christianity before the court.”

George’s initial notoriety may well have resulted from his faithfulness and witness to Christ during the Diocletian persecutions, 303-304, a particularly destructive period through which the Church suffered. Much of the legend of George dates back only to the eighth century, and more of it developed in the centuries that followed. The infamous story of George slaying the dragon, probably developed from Greek mythology, is not associated with him until the twelfth century. The inclusion of George’s story in the thirteenth century manuscript, *The Golden Legend*, accounts for his growing popularity in the Middle Ages.

In the twelfth century George was recognized as the patron saint of soldiers and he was called upon in support of those who would fight in the Crusades. The shield under which his soldiers fought became a symbol of national pride for the English and in time was adapted into the national flag. Interestingly, the “St. George’s Shield” –white shield emblazoned with a red cross–is the basis of The Episcopal Church flag and seal.

Wednesday, April 24 2024

The service for noonday can be found by going to our website trinityjuneau.org and clicking on the Noonday Prayers link.

Opening Sentence

We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks, calling upon your Name and declaring all your wonderful deeds.

Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept. Minister and People

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Opening Versicle

O God, be not far from us.

Come quickly to help us, O God.

Doxology

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity,
one God: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Antiphon Day by day we bless you; **we praise your name for ever.**

The Invitatory

18 A Song to the Lamb *Dignus es*

Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have their being;
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.
And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
for ever and for evermore.

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.

Antiphon Day by day we bless you; **we praise your name for ever.**

1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

2You yourselves know, brothers and sisters,^{*} that our coming to you was not in vain,² but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.³ For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.⁵ As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed;⁶ nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,⁷ though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle^{*} among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.⁸ So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

9 You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; * we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. ¹¹As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, ¹²urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

67 *Deus misereatur*

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.

2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.

7 May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

John 12:44-50

44 Then Jesus cried aloud: 'Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ⁴⁶I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. ⁴⁷I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them,

for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. ⁴⁸The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, ⁴⁹for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

Litany of Healing

God the Father,

have mercy on us.

God the Son,

have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,

have mercy on us.

Holy and blessed Trinity,

have mercy upon us and save us.

For those who suffer in body

Hear us, good Lord.

For the distressed in mind and spirit

Hear us, good Lord.

For those burdened by sin

Hear us, good Lord.

For all of us who fall short of your glory

Hear us and save us.

For strength to endure

Hear us, good Lord.

For hope to sustain

Hear us, good Lord.

For the grace of the Holy Spirit

Hear us, good Lord.

For all of us present .

Hear us and save us.

For those who we lift up in our prayers

Hear us and save us.

In your great mercy look with compassion on your people,
hear our prayers, pardon our sins and bring us to eternal life.

Lord, hear us and have mercy.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen. (Welsh BCP)*

Lord, give your blessings to the Diocese of Alaska. Watch over our churches, sustain our people, strengthen our leaders. Through the Holy Spirit, guide and guard the Diocese, keeping it always under your care and protection. Let us be a loving family, serving you in faithful devotion to the Gospel of your son, Jesus Christ.

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Give us the blessing of your example. Help us to follow in the Way of Jesus today and every day. Give us compassion at the center of all we do: Compassion for ourselves, as disciples still young in faith; compassion for others as members of our own family in God. Let us become examples for others as so many others have been examples to us, through your love and for the sake of your glory.

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Free intercessions may be offered.

Amen.

GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE

Almighty God, our Refuge and our Rock, your loving care knows no bounds and embraces all the peoples of the earth: Defend and protect those who fall victim to the forces of evil, and as we remember this day those who endured depredation and death because of who they were, not because of what they had done or failed to do, give us the courage to stand against hatred and oppression, and to seek the dignity and well-being of all for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, in whom you have reconciled the world to yourself; and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Great Physician of our souls and bodies, you are always at work in our lives to bring good out of evil . . .

**May your sick children
experience the same surge of healing power as did the
sick woman
who touched the hem of your robe.**

Great Spirit, who broods over the world, restore the garment of our self-respect, and remake us in your beauty.

**Renew in us
the stillness of our being,
the soundness of our bodies
and the secret of our wholeness.**

May Christ our redeemer bring us healing and wholeness.
Amen.

