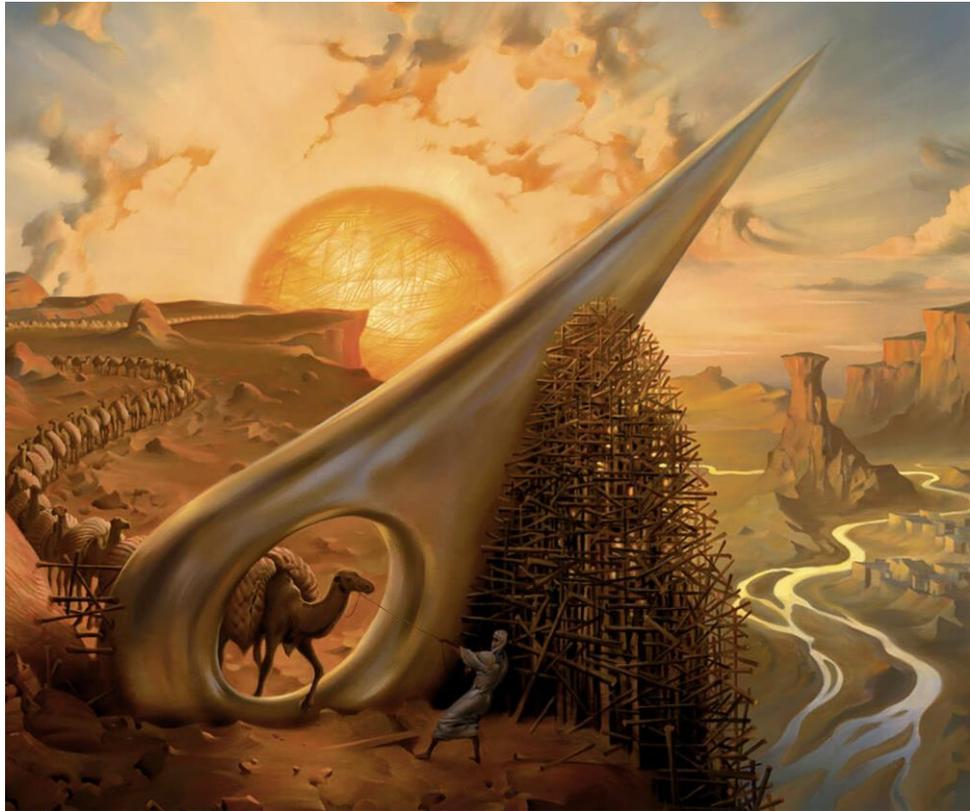




**St Mark's**  
NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTRE



'Eye of the Needle' by Vladimir Kush

## Morning Prayer

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022**

Welcome to our livestreamed chapel.

Join live 10.30am AEST Tuesdays—Thursdays

<https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/692025370>

further info: <https://stmarks.edu.au/about/worship-at-st-marks/>

If what we do is new to you, please feel free to let it wash over you, and join in as you are able. We say the short **bold sections** together, not caring if internet latency makes it a little garbled. If you are attending in person please make sure you are registered as being on site.

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing;  
in everything give thanks;

**for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.**

1 Thessalonians 5.16–18

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

*The Opening Canticle, A Song of God's Grace*

Blessed are you,  
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
for you have blessed us in Christ Jesus  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.  
You chose us to be yours in Christ  
before the foundation of the world:  
that we should be holy and blameless before you.  
In love you destined us to be your children,  
through Jesus Christ:  
according to the purpose of your will,  
To the praise of your glorious grace:  
which you freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1.3–6

*The Opening Prayer*

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence may be kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and forever. **Amen.**

*The Psalms as appointed. A pause is observed after each.*

## **Psalm 25**

- 1** In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:  
in you have I trusted, let me not be ashamed,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- 2** Let none who wait for you be put to shame:  
but let those that break faith  
be confounded and gain nothing.
- 3** Show me your ways, O Lord:  
and teach me your paths.
- 4** Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:  
for you are the God of my salvation.
- 5** In you have I hoped all the day long:  
because of your goodness, O Lord.
- 6** Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness:  
for they are from of old.
- 7** Remember not the sins of my youth,  
nor my transgressions:  
but according to your mercy think on me.
- 8** Good and upright is the Lord:  
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.
- 9** The meek he will guide in the path of justice:  
and teach the humble his ways.
- 10** All the paths of the Lord are faithful and true:  
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.
- 11** For your name's sake, O Lord:  
be merciful to my sin, though it is great.
- 12** Who are they that fear the Lord?:

them will the Lord direct  
in the way that they should choose.

**13** Their souls shall dwell at ease:

and their children shall inherit the land.

**14** The confidences of God belong to those that fear him:

and his covenant shall give them understanding.

**15** My eyes are ever looking to the Lord:

for he will bring my feet out of the net.

**16** Turn your face toward me and be gracious:

for I am alone and in misery.

**17** O free my heart from pain:

and bring me out of my distress.

**18** Give heed to my affliction and adversity:

and forgive me all my sins.

**19** Consider my enemies, how many they are:

and they bear a violent hate against me.

**20** O keep my life, and deliver me:

put me not to shame, for I come to you for refuge.

**21** Let innocence and integrity be my guard:

for in you have I hoped.

**22** O God, deliver Israel:

out of all their tribulation.

*At the end of the (last) pause there may follow*

We consecrate this day to your service, O Lord; may all our thoughts, words, and actions be well-pleasing to you and serve the good of our brothers and sisters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

*One or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.*

### **Matthew 19.16-30**

Then someone came to him and said, 'Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?' And he said to him, 'Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.' He said to him, 'Which ones?' And Jesus said, 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honour your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' The young man said to him, 'I have kept all these; what do I still lack?' Jesus said to him, 'If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, 'Then who can be saved?' But Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible.' Then Peter said in reply, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

*The readings may be followed by a period of silence for reflection, a hymn or*

May your word live in us

**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

*The Prayers*

Lord have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy.

*The Lord's Prayer and the Collect of the Day*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist & Martyr**

Almighty God,  
who through your Son Jesus Christ  
called Matthew from the selfish pursuit of gain  
to become an apostle and evangelist:  
free us from all greed and love of riches  
so that we may follow the steps of our Lord Jesus Christ  
in the way of self-giving love;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Intercessions and Thanksgivings may be made according to local custom and need.*

*The Morning Collect*

Eternal God and Father,  
by whose power we are created  
and by whose love we are redeemed:  
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,  
that we may give ourselves to your service,  
and live this day in love  
to one another and to you;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us praise the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in such harmony with one another in accord with Christ Jesus, that we may with one voice glorify our God and Father.

**Amen.**

Romans 15.5–6