



The Episcopal Diocese *of* Vermont

Divine Abundance & Inquiry: A Faithful Path

2023 Diocesan Convention Liturgy

November 4, 2023

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul Burlington, Vermont

Schedule of the Day

9:00am	Breakfast and Fellowship
10:00am	Call to Worship, Readings, Gospel
10:20am	Bishop's Sermon
10:45am	The Rev. Lorenzo Lebrija Theology of Abundance and Appreciative Inquiry
12:00pm	Agape: Lunch and Fellowship
12:45pm	Prayers of People and sharing Holy Eucharist
1:30pm	The Rev. Lorenzo Lebrija Mission Canvas and "How to Try" Experimenting
2:15pm	Parish Pods
3:00pm	A Time of Reflection/Sharing
3:35pm	Renewal of Baptism/Ordination Covenants Consecration of the Chrism
4:00pm	Dismissal

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded land of the Abenaki people on which we are worshiping, praying, and celebrating today. We honor the Abenaki people who have been living and working on this land from time immemorial. We recognize that colonialism and the oppression of Native peoples is a current and ongoing process, and we commit to building our awareness of our present participation. And so, we give thanks for those who have come before us, honoring the legacy of Vermont’s Indigenous people, the Abenaki People of the Dawn. We are grateful for the care and sharing of this land.

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship

Bishop Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Together **God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Hymn, which may be sung as a round:

1 From God is work - ing his pur - pose out as
 2 ut - most east - to his ut - most west, wher -
 3 March we forth in the strength of God, with the
 4 All we can do is noth - ing worth un -

1 From God is work - ing his
 2 ut - most east - to his
 3 March we forth in the
 4 All we can do is

year suc - ceeds to year: suc - ceeds to
 ev - er foot hath ev - er foot hath
 ban - ner of Christ un - furled, by the
 less God bless - es the decd; that the

pur - pose out as year - suc - ceeds to
 ut - most west, wher - ev - er foot hath
 strength of God, with the ban - ner of Christ
 noth - ing worth un - less God bless - es the

God is work - ing his pur - pose out, and the time is draw - ing
 mouth of man - y mes - sen - gers goes forth the voice of
 light of the glo - rious gos - pel of truth may shine through - out the
 vain - ly we hope for the har - vest - tide till God gives life to the

year:
 trod, by the God is work - ing his pur - pose out, and the
 furred, that the mouth of man - y mes - sen - gers goes
 deed; vain - ly we hope for the har - vest - tide till

near; near - er and near - er draws the time, the
 God; give ear to me, ye con - ti - nents, ye
 world: fight we the fight with sorrow and sin to
 seed; yet near - er and near - er draws the time, the

time is draw - ing near; near - er and near - er draws the
 forth the voice of God; give ear to me, ye con - ti -
 shine through - out the world: fight we the fight with sorrow and
 God gives life to the seed; yet near - er and near - er draws the

time that shall sure - ly be, when the earth shall be filled with the
 isles, give ear to me, that the earth may be filled with the
 set their cap - tives free, that the earth may be filled with the
 time that shall sure - ly be, when the earth shall be filled with the

time, the time that shall sure - ly be, when the earth shall be
 nents, ye isles, give ear to me, that the earth may be
 sin to their set their cap - tives free, that the earth may be
 time, the time that shall sure - ly be, when the earth shall be

glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the (sea.) sea.

filled with the glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 filled with the glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 filled with the glo - ry of God as the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 filled with the glo - ry of God as the wa - ters (cov - er the sea.) cov - er the sea.

Words Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841-1919), alt. • Music PURPOSE, Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

Bishop God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Bishop Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, you have given the Holy Spirit to abide with us for ever: Bless us with the Spirit's grace and presence, the bishop, all clergy, and all laity who assemble in your Name, that your Church, being preserved in true faith and godly discipline, may fulfill all the mind of the Lord who loved it and gave himself for it, your Son Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Let us pray our psalm responsively *Caeli enarrant* *Psalm 19*

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows God's handiwork.
- 2 **One day tells its tale to another, ***
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 **Their sound has gone out into all lands, ***
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has God set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of the chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens**
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 **The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; ***
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, ***
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 **Who can tell how often one offends? ***
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**
be acceptable in your sight, * O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Reader A reading from Nehemiah.

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10

When the seventh month came—the people of Israel being settled in their towns—all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen’, lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, ‘Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.’

Reader The Word of God for the People of God

People **Thanks be to God.**

G D G D Em

A - le, a - le, ¡a - le - lu - ya!