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



REMEMBER THE VICTIMS
PREVENT GENOCIDE

Genocide Remembrance Day is observed by Armenians in dispersed communities around the world on April 24. It is held annually to commemorate the victims of the Armenian Genocide from 1915 to 1923.

The date 24 April commemorates the Armenian notables deported from the Ottoman capital in 1915,

of hundreds of Armenian intellectuals and community leaders, most of whom would be executed, which was a precursor to the ensuing events.

Although this date is specifically a remembrance of the Armenian genocide, it is clear from the collects that it is intended here to cover all genocides: the killing or harming of people simply because of which ethnic, religious, or national group to which they happen to belong.

Thursday, April 25 2024

The Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist, Apostle, Witness and Martyr

Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

A light no darkness can quench.

Jesus, rising in glory,

scatter the darkness from our paths. Alleluia!

Risen Christ, you burst from the grave;

help us to burst into life.

You breathed on your disciples;

breathe your life into us.

Ephesians 4:7-8,11-16

7 But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.' ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Psalm 2:7-10

Quare fremuerunt gentes?

7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *

he said to me, "You are my Son;

this day have I be-gotten you.

8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
*
and the ends of the earth for your possession.

9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
be warned, you rulers of the earth.

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.

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus said to the apostles, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

The Officiant then begins the Prayers

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, hear our prayer;

And let our cry come to you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy: Give your blessings to the Diocese of Alaska.

Watch over our churches, sustain our people, strengthen our leaders. Through the Holy Spirit, guide and guard the Diocese, keeping it always under your care and protection. Let us be a loving family, serving you in faithful devotion to the Gospel of your son, Jesus Christ.

Give your blessings to Mark our bishop.

Give him a spirit of courage and right judgement, a spirit of knowledge and love. Let your Holy Spirit be his companion. Let your Gospel be always in his thoughts. May your presence in his life be a light for all to see, in every good work for the building up of your people and to the Glory of your Holy Name.

Give us the blessing of your example. Help us to follow in the Way of Jesus today and every day. Give us compassion at the center of all we do: Compassion for ourselves, as disciples still young in faith; compassion for others as members of our own family in God. Let us become examples for others as so many others have been examples to us, through your love and for the sake of your glory.

Watch over all elders and the brothers and sisters of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna.

If any are in a time of sorrow, sickness or need, give them the touch of your healing hand. If any are in times of joy, thanksgiving, or fulfilment give them the song of angels to praise your name. Let us be your servants in this life, just as we will be your sons and daughters in the life to come.

Free intercessions may be offered.

AMEN.

Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we,

being firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen,

Risen Christ of the miraculous catching of fish,

be with us as we work.

Risen Christ of the perfect lakeside meal,

be with us as we eat.

Risen Christ, of the workaday life

make this a day of joy and peace.

O mightiest King, co-eternal with the Father, who by Thy might hast vanquished hell and trodden death under foot, who hast bound the strong man, and by Thy miraculous power and the enlightening radiance of Thy unspeakable Godhead hast raised Adam from the tomb, send forth Thy invisible right hand, which is full of blessing, and bless us all. Amen.

Liturgy of St. Mark

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May God kindle in us the fire of love.

Amen.

A disciple of Jesus, named Mark, appears in several places in the New Testament. If all references to Mark can be accepted as referring to the same person, we learn that he was the son of a woman who owned a house in Jerusalem. Church tradition suggests that Mark may have been the young man who fled naked when Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. In his



letter to the Colossians, Paul refers to “Mark the cousin of Barnabas,” who was with him in his imprisonment. Mark set out with Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey, but he turned back for reasons which failed to satisfy Paul (Acts 15:36–40). When another journey was planned, Paul refused to have

Mark with him. Instead, Mark went with Barnabas to Cyprus. The breach between Paul and Mark was later healed, and Mark became one of Paul's companions in Rome, as well as a close friend of Peter's.

An early tradition recorded by Papas, Bishop of Hierapolis in Asia Minor at the beginning of the second century, names Mark as the author of the Gospel bearing his name, drawing his information from the teachings of Peter. In his First Letter, Peter refers to "my son Mark," which shows a close relationship between the two men (1 Peter 5:13).

