



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

NOVENA FOR AN ELECTION

***November 3, 2020***

***Tuesday of Ordinary Time, Proper 26***

***Election Day***

## Opening Sentence

*The Officiant says the following*

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. *John 4:24*

## 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* God's bounty fills the earth:

*People* Come let us worship.

*read in unison* ***Venite*** *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Holy One; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving, \*  
and raise a loud shout with psalms.

For you, O God, are a great God; \*  
you are great above all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are yours also.

The sea is yours, for you made it, \*  
and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before God, our Maker,  
For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and  
the sheep of your hand. \*  
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

*Officiant* God's bounty fills the earth:  
*People* Come let us worship.

## **Psalms Appointed**

### ***Psalms 61 and 62***

*61 Exaudi, Deus*

1 Hear my cry, O God, \*  
and listen to my prayer.

2 I call upon you from the ends of the earth  
with heaviness in my heart; \*  
set me upon the rock that is higher than I.

3 For you have been my refuge, \*  
a strong tower against the enemy.

4 I will dwell in your house for ever; \*  
I will take refuge under the cover of your wings.

5 For you, O God, have heard my vows; \*

you have granted me the heritage of those who fear your Name.

6 Add length of days to the king's life; \*  
let his years extend over many generations.

7 Let him sit enthroned before God for ever; \*  
bid love and faithfulness watch over him.

8 So will I always sing the praise of your Name, \*  
and day by day I will fulfill my vows.

*62 Nonne Deo?*

1 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
from God comes my salvation.

2 God alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.

3 How long will you assail me to crush me, all of you  
together, \*  
as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?

4 They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor;  
\*  
lies are their chief delight.

5 They bless with their lips, \*  
but in their hearts they curse.

6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
truly, there is my hope.

7 God alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.

8 In God is my safety and my honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.

9 Put your trust in God always, O people; \*  
pour out your hearts before the One who is our refuge.

10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \*  
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \*  
all of them together.

12 Put no trust in extortion;  
in robbery take no empty pride; \*  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \*  
that power belongs to God.

14 Steadfast love is yours, O God, \*  
for you repay everyone according to their deeds.

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

## **The Lessons**

### **First Reading**

*Reader:* A reading from **Sirach 43:1-22**

43 The pride of the higher realms is the clear vault of the sky,  
as glorious to behold as the sight of the heavens.

2 The sun, when it appears, proclaims as it rises  
what a marvelous instrument it is, the work of the Most  
High.

3 At noon it parches the land,  
and who can withstand its burning heat?

4 A man tending a furnace works in burning heat,  
but three times as hot is the sun scorching the mountains;  
it breathes out fiery vapors,  
and its bright rays blind the eyes.

5 Great is the Lord who made it;  
at his orders it hurries on its course.

6 It is the moon that marks the changing seasons,  
governing the times, their everlasting sign.

7 From the moon comes the sign for festal days,  
a light that wanes when it completes its course.

8 The new moon, as its name suggests, renews itself;  
how marvelous it is in this change,  
a beacon to the hosts on high,  
shining in the vault of the heavens!

9 The glory of the stars is the beauty of heaven,  
a glittering array in the heights of the Lord.

10 On the orders of the Holy One they stand in their  
appointed places;  
they never relax in their watches.

11 Look at the rainbow, and praise him who made it;  
it is exceedingly beautiful in its brightness.

12 It encircles the sky with its glorious arc;  
the hands of the Most High have stretched it out.

13 By his command he sends the driving snow  
and speeds the lightnings of his judgement.

14 Therefore the storehouses are opened,  
and the clouds fly out like birds.

15 In his majesty he gives the clouds their strength,  
and the hailstones are broken in pieces.

17a The voice of his thunder rebukes the earth;

16 when he appears, the mountains shake.

At his will the south wind blows;

17b so do the storm from the north and the whirlwind.

