Opening Sentence
I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night. I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not fall. Psalm 16:7,8

Versicle and Response
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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. Aleluia.

Invitatory
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.

Psalms
73 Quam bonus Israel!

1 Truly, God is good to Israel, *
to those who are pure in heart.

2 But as for me, my feet had nearly slipped; *
I had almost tripped and fallen;

3 Because I envied the proud *
and saw the prosperity of the wicked:

4 For they suffer no pain, *
and their bodies are sleek and sound;

5 In the misfortunes of others they have no share; *
they are not afflicted as others are;

6 Therefore they wear their pride like a necklace *
and wrap their violence about them like a cloak.

7 Their iniquity comes from gross minds, *
and their hearts overflow with wicked thoughts.
8 They scoff and speak maliciously; *
out of their haughtiness they plan oppression.

9 They set their mouths against the heavens, *
and their evil speech runs through the world.

10 And so the people turn to them *
and find in them no fault.

11 They say, "How should God know? *
is there knowledge in the Most High?"
12 So then, these are the wicked; *
always at ease, they increase their wealth.

13 In vain have I kept my heart clean, *
and washed my hands in innocence.

14 I have been afflicted all day long, *
and punished every morning.

15 Had I gone on speaking this way, *
I should have betrayed the generation of your children.

16 When I tried to understand these things, *
it was too hard for me;

17 Until I entered the sanctuary of God *
and discerned the end of the wicked.

18 Surely, you set them in slippery places; *
you cast them down in ruin.

19 Oh, how suddenly do they come to destruction, *
come to an end, and perish from terror!

20 Like a dream when one awakens, O Lord, *
when you arise you will make their image vanish.

21 When my mind became embittered, *
I was sorely wounded in my heart.

22 I was stupid and had no understanding; *
I was like a brute beast in your presence.

23 Yet I am always with you; *
you hold me by my right hand.
24 You will guide me by your counsel, *
and afterwards receive me with glory.

25 Whom have I in heaven but you? *
and having you I desire nothing upon earth.

26 Though my flesh and my heart should waste away, *
God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.

27 Truly, those who forsake you will perish; *
you destroy all who are unfaithful.

28 But it is good for me to be near God; *
I have made the Lord God my refuge.

29 I will speak of all your works *
in the gates of the city of Zion.

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.

Reading

Acts 17:1-15

17After Paul and Silas* had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica,
where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three sabbath
days argued with them from the scriptures, 3explaining and proving that it was necessary for the
Messiah* to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, ‘This is the Messiah,* Jesus whom I am
proclaiming to you.’ 4Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of
the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. 5But the Jews became jealous, and with the
help of some ruffians in the market-places they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they
were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason’s house.
6When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers* before the city authorities,*
shouting, ‘These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, 7and
Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying
that there is another king named Jesus.’ 8The people and the city officials were disturbed when they
heard this, 9and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

10 That very night the believers* sent Paul and Silas off to Beroea; and when they arrived, they went to
the Jewish synagogue. 11These Jews were more receptive than those in Thessalonica, for they
welcomed the message very eagerly and examined the scriptures every day to see whether these things
were so. 12Many of them therefore believed, including not a few Greek women and men of high
standing. 13But when the Jews of Thessalonica learned that the word of God had been proclaimed by
Paul in Beroea as well, they came there too, to stir up and incite the crowds. 14Then the believers*
immediately sent Paul away to the coast, but Silas and Timothy remained behind. 15Those who
conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and after receiving instructions to have Silas and Timothy
join him as soon as possible, they left him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
Canticle 17
Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people 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.

The Apostle's 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 Lord be with you.
And also with you.
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**

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 all your saints, 
entrusting one another and all our life to Christ, 
We entreat you, O Lord.

**Collect of the Day: Proper 19**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may 
in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**A Collect for Fridays**

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to 
follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and 
wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

**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.

**Prayers and Intercessions**

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.
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.

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.
Ephesians 3:20,21