The Church of Alexandria in Egypt claimed Mark as its first bishop and most illustrious martyr, and the great Church of St. Mark in Venice commemorates the disciple who progressed from turning back while on a missionary journey with Paul and Barnabas to proclaiming in his Gospel Jesus of Nazareth as Son of God, and bearing witness to that faith in his later life as friend and companion to the apostles Peter and Paul.

He is the patron saint of lawyers, barristers, notaries, Venice, and Egypt.

Tradition states he was martyred by authorities tying a rope to his neck and dragging him through the streets of Alexandria until he was dead.

The lion graphic is from the Book of Kells.

Friday, April 26 2024

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.

54 *Deus, in nomine*

1 Save me, O God, by your Name; *
in your might, defend my cause.

2 Hear my prayer, O God; *
give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For the arrogant have risen up against me,
and the ruthless have sought my life, *
those who have no regard for God.

4 Behold, God is my helper; *
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

5 Render evil to those who spy on me; *
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

6 I will offer you a freewill sacrifice *
and praise your Name, O Lord, for it is good.

7 For you have rescued me from every trouble, *
and my eye has seen the ruin of my foes.

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

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

3Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we decided to be left
alone in Athens; ²and we sent Timothy, our brother and co-worker
for God in proclaiming^{*} the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and

encourage you for the sake of your faith, ³so that no one would be shaken by these persecutions. Indeed, you yourselves know that this is what we are destined for. ⁴In fact, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we were to suffer persecution; so it turned out, as you know. ⁵For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith; I was afraid that somehow the tempter had tempted you and that our labour had been in vain.

6 But Timothy has just now come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love. He has told us also that you always remember us kindly and long to see us—just as we long to see you. ⁷For this reason, brothers and sisters,^{*} during all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you through your faith. ⁸For we now live, if you continue to stand firm in the Lord. ⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

The Officiant then begins the Prayers

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we

forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Lord, hear our prayer;

And let our cry come to you.

Let us pray.

O God of grace and mercy: Give your blessings to the Diocese of Alaska. Watch over our churches, sustain our people, strengthen our leaders. Through the Holy Spirit, guide and guard the Diocese, keeping it always under your care and protection. Let us be a loving family, serving you in faithful devotion to the Gospel of your son, Jesus Christ.

Give your blessings to Mark our bishop.

Give him a spirit of courage and right judgement, a spirit of knowledge and love. Let your Holy Spirit be his companion. Let your Gospel be always in his thoughts. May your presence in his life be a light for all to see, in every good work for the building up of your people and to the Glory of your Holy Name.

Give us the blessing of your example. Help us to follow in the Way of Jesus today and every day. Give us compassion at the center of all we do: Compassion for ourselves, as disciples still young in faith; compassion for others as members of our own family in God. Let us become examples for others as so many others have been examples to us, through your love and for the sake of your glory.

Watch over all elders and the brothers and sisters of the Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna.

If any are in a time of sorrow, sickness or need, give them the touch of your healing hand. If any are in times of joy, thanksgiving, or fulfilment give them the song of angels to praise your name. Let us be your servants in this life, just as we will be your sons and daughters in the life to come.

Free intercessions may be offered.

AMEN.

ROBERT HUNT

PRIEST & FIRST CHAPLAIN AT JAMESTOWN, 1608

Almighty God, we bless your Name for the life and witness of Robert Hunt, first chaplain to the Jamestown colony, who sought to unite your people in your love amid great hardship: Help us, like him, to work for reconciliation wherever we may be placed; through Jesus Christ your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen..

Final Collect

May God's love be the love that surrounds us today.

May God's peace be the peace that we share on our way.

May God's grace be the grace that our actions display.

May God's truth be the truth in the words that we say. Amen

Celtic

The service concludes as follows

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May Christ our Savior give us peace. **Amen.**

Robert Hunt (c. 1568 - 1608), a vicar in the Church of England, was chaplain of the expedition that founded, in 1607, the first successful English colony in the New World, at Jamestown, Virginia.