He scatters the snow like birds flying down,

and its descent is like locusts alighting.  
18 The eye is dazzled by the beauty of its whiteness,  
and the mind is amazed as it falls.  
19 He pours frost over the earth like salt,  
and icicles form like pointed thorns.  
20 The cold north wind blows,  
and ice freezes on the water;  
it settles on every pool of water,  
and the water puts it on like a breastplate.  
21 He consumes the mountains and burns up the wilderness,  
and withers the tender grass like fire.  
22 A mist quickly heals all things;  
the falling dew gives refreshment from the heat.

Here ends the reading.

*read in unison* **Canticle B**

***A Song of Pilgrimage Priusquam errarem***  
*Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16,20b-22*

Before I ventured forth,

even while I was very young, \*

I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.

In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, \*

and I will seek her to the end.

From first blossom to early fruit, \*

she has been the delight of my heart.  
My foot has kept firmly to the true path, \*  
diligently from my youth have I pursued her.  
I inclined my ear a little and received her; \*  
I found for myself much wisdom  
and became adept in her.  
To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, \*  
for I have resolved to live according to her way.  
From the beginning I gained courage from her, \*  
therefore I will not be forsaken.  
In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, \*  
therefore have I gained a good possession.  
As my reward  
the Almighty has given me the gift of language,\*  
and with it will I offer praise to God.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader:* A reading from the **Gospel of Luke 13:1-9**

13At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do

you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

6 Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" 8He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." '

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.

### **Suffrages**

V. Save your people, O God, and bless your inheritance;  
R. govern and uphold us now and always.  
V. Day by day we bless you  
R. we praise your name forever.  
V. O God, keep us without sin today;  
R. have mercy on us, O God, have mercy.  
V. Show us your love and mercy;  
R. for we put our trust in you.  
V. In you, O God, is our hope;  
R. and we shall never hope in vain.

### **The Collects**

#### **The Collect of the Day**

*All Saints*

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one

communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *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. Amen.

### **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 Great Litany**

*Officiant* Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

*People* Have mercy on us.

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,  
*Have mercy on us.*

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,  
*Have mercy on us.*

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,  
*Have mercy on us.*

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy;  
from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,  
*Savior deliver us.*

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of  
heart and contempt for your word and your laws,  
*Savior deliver us.*

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh  
and the devil,  
*Savior deliver us.*

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying  
unprepared,  
*Savior deliver us.*

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our  
death and at the day of judgment,  
*Savior deliver us.*

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth,  
childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and  
temptation,  
*Savior deliver us.*

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of  
power; by the preaching of your reign,  
*Savior deliver us.*

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your  
precious death and burial,  
*Savior deliver us.*

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension;  
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,  
*Savior deliver us.*

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.  
*Hear us, O Christ.*

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and  
truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.  
*Hear us, O Christ.*

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to  
make disciples of all the nations.  
*Hear us, O Christ.*

Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the faint hearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Give your wisdom and strength to the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, and the Mayors of our towns and cities that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature,

and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Bless and keep all your people,

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Show your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

*Hear us, O Christ.*

Hear us as we remember those who have died and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory. *Hear us, O Christ.*

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

Son of God, hear us we pray.

*Son of God, hear us we pray.*

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

*Have mercy on us.*

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

*Have mercy on us.*

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,

*Grant us your peace.*

*All* Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy on us.

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.

*Officiant* O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land,  
that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a  
blessing to other nations of the earth.  
*Lord, keep this nation under your care.*

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors  
of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative  
authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their

duties.

*Give grace to your servants, O God.*

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

*Give grace to your servants, O God.*

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

*Give grace to your servants, O God.*

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

*For yours is the kingdom, O God, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.*

### ***NOV 3 Pray for the election***

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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 tGod.

*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.*

*Liturgy created with the following resources*

*Book of Common Prayer, Enriching Our Worship, Saint Helena Breviary and A New Zealand Prayer Book*