St. Charles Borromeo Church

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
November 20, 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,
All: **for I have sinned.**

Psalm Prayer

Leader: Lord Jesus, healer of soul and body, you said: Blessed are the merciful, they will obtain mercy. Teach us to come to the aid of the needy in a spirit of love, that we in turn may be received and strengthened by you.

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: All nations will come
All: **and worship before you, O Lord.**

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: All nations will come
All: **and worship before you, O Lord.**

READING: Romans 15:1-3

We who are strong in faith should be patient with the scruples of those whose faith is weak; we must not be selfish. Each should please his neighbor so as to do him good by building up his spirit. Thus, in accord with Scripture, Christ did not please himself: “The reproaches they uttered against you fell on me.”

RESPONSORY

Reader: Christ loved us and washed away our sins, in his own blood.
All: **Christ loved us and washed away our sins, in his own blood.**

He made us a nation of kings and priests,
— in his own blood.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
— **Christ loved us and washed away our sins, in his own blood.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55
The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: The Lord has come to the help of his servants,
All: **for he has remembered his promise of mercy.**

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 Lord has come to the help of his servants,
All: **for he has remembered his promise of mercy.**

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: Blessed be God, who hears the prayers of the needy, and fills the hungry with good things. Let us pray to him in confidence:
All: **Lord, show us your mercy.**

Merciful Father, upon the cross Jesus offered you the perfect evening sacrifice,
— we pray now for all the suffering members of his Church.
Lord, show us your mercy.

Release those in bondage, give sight to the blind,
— shelter the widow and the orphan.
Lord, show us your mercy.

Clothe your faithful people in the armor of salvation,
— and shield them from the deceptions of the devil.
Lord, show us your mercy.

Let your merciful presence be with us, Lord, at the hour of our death,
— may we be found faithful and leave this world in your peace.
Lord, show us your mercy.

Lead the departed into the light of your dwelling-place,
— that they may gaze upon you for all eternity.
Lord, show us your mercy.

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,
help us to follow the example
of your Son's patience in suffering.
By sharing the burden he carries,
may we come to share his glory
in the kingdom where he lives 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.

All: **Amen.**