He served two parishes in England, leaving each under a cloud, and then was "recruited" by Richard Bancroft (the Archbishop of Canterbury) as chaplain for the newest expedition to the New World by the London Virginia Company

On April 26, 1607, after an unusually long voyage of 144 days, the 3 ships and 105 men and boys made landfall at the southern edge of the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. They named the location Cape Henry, in honour of the young Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales, eldest son of their king. There, Hunt led what was likely the first protestant sermon in America since Sir Francis Drake's landfall at California in 1579, planting a cross at the site.

Within a few weeks, the settlers chose a permanent inland site for their colony on the James River, naming it Jamestown in honor of King James I. The location was selected as being a strategic defensive position against possible attacks by ships of competing European factions. However, this came at a terrible price, as



Jamestown Island combined swampy and mosquito-infested land, offering poor hunting and little room for farming with brackish tidal river water and no fresh water springs. While conflicts with the other Europeans never became a problem, getting along with the Native Americans, and even more importantly, with each other almost immediately became major issues for the ill-prepared colonists. Despite the incredibly onerous circumstances of the Jamestown mission's beginnings, Rev. Hunt seemed to rise to the occasion, often mediating disputes between the camp's various factions, smoothing "ruffled feathers" and making peace. He was described by Edward Wingfield (first president of the Jamestown Governing Council) as "*a man not in any way to be touched with the rebellious humours of a popish spirit, nor blemished with the least suspicion of a factious schismatic, whereof I had a special care*".

Today, a shrine sits on the site at the National Park Service's Historic Jamestowne attraction on Jamestown Island. The shrine replicates the outdoor chapel conditions under which he spiritually led the men and boys, most of whom were to die, as did Chaplain Hunt, during the first year.

Saturday February 27 2024

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.

138 *Confitebor tibi*

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 love and faithfulness;

3 For you have glorified your Name *
and your word above all things.

4 When I called, you answered me; *
you increased my strength within me.

5 All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, *
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

6 They will sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.

7 Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; *
he perceives the haughty from afar.

8 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.

9 The Lord will make good his purpose for me; *

O Lord, your love endures for ever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

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.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

4 Finally, brothers and sisters,^{*} we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God (as, in fact, you are doing), you should do so more and more. ²For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from fornication; ⁴that each one of you knows how to control your own body^{*} in holiness and honour, ⁵not with lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶that no one wrongs or exploits a brother or sister^{*} in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we have already told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness. ⁸Therefore whoever rejects this rejects not human authority but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

9 Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters,^{*} you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; ¹⁰and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters^{*} throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved,^{*} to do so more and more, ¹¹to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, ¹²so that you may behave properly towards outsiders and be dependent on no one.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

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Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

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Free intercessions may be offered.

Amen.

ZITA OF TUSCANY
WORKER OF CHARITY, 1271

Merciful God, who has given to us all things necessary for life and godliness; Grant that we, like your servant Zita, may be faithful in the exercise of our duties and that, whatever you give us to do, we may do it heartily to you for the honor and glory of your Name; through him who has called us to virtue, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Final Collect

May we never walk in solitude or fear, but the fellowship of the Spirit warm our hearts, the love of the Saviour bring us joy and the shelter of the Father's arms forever keep us safe. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May Christ dwell in our hearts by faith. Amen.



Zita was born in the early 13th century in the village of Montsegradi in Tuscany; she died on April

12th in 1271. Zita was born into a poor family, but one in the which the Christian faith was emphasized. One of her uncles was a hermit, a sister became a nun, and the entire family was faithful in worship together, both at church and in their home.

At the age of 12 she entered the service of the Fatinelli family in Lucca. Although little more than a child, she maintained the serious faith that she had been taught by her family. Scrupulous in the exercise of her domestic duties, she embodied Paul's advice in Colossians 3:23, "Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters." Her earnest diligence, however, was first met with scorn from both her employers and her fellow servants. Nevertheless, she continued faithfully in her work and exhibited a peace that surpassed comprehension.

Through her perseverance in doing good, she eventually earned the respect and affection of the whole household.

In due course, the once despised servant became the housekeeper. As head of the household staff, Zita demonstrated such Christlike benevolence that she came to be venerated throughout Lucca even before her death. Mindful of the poverty in which she had been raised, she gave away most of her income to those in need.

After her death, the popularity of her cult spread as far as England, where she is called Sitha; images of her may be found in churches throughout southern England. In popular piety, she is often entreated in order to find lost keys.