C Am⁷ D⁷

A - le, a - le, ¡a - le - lu - ya!
¡A - le - lu - ya!

G D G D Em

A - le, a - le, ¡a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le -

Am G/D D⁷ 1 G 2 G

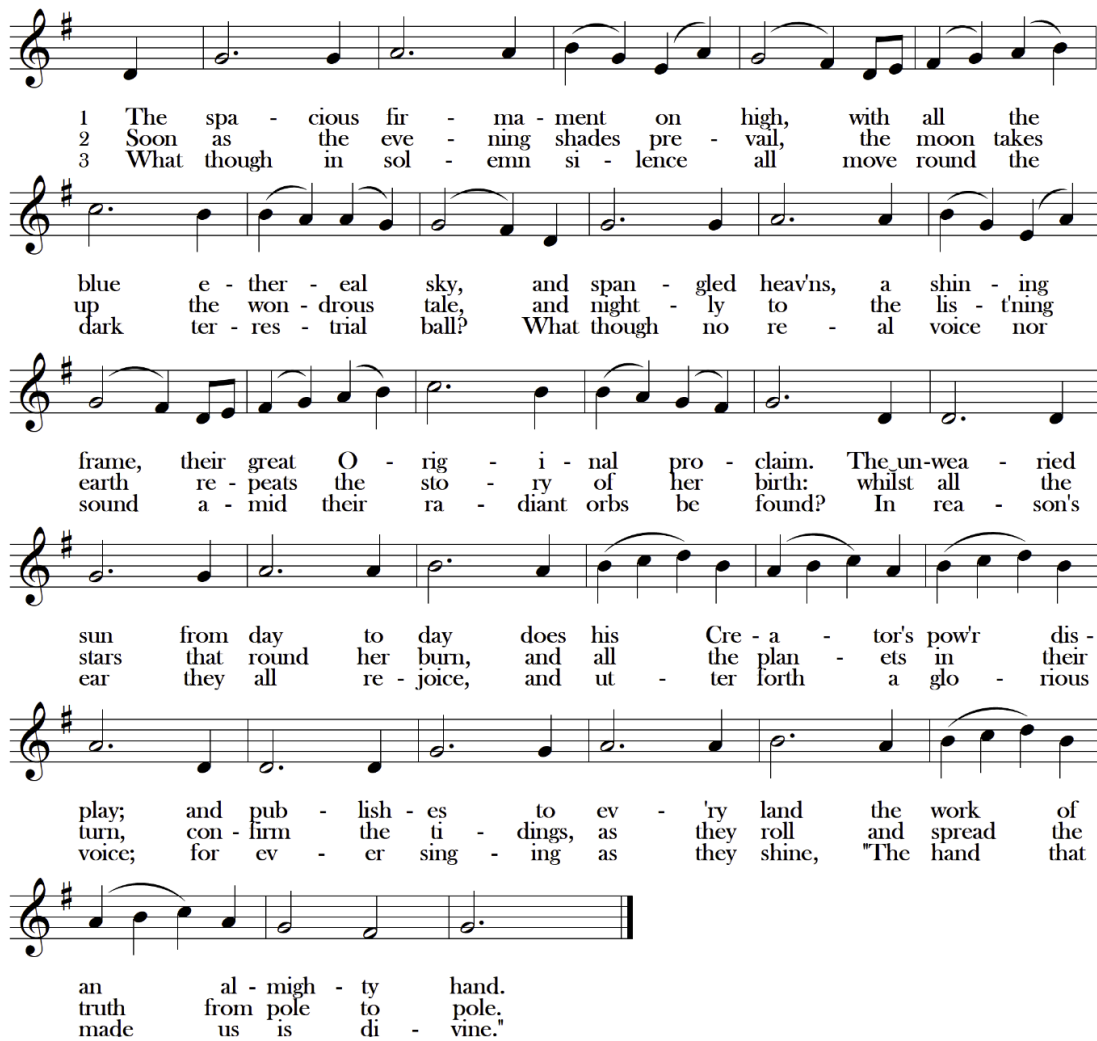
lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
¡A - le - lu - ya! ya!

