

# *Enriching Our Worship*

## Order of Worship for the Evening

### Opening Acclamation:

Officiant: Stay with us, Christ, for it is evening.  
People **Make your Church bright with your radiance.**  
Officiant Blessed be the God of our salvation:  
People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

### Confession:

Let us confess our sins to God.

**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.**

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.**

Leader: O God, be not far from us.  
People: **Come quickly to help us, O God.**  
**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Phos Hilaron

**Light of the world, in grace and beauty, Mirror of God's eternal face,  
Transparent flame of love's free duty, You bring salvation to our race.  
Now, as we see the lights of evening, We raise our voice in hymns of praise;  
Worthy are you of endless blessing, Sun of our night, lamp of our days.**

### The Psalm *(Choose one of the following.)*

#### Psalm 134

**Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, \*  
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.  
Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; \*  
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.**

Antiphon: Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun.

*or*

#### Psalm 141:1-3,8ab

**O LORD, I call to you; come to me quickly; \* hear my voice when I cry to you.  
Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, \*  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.  
Set a watch before my mouth, O LORD, and guard the door of my lips; \*  
let not my heart incline to any evil thing. My eyes are turned to you, Lord GOD; \* in you I take refuge.**

Antiphon: Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands like the evening sacrifice.

### Canticle: The Magnificat

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, \*  
for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name.**

You have mercy on those who fear you \* from generation to generation.  
You have shown strength with your arm \* and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
Casting down the mighty from their thrones \* and lifting up the lowly.  
You have filled the hungry with good things \* and sent the rich away empty.  
You have come to the help of your servant Israel, \* for you have remembered your promise of mercy,  
The promise made to our forebears, \* to Abraham and his children forever.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

**The Apostles' Creed** (*read in unison*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

Leader: Hear our cry, O God.

**People: And listen to our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,  
**Savior deliver us.**

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,  
**Savior deliver us.**

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,  
**Savior deliver us.**

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,  
**Savior deliver us.**

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,  
**Savior deliver us.**

**The Collect: Ash Wednesday**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Concluding Sentence:**

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God strengthen us to be Christ's hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. **Amen.**