



St. Charles
Borromeo
Church

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
Memorial of Saints Basil the Great
and Gregory Nazianzen
January 2, 2026



INTRODUCTION

Leader: God, + come to my assistance.

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

PSALMODY

Psalm 41: Prayer of a sick person

One of you will betray me, yes, one who eats with me (Mark 14:18).

Antiphon:

Leader: Lord, lay your healing hand upon me,

All: **for I have sinned.**

Leader: Happy the man who considers the poor and the weak.

The Lord will save him in the day of evil,

will guard him, give him life, make him happy in the land and

will not give him up to the will of his foes.

The Lord will help him on his bed of pain,

he will bring him back from sickness to health.

All: **As for me, I said: "Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul
for I have sinned against you."**

My foes are speaking evil against me.

"How long before he dies and his name be forgotten?"

They come to visit me and speak empty words,
their hearts full of malice, they spread it abroad.

My enemies whisper together against me.

They all weigh up the evil which is on me:

**"Some deadly thing has fastened upon him,
he will not rise again from where he lies."**

**Thus even my friend, in whom I trusted,
who ate my bread, has turned against me.**

But you, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let me rise once more and I will repay them.

By this I shall know that you are my friend,

if my foes do not shout in triumph over me.

If you uphold me I shall be unharmed

and set in your presence for evermore.

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel
from age to age. Amen. Amen.**

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:

Leader: Lord, lay your healing hand upon me, ₃

All: **for I have sinned.**

Psalm 46: God our refuge and strength
He shall be called Emmanuel, which means: God-with-us (Matthew 1:23).

Antiphon:

Leader: The mighty Lord is with us;

All: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

God is for us a refuge and strength,
a helper close at hand, in time of distress:
so we shall not fear though the earth should rock, though the
mountains fall into the depths of the sea, even though its
waters rage and foam, even though the mountains be shaken
by its waves.

**The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

The waters of a river give joy to God's city,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within, it cannot be shaken;
God will help it at the dawning of the day.
Nations are in tumult, kingdoms are shaken:
he lifts his voice, the earth shrinks away.

**The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come, consider the works of the Lord,
the redoubtable deeds he has done on the earth.
He puts an end to wars over all the earth;
the bow he breaks, the spear he snaps.
He burns the shields with fire.
"Be still and know that I am God,
supreme among the nations, supreme on the earth!"

**The Lord of hosts is with us:
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

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:

Leader: The mighty Lord is with us;

All: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: All-powerful Father, the refuge and strength of your people, you protect in adversity and defend in prosperity those who put their trust in you. May they persevere in seeking your will and find their way to you through obedience.

Canticle: Revelation 15:3-4: Hymn of adoration

Antiphon

Leader: King of all the ages,
All: **your ways are perfect and true.**

Mighty and wonderful are your works,
Lord God Almighty!
Righteous and true are your ways,
O King of the nations!

**Who would dare refuse you honor,
or the glory due your name, O Lord?**

Since you alone are holy,
all nations shall come
and worship in your presence.
Your mighty deeds are clearly seen.

**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

Leader: King of all the ages,
All: **your ways are perfect and true.**

READING: James 3:17-18

Wisdom from above is first of all innocent. It is also peaceable, lenient, docile, rich in sympathy and the kindly deeds that are its fruits, impartial and sincere. The harvest of justice is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.

RESPONSORY

Reader: In the midst of the Church they spoke with eloquence.

All: **In the midst of the Church they spoke with eloquence.**

The Lord filled them with the spirit of wisdom and understanding.
They spoke with eloquence.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
In the midst of the Church they spoke with eloquence

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: The man who not only teaches but does what is right
All: **will be counted great in the kingdom of God.**

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.

**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:

Leader: The man who not only teaches but does what is right
All: **will be counted great in the kingdom of God.**

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: Jesus Christ is worthy of all praise, for he was appointed high priest among men and their representative before God. We honor him and in our weakness we pray:

All: Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

You marvelously illuminated your Church through distinguished leaders and holy men and women,
– let Christians rejoice always in such splendor.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

You forgave the sins of your people when their holy leaders like Moses sought your compassion,
– through their intercession continue to purify and sanctify your holy people.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

In the midst of their brothers and sisters you anointed your holy ones and filled them with the Holy Spirit,
– fill all the leaders of your people with the same Spirit.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

You yourself are the only visible possession of our holy pastors,
– let none of them, won at the price of your blood, remain far from you.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

The shepherds of your Church keep your flock from being snatched out of your hand. Through them you give your flock eternal life,
– save those who have died, those for whom you gave up your life.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

God our Father,
you inspired the Church
with the example and teaching of your saints Basil and
Gregory.

In humility may we come to know your truth
and put it into action with faith and love.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
– Amen.

DISMISSAL

If a priest or deacon presides, he dismisses the people:

The Lord be with you.
– **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
– **Amen.**

Go in peace.
– **Thanks be to God.**

*In the absence of a priest or deacon and in individual
recitation, Evening Prayer concludes:*

Leader: May the Lord + bless us,
protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.
– **Amen.**