



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

December 8, 2020

Tuesday, the Second Week of Advent

Opening Sentence

The Officiant says the following

Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

Mark 13:35, 36

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant Reveal among us the light of your presence

People that we may behold your power and glory.

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 Alleluia, our God and Savior now draws near:

People O come, let us adore him, alleluia.

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 Alleluia, our God and Savior now draws near:
People O come, let us adore him, alleluia.

Psalms Appointed

read in unison Psalms 26 and 28

Psalm 26 Judica me, Domine

1 Give judgment for me, O God,
for I have lived with integrity; *
I have trusted in you and have not faltered.

2 Test me, O God, and try me; *
examine my heart and my mind.

3 For your love is before my eyes; *
I have walked faithfully with you.

4 I have not sat with the worthless, *
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

5 I have hated the company of evildoers; *
I will not sit down with the wicked.

6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O God, *
that I may go in procession round your altar,

7 Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving *
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

8 O God, I love the house in which you dwell *
and the place where your glory abides.

9 Do not sweep me away with sinners *
nor my life with those who thirst for blood,

10 Whose hands are full of evil plots *
and their right hand full of bribes.

11 As for me, I will live with integrity; *
redeem me, O God, and have pity on me.

12 My foot stands on level ground; *
in the full assembly I will bless you, O God.

Psalm 28 Ad te, Domine

1 O God, I call to you;
my Rock, do not be deaf to my cry; *
lest, if you do not hear me,
I become like those who go down to the Pit.

2 Hear the voice of my prayer when I cry out to you, *
when I lift up my hands to your holy of holies.

3 Do not snatch me away with the wicked or with the
evildoers, *
who speak peaceably with their neighbors,
while strife is in their hearts.

4 Repay them according to their deeds, *
and according to the wickedness of their actions.

5 According to the work of their hands repay them, *
and give them their just deserts.

6 They have no understanding of your doings,
nor of the works of your hands; *
therefore you will break them down and not build them up.

7 Blest are you, O God, *
for you have heard the voice of my prayer.

8 You are my strength and my shield; *
my heart trusts in you, and I have been helped;

9 Therefore my heart dances for joy, *
and in my song will I praise you.

10 You are the strength of your people, *
a safe refuge for your anointed.

11 Save your people and bless your inheritance; *
shepherd them and carry them for ever.

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 **Isaiah 5:13-17, 24-25**

13 Therefore my people go into exile without knowledge;
their nobles are dying of hunger,
and their multitude is parched with thirst.

14 Therefore Sheol has enlarged its appetite
and opened its mouth beyond measure;
the nobility of Jerusalem* and her multitude go down,
her throng and all who exult in her.

15 People are bowed down, everyone is brought low,
and the eyes of the haughty are humbled.

16 But the Lord of hosts is exalted by justice,
and the Holy God shows himself holy by righteousness.

17 Then the lambs shall graze as in their pasture,

fatlings and kids shall feed among the ruins.

24 Therefore, as the tongue of fire devours the stubble,
and as dry grass sinks down in the flame,
so their root will become rotten,
and their blossom go up like dust;
for they have rejected the instruction of the Lord of hosts,
and have despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.

25 Therefore the anger of the Lord was kindled against his
people,
and he stretched out his hand against them and struck
them;
the mountains quaked,
and their corpses were like refuse
in the streets.
For all this his anger has not turned away,
and his hand is stretched out still.

Here ends the reading.

read in unison **Canticle D**

A Song of the Wilderness *Isaiah 35:1-7,10*

Refrain Lift up your voice with strength,
O herald of good tidings.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;
The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

Refrain Lift up your voice with strength,
O herald of good tidings.

The Gospel

Reader: A reading from the **Gospel of Luke 21:29-38**

29 Then Jesus told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

37 Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. 38And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

Here ends the reading.

A moment of silence is observed so that we may reflect on the teachings and ministry of Jesus.

An Affirmation of Faith

Officiant We say together in faith

Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.
We believe in God, who created all things:
for by God's will they were created
and have their being.

We believe in God the Son,
who was slain:
for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant Awaiting his coming in glory,
as our Savior taught us, so we pray

Our loving God in heaven,
holy is your Name,
may your reign 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 all creation, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

The 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

Advent 2

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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.

Together

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 Lord and 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 rejoice in the gift of this new day, once again we offer ourselves to you. May the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon 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.*

Liturgy created with the following resources

Book of Common Prayer, Enriching Our Worship, Saint Helena Breviary and A new Zealand Prayer Book, Common Worship Times and Seasons