

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
July 3, 2026
Feast of St. Thomas



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 116:10-19 Thanksgiving in the Temple

Through Christ let us offer God a continual sacrifice of praise (Hebrews 13:15)

Antiphon:

Leader: Lord, we do not know where you are going;
how can we know the way?

All: **Jesus replied: I am the way, the truth and the life.**

Leader: I trusted, even when I said:
“I am sorely afflicted,”
and when I said in my alarm:
“No man can be trusted.”

All: **How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord’s name.**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill
before all his people.
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.

**Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord’s name.**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

**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, we do not know where you are going;
how can we know the way?

All: **Jesus replied: I am the way, the truth and the life.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Father, precious in your sight is the death of the saints, but precious above all is the love with which Christ suffered to redeem us. In this life we fill up in our own flesh what is still lacking in the sufferings of Christ; accept this as our sacrifice of praise, and we shall even now taste the joy of the new Jerusalem.

Psalm 126 Joyful hope in God

Just as you share in sufferings, so you will share in the divine glory. (2 Corinthians 1:7)

Antiphon:

Leader: Thomas, who was called the Twin, was not present when Jesus appeared to the apostles;

All: **so they told him: We have seen the Lord, alleluia.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

**The heathens themselves said: “What marvels
the Lord worked for them!”**

**What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

**They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.**

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: Thomas, who was called the Twin, was not present when Jesus appeared to the apostles;

All: **so they told him: We have seen the Lord, alleluia.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Lord, you have raised us from the earth; may you let the seeds of justice, which we have sown in tears, grow and increase in your sight. May we reap in joy the harvest we hope for patiently.

Canticle: Ephesians 1:3-10 God our Savior

Antiphon

Leader: With your hand, touch the mark of the nails;

All: **doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.**

Praised be the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has bestowed on us in Christ
every spiritual blessing in the heavens.

**God chose us in him
before the world began
to be holy
and blameless in his sight.**

He predestined us
to be his adopted sons through Jesus Christ,
such was his will and pleasure,
that all might praise the glorious favor
he has bestowed on us in his beloved.

**In him and through his blood, we have been redeemed,
and our sins forgiven,
so immeasurably generous
is God’s favor to us.**

God has given us the wisdom
to understand fully the mystery,
the plan he was pleased
to decree in Christ.

**A plan to be carried out
in Christ, in the fullness of time,
to bring all things into one in him,
in the heavens and on 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.

Antiphon

Leader: With your hand, touch the mark of the nails;

All: **doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.**

READING: Ephesians 4:11–13

Christ gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers in roles of service for the faithful to build up the body of Christ, till we become one in faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, and form that perfect man who is Christ come to full stature

Responsory

Reader: Tell all the nations how glorious God is.

All: — **Tell all the nations how glorious God is.**

Make known his wonders to every people,
— **how glorious God is.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
— **Tell all the nations how glorious God is.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: I touched the mark of the nails with my fingers;

All: **I put my hand into his side and said:**

My Lord and my God, 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: I touched the mark of the nails with my fingers;

All: **I put my hand into his side and said:**

My Lord and my God, alleluia.

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: My brothers and sisters, we build on the foundation of the apostles. Let us pray to our almighty Father for his holy people and say:

All: Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

Father, you wanted your Son to be seen first by the apostles after the resurrection from the dead,
— we ask you to make us his witnesses to the farthest corners of the world.

Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to preach your good news to the poor,
— help us to preach this Gospel to every creature.

Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to sow the seed of unending life,
— grant that we who work at sowing the seed may share the joy of the harvest.

Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

You sent your Son to reconcile all to you through his blood,
— help us all to work toward achieving this reconciliation.

Be mindful of your Church, O Lord.

Your Son sits at your right hand in heaven,
— let the dead enter your kingdom of joy.

Be mindful of your Church, O 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

Almighty Father,

as we honor Thomas the apostle,
let us always experience the help of his prayers.
May we have eternal life by believing in Jesus,
whom Thomas acknowledged as Lord,
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:

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.