Texto: tradicional litúrgico

Música: tradicional del Caribe

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Hymn of Regathering



1 The spa - cious fir - ma - ment on high, with all the
 2 Soon as the eve - ning shades pre - vail, the moon takes
 3 What though in sol - emn si - lence all move round the
 blue e - ther - eal sky, and span - gled heav'ns, a shin - ing
 up the won - drous tale, and night - ly to the lis - t'ning
 dark ter - res - trial ball? What though no re - al voice nor
 frame, their great O - rig - i - nal pro - claim. The un - wea - ried
 earth re - peats the sto - ry of her birth: whilst all the
 sound a - mid their ra - diant orbs be found? In rea - son's
 sun stars from day to day does his Cre - a - tor's pow'r dis -
 ears that round her burn, and all the plan - ets in their
 ear they all re - joice, and ut - ter forth a glo - rious
 play; and pub - lish - es to ev - 'ry land the work of
 turn, con - firm the ti - dings, as they roll and spread the
 voice; for ev - er sing - ing as they shine, "The hand that
 an al - migh - ty hand.
 truth from pole to pole,
 made us is di - vine."

Words Joseph Addison (1672-1719), para. of Psalm 19:1-6

Music CREATION, F. J. Haydn (1732-1809), adapt. *Dulcimer, or New York Collection of Sacred Music*, 1850, alt.

A Time of Prayer

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,
 saying, "**May your glory be declared.**"

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God,
 and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord,
May your glory be declared...

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God,
 and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord,
May your glory be declared...

For Presiding Bishop Michael and for Bishop Shannon,
 and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord,
May your glory be declared...

For Joe, our President, for Kamala, our Vice President, for the leaders of all the nations,
and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For Vermont, for every town and community in this diocese,
and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For the good care of our fragile planet which God has given us,
and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air,
let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For those who are sick and suffering, those who are widowed,
and those who are orphaned, let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For all who are poor or oppressed, for those who are unemployed or destitute,
for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them,
let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection,
and for all those who have departed, let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation,
let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and with reproach,
let us pray to the Lord,

May your glory be declared...

Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us, O Lord, by your grace,

May your glory be declared...

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves,
and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

Silence

Deacon For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses,
Let us pray to the Lord.

People **You have said that we are dust and to dust we shall return.
Yet we have exercised the high dominion of humans with ruthless cruelty,
so that the Earth cries out in travail,
longing for the children of God to be revealed.**

Deacon God have mercy.

Forsaking our fellowship with each other in Christ,
We have treated one another as we treat the earth,
We have violated the sanctity of cultures, bodies, and voices
Whose value we refuse to see.

People **Christ have mercy.**

**Numbed by our own callousness
to your image in the world around us,
we have neglected it in ourselves.
We have refused to heed your sabbath,
We have refused to heed your will,
We have enacted the same tyranny on ourselves,
As we do on the whole creation.**

Deacon God have mercy.

Bishop Almighty God, cleanse you of your secret faults. Establish you whole and sound through our Savior Jesus Christ. And make the words of your mouth and the mediation of your heart acceptable before God by the Holy Spirit.

The Great Thanksgiving

Bishop God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Praise and thanks are yours, our Creating God.

From the dust of the earth you shaped human beings in your own image,
and you filled the earth and seas and skies with a myriad of wonders.

Yet we consistently turn your generosity into our scarcity,
your elegance into our meanness, and your simplicity into our corruption.

Though we poison and destroy your good Creation,
you continue to offer us your abundance.

In your mercy, you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus,
transforming death into life.

Through the Spirit you continue to call us into covenant with you—
for the restoration of Creation and the reconciliation of all people.

And so we give you thanks, rejoicing with all of Creation,
as we join the saints and angels in their unending hymn:

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te_a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to_e-res, Se - ñor.
heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, Lord!

Setting Composer formerly known, arrangement based on two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (1933-2020)

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, and gave thanks to God.

He broke the bread, gave it to his friends and said:

“Take and eat, for this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

He took the wine, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He gave it to his friends saying:

“This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins.

Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me.”

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Merciful God, we come to this table seeking reconciliation: with you, with one another, and with all creation. Through these mysteries reconcile us to our world and empower us to restore your Creation and fulfill your will.

Send your life-giving Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine.

Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive.

Heal your stricken world, that the soil, the skies, and the seas may be filled with your life anew.

Fill every heart with the sure and certain hope that we shall enter into the fullness of your joy, when your whole Creation is justified by faith and sanctified by love, and you are all in all.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, everlasting God, now and forever. **AMEN**

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your beloved community of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
 In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
 In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
 From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
 For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Bishop breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Bishop If anyone is in Christ there is a new creation. The old has passed away.
 Behold everything is made new.
 Behold what you are,
People **may we become what we receive.**

Communion hymns

Be - hold, be - hold,
 Be - hold, be - hold, I make all things new, be -

gin - ning with you and start - ing from to - day, Be - hold,

hold,
 be - hold, I make all things new, my prom - ise is true, for

I am Christ, the Way.

