



*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.

MORNING PRAYER

***Friday, February 3, 2023  
The Season of Epiphany***

## **Opening Sentence**

*The Officiant says the following*

From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering; for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 1:11*

## **Invitatory and Psalter**

*Officiant* O God, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Officiant* You laid the foundation of the earth

*People* and the heavens are the work of your hands.

*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, Christ is shown forth in glory:

*People* O come, let us adore him, alleluia.

*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* Alleluia, Christ is shown forth in glory:  
*People* O come, let us adore him, alleluia.

### **Psalm Appointed**

*read in unison* **Psalm 69:1-23 and 31-38** *Salvum me fac*

1 Save me, O God, \*  
for the waters have risen up to my neck.

2 I am sinking in deep mire, \*  
and there is no firm ground for my feet.

3 I have come into deep waters, \*  
and the torrent washes over me.

4 I have grown weary with my crying;  
my throat is inflamed; \*  
my eyes have failed from looking for my God.

5 Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of  
my head;  
my lying foes who would destroy me are mighty. \*  
Must I then give back what I never stole?

6 O God, you know my foolishness, \*  
and my faults are not hidden from you.

7 Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, O God of hosts; \*  
let not those who seek you be disgraced because of me, O God of Israel.

8 Surely for your sake have I suffered reproach, \*  
and shame has covered my face.

9 I have become a stranger to my own kindred, \*  
an outcast to my mother's children.

10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; \*  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

11 I humbled myself with fasting, \*  
but that was turned to my reproach.

12 I put on sack-cloth also, \*  
and became a byword among them.

13 Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, \*  
and the drunkards make songs about me.

14 But as for me, this is my prayer to you, \*  
at the time you have set, O God.

15 "In your great mercy, O God, \*  
answer me with your unfailing help.

16 Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; \*  
let me be rescued from those who hate me

and out of the deep waters.

17 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,  
neither let the deep swallow me up; \*  
do not let the Pit shut its mouth upon me.

18 Answer me, O God, for your love is kind; \*  
in your great compassion, turn to me.”

19 “Hide not your face from your servant; \*  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

20 Draw near to me and redeem me; \*  
because of my enemies deliver me.

21 You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonor; \*  
my adversaries are all in your sight.”

22 Reproach has broken my heart, and it cannot be healed; \*  
I looked for sympathy, but there was none,  
for comforters, but I could find no one.

23 They gave me gall to eat, \*  
and when I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar to drink.

31 As for me, I am afflicted and in pain; \*  
your help, O God, will lift me up on high.

32 I will praise your Name, O God, in song; \*  
I will proclaim your greatness with thanksgiving.

33 This will please you more than an offering of oxen, \*

more than bullocks with horns and hoofs.

34 The afflicted shall see and be glad; \*  
those who seek God, their heart shall live.

35 For you, O God, listen to the needy, \*  
and your prisoners you do not despise.

36 Let the heavens and the earth praise you, \*  
the seas and all that moves in them;

37 For you will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah; \*  
your people shall live there and have it in possession.

38 The children of your servants will inherit it, \*  
and those who love your Name will dwell therein.

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 Isaiah 56:1-8**

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

Happy is the mortal who does this,  
the one who holds it fast,

who keeps the sabbath, not profaning it,  
and refrains from doing any evil.

Do not let the foreigner joined to the Lord say,  
‘The Lord will surely separate me from his people’;  
and do not let the eunuch say,  
‘I am just a dry tree.’

For thus says the Lord:

To the eunuchs who keep my sabbaths,  
who choose the things that please me  
and hold fast my covenant,  
I will give, in my house and within my walls,  
a monument and a name  
better than sons and daughters;  
I will give them an everlasting name  
that shall not be cut off.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—  
these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord God,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

Here ends the reading.

*read in unison* **Canticle 26**

**A Song of God's Chosen One** *Isaiah 11:1-9*

*Refrain:*

*All* The earth shall be full of the knowledge of our God..

Then a shoot will sprout from the stump of Jesse;  
from Jesse's roots, a branch will blossom:

The Spirit of God will rest on you--  
a spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
a spirit of counsel and strength,  
a spirit of knowledge and reverence for God.

You will delight in obeying God,  
and you won't judge by appearances,  
or make decisions by hearsay.

You will treat poor people with fairness  
and will uphold the rights of the land's  
downtrodden.

With a single word you will strike down tyrants;  
with your decrees you will execute evil people.

Justice will be the belt around this your waist-  
faithfulness will gird you up.

Then the wolf will dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;  
the calf and the lion cub will graze together,  
and a little child will lead them.

The cow will feed with the bear;  
their young will lie down together.

The lion will eat hay like the ox.



The baby will play next to the den of the cobra,  
and the toddler will dance over the viper's nest.  
There will be no harm, no destruction  
anywhere in my holy mountain;  
for as water fills the sea,  
so the land will be filled with knowledge of God.

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

*Refrain:*

*All* The earth shall be full of the knowledge of our God..

## **The Gospel**

*Reader:* A reading from the Gospel of **Mark 9:2-13**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. Then they asked him, 'Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come

first?' He said to them, 'Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him.'

Here ends the reading.

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

### **The Apostle's Creed**

*The Officiant and People 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* Believing the promises of God, as our Savior taught

us, we pray

*Officiant and People* **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. 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**

#### **The Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 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 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.

*The Officiant ends with a 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: © Order of Saint Helena, used by permission and A New Zealand Prayer Book, Common Worship Times and Seasons, For dismantling racism - Peggy Bonesteel and the prayer team of St. James Episcopal Church, Essex Jct., VT*