



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN VERMONT

Together in Christ...growing locally, serving globally

Welcome to Morning Prayer with the people of the
Episcopal Diocese of Vermont.

A few notes about today's service.

Please ***leave your microphone on mute*** during the
responsory portions of the service. You are welcome to
unmute yourself when you are invited to offer your prayers,
then remember to mute it again when you have completed
your prayer.

We will always read the Gospel appointed for the day so that
we can read and meditate on Jesus' words and teaching.

MORNING PRAYER FROM
THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

July 6, 2020

Eva Lee Matthews

Monastic, 1928

Opening Sentence

The Officiant says the following

Keep on praying and guard your prayers with thanksgiving.
Colossians 4:2

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be
for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant Our God orders all things well:

People O come, let us worship.

Said in unison **Jubilate** *Psalm 100*

May all lands be joyful before you, O God, *
serve with gladness
and come before your presence with a song.

For we know that you are God; *
you yourself have made us, and we are yours;
we are your people and the sheep of your pasture.

We shall enter your gates with thanksgiving,
go into your courts with praise, *
give thanks to you and call upon your Name.

For you are good; your mercy is everlasting; *
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Officiant Our God orders all things well:

People O come, let us worship.

Psalm or Psalms Appointed

read in unison Psalm 96

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *

- bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! *
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord when he comes, *
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with his truth.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be
for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

First Reading

Reader A reading from Micah 6:6-8

- 6 'With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,

- with calves a year old?
- 7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?’
- 8 He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Here ends the reading.

read in unison **Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah** *Ecce,*
Deus Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation; *

I will trust and will not be afraid,
For God is my strength and my might *
and will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation, *

and on that day you shall say,

Give thanks and call upon God’s name;

Make known God’s deeds among the peoples; *

proclaim that God’s name is exalted;

Sing praises to the Most High who has done great things; *

let this be known in all the world.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, *

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Gospel

Reader: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 26:6–13

6 Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, 7 a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. 8 But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, ‘Why this waste? 9 For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor.’ 10 But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, ‘Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. 11 For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. 12 By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. 13 Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

Here ends the reading.

The Apostles' Creed

All say together

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

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 for ever. Amen.

Suffrages

V. Help us, O God our Savior;

R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

V. Look upon your congregation;

R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.

V. Declare your glory among the nations;

R. And your wonders among all peoples.

V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

R. Never forget the lives of your poor.

V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collects

The Collect of the Day

Proper 9

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments

by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

O God, whose blessed Son became poor that we through his poverty might be rich: Deliver us from an inordinate love of this world, that, inspired by the devotion of your servant Eva Lee Matthews, we may serve you with singleness of heart, and attain to the riches of the age to come; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Together

A Collect for Guidance

O God, our Creator and Sustainer, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Savior. A

For People Facing Uncertainty

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to us

all as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. Amen.

The Officiant says

I invite your prayers of thanksgiving and intercession at this time.

(During the silence people may add their own prayers. **Please unmute yourself to share your prayer aloud. When you have completed your prayer, return the microphone to mute.**)

The Officiant concludes with the Collect for Mission

A Collect for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

The Officiant and People say together
Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts
we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips,
but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Together **A Collect of Dedication**

Beloved God: As we offer ourselves to you this day, guide
and stir us with your Holy Spirit, that we may become one
body, one spirit in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon or Officiant Let us bless God.

People To God be thanks forever.

Concluding Sentences

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.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory to God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Commemoration

Eva Lee Matthews was born on February 9, 1862, in Glendale, Ohio. She grew up as an active member of the Episcopal Church, and felt a call to service in the church from a young age. While working at Bethany Mission House, an Episcopal charitable organization designed to help the less fortunate residents of Cincinnati, she and her coworker Beatrice Henderson discerned a call to create a new Episcopal religious order. The purpose of this order was to assist Cincinnati's poor, especially children. Eva became the community's first superior, taking the name Mother Eva Mary. On August 6, 1898, Episcopal Church officials formally recognized Matthews and Henderson's order, naming the group the Community of the Transfiguration. The Community of the Transfiguration remained in Cincinnati for

only a short time. The order soon relocated a short distance away to Glendale, Matthews' childhood home. The order grew slowly, but by the 1920s the Community of the Transfiguration had members engaged in ministries in Painesville, Ohio; Cleveland, Ohio; Woodlawn, Ohio; Hawaii; and China. Matthews served as the leader of the Community of the Transfiguration until her death in July 1928. The community she founded continues to serve the church through a variety of ministries in Ohio, California, and the Dominican Republic.

— Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018 by Church Publishing

A reflection by Bishop Shannon

July 6

Eva Lee Matthews

Romans 8:30

(CEB)

... those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

I'm always astounded by how God equips us for the ministry we're called to. Eva Lee Matthews didn't have degrees, and yet she founded a distinctly (US) American religious order, established in 1898, dedicated to contemplation and service to the poor, particularly children. Sister Eva Mary, as she was

called, was inspired by Jesus' transfiguration, in how the heavenly meets the earthly needs of this world through Jesus. Her compassion and desire to serve those in need, was all the justification she needed to be an able minister of the Gospel. This type of response to the needs of the world is also a response to the Holy Spirit who stirs our hearts with the concerns of Christ's own heart. In my experience, the only way that we can hear what the Spirit is saying to us is if we engage in mindful noticing of our community, and trust God to lead us to a faithful response. What joy there is in the discovery of our gifts and how we are transformed as we co-labor with Jesus to change the world.

*Liturgy created with the following resources
Book of Common Prayer, Enriching Our Worship, St. Helena
Breviary and A New Zealand Prayer Book*