Words John Bell (b. 1949) based on 2 Corinthians 5:17 • Music John Bell



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name? ____
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name? ____
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name? ____
 4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? ____
 5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name. ____



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same? ____ Will you
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same? ____ Will you
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same? ____ Will you
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same? ____ Will you
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same. ____ In your



let my love be shown, _ will you let my name be known, _ will you
 risk the hos - tile stare ____ should your life at - tract or scare? _ Will you
 kiss the lep - er clean, _ and do such as this un - seen, _ and ad -
 use the faith you've found _ to re - shape the world a - round, _ through my
 com - pa - ny I'll go ____ where your love and foot - steps show. _ Thus I'll



let my life be grown in you and you in me? ____
 let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me? ____
 mit to what I mean in you and you in me? ____
 sight and touch and sound in you and you in me? ____
 move and live and grow in you and you in me. ____

Words *The Summons*, John Bell (b. 1949) • Music KELVINGROVE, Traditional Scottish

Postcommunion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Reflection Conversation on the Day

Prompting question:

What did you hear from one another or from the Spirit that brought you a sense of hope?

Renewal of Covenants

Bishop O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Spirit through the teaching of your Son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of your servants ready to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that they may be filled with the strength of the Spirit's presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
I now invite you to reaffirm your own Baptismal Covenant.

Bishop Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help**

Addressing all lay persons, the Bishop says,
Your ministry as lay persons...

Bishop Will you continue in this ministry?

Laity **I will, with God's help.**

Addressing all deacons, the Bishop says,
Your ministry as deacons...

Bishop Will you continue in this ministry?

Deacons **I will, with God's help.**

Addressing all priests, the Bishop says, Your ministry as priests...

Bishop Will you continue in this ministry?

Priests **I will, with God's help.**

Addressing all clergy, the Bishop says,
Siblings in Christ, as clergy in the Episcopal Church...

Bishop Do you here, in the presence of Christ and his Church, renew your commitment to your ministry, under the pastoral direction of your bishop?

Clergy **I do.**

Bishop Do you reaffirm your promise to give yourself to prayer and study?

Clergy **I do.**

Bishop Do you reaffirm your promise so to minister the Word of God and the Sacraments of the New Covenant that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Clergy **I do.**

Bishop Do you reaffirm your promise to be a faithful servant of all those committed to your care, patterning your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Clergy **I do.**

Designated leaders representing different orders of ministry address the Bishop:
+Shannon, your ministry, as bishop, is to represent Christ and his Church...

The Bishop responds

I will with God's help. And as your bishop, I, too, before God and you, re-dedicate myself and reaffirm the promises that I made when I was ordained. I ask your prayers. May the Lord who has given us the will to do these things, give us also the grace and power to perform them.

Consecration of Oils

Consecration of the Chrism

The Bishop may then consecrate oil of Chrism, placing a hand on the vessel of oil, and saying,
Eternal Father, whose blessed Son was anointed by the Holy Spirit to be the Savior and servant of all, we pray you to consecrate this oil, that those who are sealed with it may share in the royal priesthood of Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

If oil for the Anointing of the Sick is to be blessed,

O Lord, holy Father, giver of health and salvation: Send your Holy Spirit to sanctify this oil; that, as your holy apostles anointed many that were sick and healed them, so may those who in faith and repentance receive this holy unction be made whole; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

Commissioning

Bishop Living God, whose Son our Savior Jesus is known to us in broken bread and wine poured out for reconciliation: Grant us courage to take up your mission; that we, too, may be broken, poured, and shared to feed a hungry world; through him who died and rose again, Jesus Christ our Lord that your glory may be declared. **Amen**

Together **Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Blessing *The Bishop offers a blessing.*

Dismissal

Land acknowledgement

Excerpt from the liturgy of the 187th Diocesan Convention of The Episcopal Church in Vermont (October 26, 2019)

Eucharistic Prayer

Adapted by Nina Ranadive Pooley from sources including: Eucharistic Prayer One, Season of Creation Two, the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (as published online by Green Anglicans, Anglican Church of Southern Africa Environmental Network) and a Creation-specific Eucharistic Prayer in Sam Wells and Abigail Kocher, Eucharistic Prayers (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 2016).

Our Father alternative

The Lord's Prayer adapted for the Season from A New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa (Auckland: The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia 1988), as provided in "Listen to the Voice of Creation," 35.

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