

**A Service of Evening Prayer**  
**Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church**  
**Wednesday in the Fifth Week of Easter**  
**Commemorating the Life of Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993)**  
May 18, 2022 (transferred)

**Opening Sentence**

*Presider*

"But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them." *Luke 24: 28-29*

*Presider*

Let us pray.

*All*

***Gracious God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our savior. Amen.***

**Light of the World *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 the human 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.***

***Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

**Psalm 34:15-22**

*Antiphon* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

- 15 Your eyes, O God, are upon the righteous,\* and your ears are open to their cry.  
16 The face of God is against those who do evil,\* to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.  
17 The righteous cry, and God hears them\* and delivers them from all their troubles.  
18 Our God is near to the brokenhearted\* and will save those whose spirits are crushed.  
19 Many are the troubles of the righteous,\* but God will deliver them.  
20 God will keep safe all their bones;\* not one of them shall be broken.  
21 Evil shall slay the wicked,\* and those who hate the righteous will be punished.  
22 You ransom the life of your servants,\* and none will be punished who trust in you.

*All* ***Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God,\*  
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.***

*Antiphon* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## First Reading

*Lector:* A reading from Amos (5:10-15, 21-24).

They hate the one who reproves in the gate,  
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.  
Therefore, because you trample on the poor  
and take from them levies of grain,  
you have built houses of hewn stone,  
but you shall not live in them;  
you have planted pleasant vineyards,  
but you shall not drink their wine.  
For I know how many are your transgressions,  
and how great are your sins—  
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,  
and push aside the needy in the gate.  
Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;  
for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil,  
that you may live;  
and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,  
just as you have said.  
Hate evil and love good,  
and establish justice in the gate;  
But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*Lector:* The Word of God.

*All:* ***Thanks be to God.***

## Canticle

1 John 3:1-3

***Alleluia, Alleluia.\****

***See what love has been given to us,***

***that we should be called children of God;\*  
for indeed so we are. Alleluia.***

***The world does not recognize us,\*  
For the world has not recognized God.***

***Beloved, we are God's children now;\*  
what we later will be has yet to be revealed.***

***What we do know is this:\*  
when all things come to light, we will be like God,***

***for we will truly see God as God truly is: Alleluia.\****

***All who have such hope in God purify themselves,***

***just as Christ is pure.***

***Alleluia, Alleluia.***

## **Second Reading**

*Reader*            A reading from the Gospel of Matthew (23:1-11).

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant."

*Presider*            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*All*                    ***Thanks be to God.***

## **Shared Reflection**

### **The Magnificat**

*Antiphon*            Make fast with bonds of peace the unity the Spirit gives. \*  
                              There is one Body and one Spirit, Alleluia.

***My soul proclaims your greatness, O God;  
my spirit rejoices in you, 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, O God, 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, Sara and their children forever.*

*Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God, \**  
*as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.*

*Antiphon*      *Make fast with bonds of peace the unity the Spirit gives. \**  
*There is one Body and one Spirit, Alleluia.*

### **The Prayers**

*Officiant*    *God be with you.*

*People*      ***And also with you.***

*Officiant*    *Let us pray.*

*God in heaven, hallowed be your name.*  
*Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.*  
*Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins*  
*as we forgive those who sin against us.*  
*Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.*

### **Suffrages**

V.    Show us your mercy, O God;  
R.    **And grant us your salvation.**  
V.    Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R.    **Let your people sing with joy.**  
V.    Give peace, O God, in all the world;  
R.    **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
V.    O God, keep this nation under your care;  
R.    **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V.    Let your way be known upon earth;  
R.    **Your saving health among all nations.**  
V.    Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten;  
R.    **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V.    Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R.    **And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.**

*The Officiant invites additional prayers, silently or aloud.*

### **Collects**

*Officiant*

Eternal and ever-gracious God, you blessed your servant Thurgood Marshall with exceptional grace and courage to discern and speak the truth: Grant that, following his example, we may know you and recognize that we are all your children, brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, who teaches us to love one another; and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God of peace, you brought back from the dead our Savior Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. Make us, through the power of his risen life at work in us, complete in everything good and well pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Keep watch, dear God, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, O Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless God.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant*

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

#### Sources

- This evening prayer service is adapted from Vespers in the *Saint Helena Breviary* (Church Publishing, 2006); Evening Prayer in *Enriching Our Worship I* (New York: Church Publishing, 1998); and the *Book of Common Prayer* (Church Publishing, 1979)
- The Psalm translation is from *The CSF Breviary* (Community of St. Francis, 1995).
- The antiphon on the Psalm and the Magnificat are from the Saint Helena Breviary (New York: Church Publishing, 2006)
- The readings for the Feast of Thurgood Marshall can be found in *Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018*, p. 280 online at <https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/21034>
- The Collect for Easter is adapted from the *BCP* by Frank Griswold in *Praying Our Days: A Guide and Companion* (Morehouse Publishing, 2009), 14.