



*A ministry and community of prayer 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

*August 18, 2022*

***Thursday of Ordinary Time, Proper 15***

## Opening Sentence

*The Officiant says the following*

Thus says the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, “I dwell in the high and holy place and also with the one who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite.” *Isaiah 57:15*

## 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 ever reigns on high:

*People* Come let us worship.

*read in unison* **Venite** *Psalms 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 ever reigns on high:  
*People* Come let us worship.

### **Psalms Appointed**

*In Unison or responsively by whole or half verse*

#### **Psalms 131 and 132**

Psalm 131 *Domine, non est*

1 O God, I am not proud; \*  
I have no haughty looks.

2 I do not occupy myself with great matters, \*  
or with things that are too hard for me.

3 But I still my soul and make it quiet,  
like a child upon its mother's breast; \*  
my soul is quieted within me.

4 O Israel, wait upon God, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

Psalm 132 *Memento, Domine*

1 O God, remember David \*  
and all the hardships he endured;

2 How he swore an oath to God \*  
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:

3 “I will not come under the roof of my house, \*  
nor climb up into my bed;

4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep, \*  
nor let my eyelids slumber;

5 Until I find a place for you, O God, \*  
a dwelling for you, O Mighty One of Jacob.”

6 “The ark! We heard it was in Ephratah; \*  
we found it in the fields of Jearim.

7 Let us go to God’s dwelling place; \*  
let us fall upon our knees before God’s footstool.”

8 Arise, O God, into your resting-place, \*  
you and the ark of your strength.

9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; \*  
let your faithful people sing with joy.

10 For your servant David’s sake, \*  
do not turn away the face of your Anointed.

11 You have sworn an oath to David; \*  
in truth, you will not break it:

12 “A son, the fruit of your body, \*  
will I set upon your throne.

13 If your children keep my covenant  
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, \*  
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore.”

14 For God has chosen Zion \*  
and has desired it for a habitation:

15 “This shall be my resting-place for ever; \*  
here will I dwell, for I delight in it.

16 I will surely bless its provisions, \*  
and satisfy its poor with bread.

17 I will clothe its priests with salvation, \*  
and its faithful people will rejoice and sing.

18 There will I make the horn of David flourish; \*  
I have prepared a lamp for my Anointed.

19 As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame, \*  
but as for him, his crown will shine.”

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 Acts of the Apostles 8:26-40**

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over to this chariot and join it.’ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ He replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

‘Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.’

The eunuch asked Philip, ‘About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?’ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord

snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

*read in unison* **Canticle A**

***A Song of Wisdom Sapientia liberavit Wisdom 10:15-19,20b-21***

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors \*  
a holy people and a blameless race.  
She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, \*  
withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.

To the saints she gave the reward of their labors, \*  
and led them by a marvelous way;  
She was their shelter by day \*  
and a blaze of stars by night.

She brought them across the Red Sea, \*  
she led them through mighty waters;  
But their enemies she swallowed in the waves \*  
and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.

And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name, \*  
and praised with one voice your protecting hand;  
For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, \*  
and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.

## The Gospel

*Reader* A reading from the Gospel of **John 6:16-27**

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

The next day the crowd that had stayed on the other side of the lake saw that there had been only one boat there. They also saw that Jesus had not got into the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. Then some boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.'

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

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

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*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.

*Together*

### **An alternative Lord's Prayer**

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.

### **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**

*Officiant*

*Proper 15*

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Savior, 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*

Look kindly on our world, our God,  
as we suffer and struggle with one another.  
Look kindly on your Church,  
driven by the same necessity;  
and may the light we have seen in Jesus  
illuminate and brighten all the world.  
*Amen.*

*Together*

**A Collect for Dismantling Racism**

Almighty God,  
Help us, to recognize the gravity of racial injustice,  
Shake us from our ignorance and open our eyes, O Christ.  
When out of fear we are frozen into inaction,  
Give us a spirit of bravery, O Christ.  
When we think we are trying our best, but say the wrong things,  
Give us a spirit of humility, O Christ.  
When we feel separated from each other,  
Give us a lasting spirit of solidarity, O Christ.  
When it becomes easier to point fingers outward,  
Help us to examine our own hearts, O Christ.  
God of truth, in your wisdom, Enlighten Us.  
God of love, in your mercy, Forgive Us.  
God of hope in your kindness, Heal Us.  
Creator of All People, in your generosity, Guide Us.  
All this we pray in the unity of the One Holy and Undivided  
Trinity. 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**

*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 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**

*Officiant says one of the following*

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, A New Zealand Prayer Book and The Inclusive Bible, Adapted from <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/prayers/racism/>*