

## Vestry Prayer

Stay with us, Lord, for evening comes, the sun has run its course; shed light on our path from the fountain of life so that our sure steps may bring us closer to you.

### Stewardship and Community Engagement

Light the path of partnership with our local community and strengthen us as co-workers in the building of your Kingdom.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

### Diversity

Light the path of our unity in you as diverse members of one body, each dependent on the encouragement of the other to grow in faith, hope and love.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

### Education

Light the path to deeper knowledge of you as we walk together in your word.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

### Outreach

Light the path that leads to you by serving others

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

### Pastoral Care and Hospitality

Light the path of the accompaniment of others in times of challenge, in times of joy and on those occasions by which we mark the passing of time.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

### Worship

Light the path of praise and worship. Walking in such paths is a foretaste of the fullness of life that waits for us.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

### Building and Grounds

Light the path of the proper care of our physical resources for current and future mission.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

Finance

Light the path of trust and hope in the abundance of your provision for the work you have called us to do.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

Fr Tom

Light the path of parish ministry that we walk with our brother, Tom. You have given him gifts of leadership and spirituality that continue to support developments in ministry that are latent within our faith community. Bring to fruition the good work you have begun in him.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

Vestry

Light the path of the vestry with love for each other. Give this body the ability, born of trust in you, to imagine the future you have in mind for us. Our hope's fulfillment already exists in your will, for you have made the paths we travel and plotted their courses to end in you.

**Have mercy on your people, Lord**

We offer the prayers and praises of our hearts

**O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!**

**Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

## Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

What do you see in this reading through the lens of parish leadership?

What gifts do we have to celebrate?

Where do we see signs of abundance?