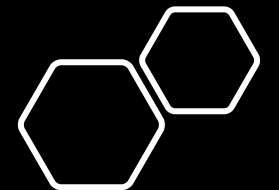




St. Charles  
Borromeo  
Church

# Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer  
April 17, 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 116:1-9 Thanksgiving

*We must endure many trials before entering God's kingdom  
(Acts 14:21)*

#### **Antiphon:**

*Leader:* The Lord has rescued my life

*All:* **from the grasp of hell, alleluia.**

*Leader:* I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

*All:* **They surrounded me, the snares of death, with the  
anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.**

O Lord, my God, deliver me!

**How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me.**

Turn back, my soul, to your rest  
for the Lord has been good;  
he has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.**

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 Lord has rescued my life

*All:* **from the grasp of hell, alleluia.**

## Psalm Prayer

*Leader:* God of power and mercy, through your Son's passion and resurrection you have freed us from the bonds of death and the anguish of separation from you. Be ever with us on our pilgrimage; then we shall sing rather than weep. Keep our feet from stumbling, so that we may be able to follow you until we come to eternal rest.

**Psalm 121:** Guardian of his people  
*Never again will they hunger and thirst, never again know scorching heat*  
(Revelation 7:16)

**Antiphon:**

*Leader:* The Lord watches over his people,  
*All:* **and protects them as the apple of his eye, alleluia.**

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:  
from where shall come my help?  
My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth.

**May he never allow you to stumble!**  
**Let him sleep not, your guard.**  
**No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,**  
**Israel's guard.**

The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
at your right side he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night.

**The Lord will guard you from evil,  
he will guard your soul.**  
**The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and 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 Lord watches over his people,  
*All:* **and protects them as the apple of his eye, alleluia.**

**Psalm Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared a quiet place for us in  
your Father's eternal home. Watch over our welfare on this  
perilous journey, shade us from the burning heat of day, and  
keep our lives free of evil until the end.

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

**Antiphon**

*Leader:* The Lord is my strength, I shall always praise him,

*All:* **for he has become my Savior, alleluia.**

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:* The Lord is my strength, I shall always praise him,

*All:* **for he has become my Savior, alleluia.**

**READING:** Hebrews 5:8-10

Son though he was, Christ learned obedience from what he suffered; and when perfected, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, designated by God as high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**RESPONSORY**

*Reader:* The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.

**All: The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.**

When they saw the risen Lord,  
– **alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
– **The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.**

## GOSPEL CANTICLE

**Canticle of Mary:** Luke 1:46-55

*The soul rejoices in the Lord*

*Leader:* To those who ask him,

*All:* **the Father will send the Holy Spirit, alleluia.**

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:* To those who ask him,

*All:* **the Father will send the Holy Spirit, alleluia.**

## INTERCESSIONS

*Reader:* Let us praise Christ, the source of all life and the foundation of all virtue:

**All: Lord, establish your kingdom in the world.**

Jesus our Savior, you died in your human nature but were restored to life by the Spirit,

– make us die to sin, and live by the Spirit.

**Lord, establish your kingdom in the world.**

You sent your disciples into the whole world to preach the Gospel to every creature,

– inspire those who preach the Gospel to live by your Spirit.

**Lord, establish your kingdom in the world.**

All power in heaven and on earth has been given to you, to bear witness to the truth,

– keep the hearts of those who govern us faithful to the truth.

**Lord, establish your kingdom in the world.**

You make all things new, and command us to wait and watch for your kingdom,

– grant that the more we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the more we may seek to better this present world.

**Lord, establish your kingdom in the world.**

You went down among the dead to bring them the good news of the Gospel,

– be the great joy and hope of all the dead.

**Lord, establish your kingdom in the world.**

## **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**

Father,  
in your plan of salvation  
your Son Jesus Christ accepted the cross  
and freed us from the power of the enemy.  
May we come to share the glory of his resurrection  
for he 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:*

May the Lord Jesus, who loved children, bless you and  
keep you in his love, now and for ever.  
– **Amen.**

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:*

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