

A ministry and community of prayer of The Episcopal Diocese of Vermont

## A few notes about tonight'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.

### **MORNING PRAYER**

November 30, 2021
Tuesday, the First Week of Advent
Saint Andrew, the Apostle

### **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 \*

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 5 and 6

Psalm 5 Verba mea auribus 1 Give ear to my words, O God; \* consider my meditation.

2 Hearken to my cry for help, my Sovereign and my God, \* for I make my prayer to you.

3 In the morning you hear my voice; \* early in the morning I make my appeal and watch for you.

- 4 For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, \* and evil cannot dwell with you.
- 5 Braggarts cannot stand in your sight; \* you hate all those who work wickedness.
- 6 You destroy those who speak lies; \* the bloodthirsty and deceitful, O God, you abhor.
- 7 But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy I will go into your house; \*
  I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.
- 8 Lead me, O God, in your righteousness, because of those who lie in wait for me; \* make your way straight before me,
- 9 For there is no truth in their mouth; \* there is destruction in their heart;
- 10 Their throat is an open grave; \* they flatter with their tongue.
- 11 Declare them guilty, O God; \* let them fall, because of their schemes.
- 12 Because of their many transgressions cast them out, \* for they have rebelled against you.
- 13 But all who take refuge in you will be glad; \* they will sing out their joy for ever.

- 14 You will shelter them, \* so that those who love your Name may exult in you.
- 15 For you, O God, will bless the righteous; \* you will defend them with your favor as with a shield.

Psalm 6 *Domine, ne in furore*1 O God, do not rebuke me in your anger; \*
do not punish me in your wrath.

- 2 Have pity on me, O God, for I am weak; \* heal me, for my bones are racked.
- 3 My spirit shakes with terror; \* how long, O God, how long?
- 4 Turn, O God, and deliver me; \* save me for your mercy's sake.
- 5 For in death no one remembers you, \* and who will give you thanks in the grave?
- 6 I grow weary because of my groaning; \* every night I drench my bed and flood my couch with tears.
- 7 My eyes are wasted with grief \* and worn away because of all my enemies.
- 8 Depart from me, all evildoers, \* for God has heard the sound of my weeping.

9 God has heard my supplication; \* God accepts my prayer.

10 All my enemies shall be confounded and quake with fear; \* they shall turn back and suddenly be put to shame.

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 The Prophet Amos 3:1-11

Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:

You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Do two walk together
unless they have made an appointment?
Does a lion roar in the forest,
when it has no prey?
Does a young lion cry out from its den,
if it has caught nothing?
Does a bird fall into a snare on the earth,
when there is no trap for it?
Does a snare spring up from the ground,

when it has taken nothing?
Is a trumpet blown in a city,
and the people are not afraid?
Does disaster befall a city,
unless the Lord has done it?
Surely the Lord God does nothing,
without revealing his secret
to his servants the prophets.
The lion has roared;
who will not fear?
The Lord God has spoken;
who can but prophesy?

Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod, and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt, and say, 'Assemble yourselves on Mount Samaria, and see what great tumults are within it, and what oppressions are in its midst.'

They do not know how to do right, says the Lord, those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds. Therefore, thus says the Lord God:

An adversary shall surround the land, and strip you of your defense; and your strongholds shall be plundered.

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 Savior, \* 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 **Matthew 21:12-22** Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written,

"My house shall be called a house of prayer";

but you are making it a den of robbers.'

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read,

"Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?' He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, 'May no fruit ever come from you again!' And the fig tree withered at once. When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, 'How did the fig tree wither at once?' Jesus answered them, 'Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not

doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, "Be lifted up and thrown into the sea", it will be done. Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.'

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 1

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your Holy Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into your gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and 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. 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.

### **Together**

For discernment for the future of the Diocese of Vermont Gracious and loving God, of transformation and discovery, we give thanks that you call us to be your people in this time, and in this place. As you call us into deeper and uncertain waters, "to step out of the boat and go closer to Jesus," we give thanks for the experience, gifts and skills of our diocesan household, represented by the Task Force for Hope, Revitalization, Innovation, Vision, and Efficiency (THRIVE). Bless their efforts as they rally and shepherd us in our common work. We pray for open hearts and minds and for clear vision, and never-ending reliance on your abundant and creative goodness. We pray for inspiration and guidance from your Holy Spirit, knowing that your power working in us can accomplish far more than we can ask or imagine. All this, we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### For dismantling racism

Creator of the Universe, source of all goodness and love, we ask wisdom, help, and guidance as we work to counter the many instances of injustice and racism in our world. Help us to value differences in culture, religious beliefs, and physical appearance, and celebrate the God-made wonder of every human being. Help us to be vigilant, working against racial and social injustice in our own hearts and in the world around us, that we may live into our baptismal covenant to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being." 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, of boundless mercy, 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 Savior 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 best vision, 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*.

#### **Commemoration**

Most biographical notes on this Apostle begin "Andrew was Simon Peter's brother," and he is so described in the Gospels. Identifying Andrew as Peter's brother makes it easy to know who he is, but it also makes it easy to overlook the fact of Andrew's special gift to the company of Christ. The Gospel according to John tells how Andrew, a disciple of John the Baptist, was one of two disciples who followed Jesus after John had pointed him out, saying, "Behold the Lamb of God" (John 1:29). Andrew and the other disciple went with Jesus and stayed with him, and Andrew's first act afterward was to find his brother and bring him to Jesus. We might call Andrew the first missionary in the company of disciples. Though Andrew

was not a part of the inner circle of disciples (Peter, James, and John), he is always named in the list of disciples, and appears prominently in several incidents. Andrew and Peter were fishermen, and Matthew's Gospel records Jesus' calling them from their occupation, and their immediate response to his call. Andrew was ALSO the disciple who brought the boy with the loaves and fishes to Jesus for the feeding of the multitude. We hear little of Andrew as a prominent leader, and he seems always to be in the shadow of Peter. Eusebius, the Church historian, records his going to Scythia, but there is no reliable information about the end of his life. Tradition has it that he was fastened to an X-shaped cross and suffered death at the hands of angry pagans. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland.

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