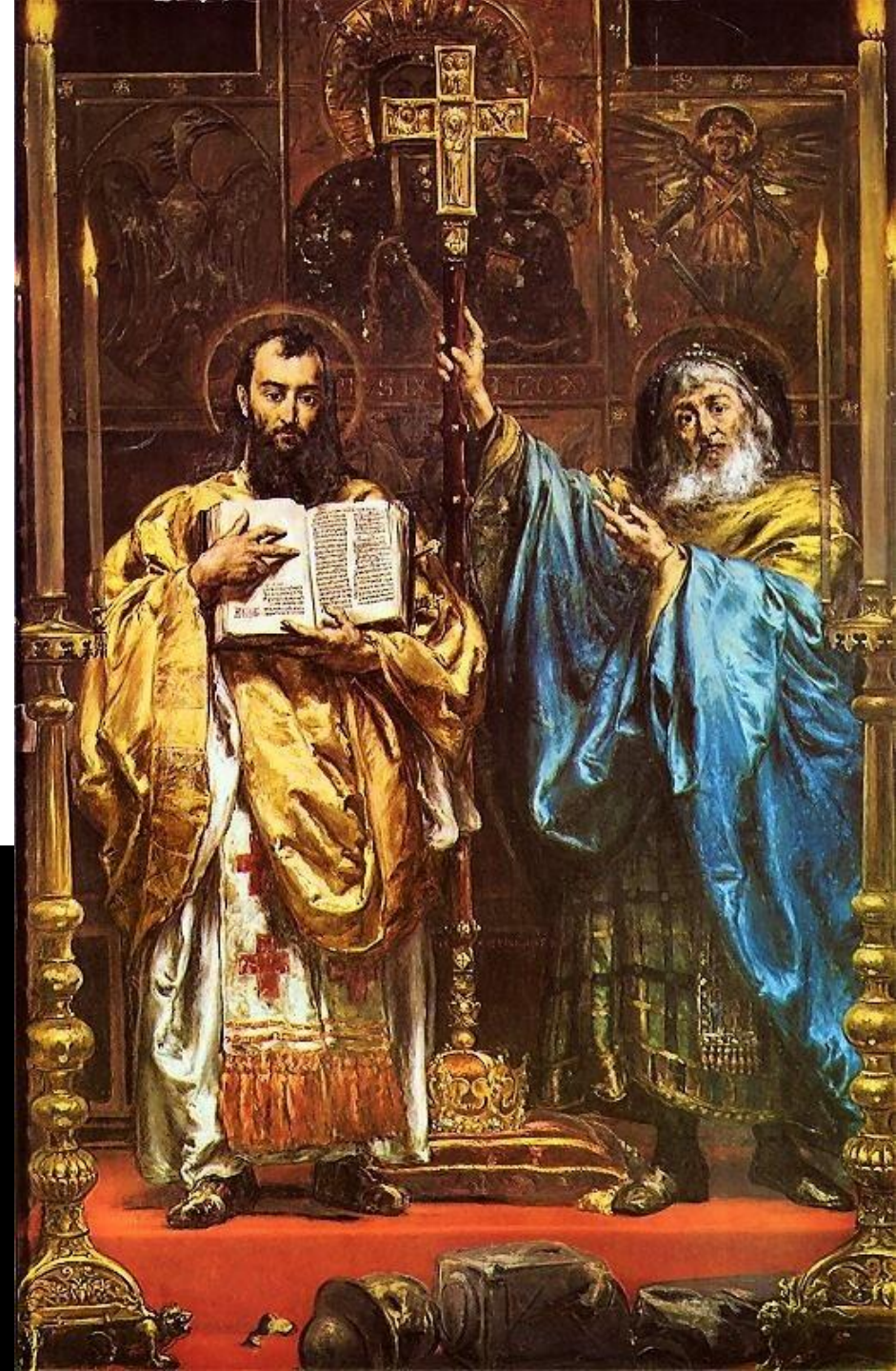




St. Charles
Borromeo
Church

Vespers

Friday Evening Prayer
February 14, 2025
Memorial of Saints Cyril and Methodius



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, ³

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: 1 Peter 5:1-4

To the elders among you, I, a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and sharer in the glory that is to be revealed, make this appeal. God's flock is in your midst; give it a shepherd's care. Watch over it willingly, as God would have you do, not under constraint, and not for shameful profit, either, but generously. Be examples to the flock, not lording it over those assigned to you, so that when the chief Shepherd appears, you will win for yourselves the unfading crown of glory.

RESPONSORY

Reader: These are men who loved their brethren and ever prayed for them.

All: These are men who loved their brethren and ever prayed for them.

They spent themselves in their service,
— **and ever prayed for them.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
These are men who loved their brethren and ever prayed for them.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:46-55

The soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: Because these great men proclaimed his truth,

All: **God made them glorious and gave them his friendship.**

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: Because these great men proclaimed his truth,

All: **God made them glorious and gave them his friendship.**

INTERCESSIONS

Reader: Jesus Christ is worthy of all praise, for he was appointed high priest among men and women and their representative before God. We honor him and in our frailty we pray:

All: Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

You marvelously illuminated your Church through distinguished leaders and holy men and women,
– let Christians rejoice always in such splendor.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

You forgave the sins of your people when their holy leaders like Moses sought your compassion,
– through their intercession continue to purify and sanctify your holy people.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

In the midst of their brothers and sisters you anointed your holy ones and filled them with the Holy Spirit,
– fill all the leaders of your people with the same Spirit.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

You yourself are the only visible possession of our holy pastors,
– let none of them, won at the price of your blood, remain far from you.

Bring salvation to your people, Lord.

The shepherds of your Church keep your flock from being snatched out of your hand. Through them you give your flock eternal life,
– save those who have died, those for whom you gave up your life.

Bring salvation to your people, 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

Father,
you brought the light of the gospel to the Slavic nations
through Saint Cyril and his brother Saint Methodius.
Open our hearts to understand your teaching
and help us to become one in faith and praise.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who 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.

All: Amen.