



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

**A few notes about our service:**

The Green Mountain Online Abbey is a community of liturgical prayer that uses a range of resources approved by the Anglican communion and our Bishop. Within the liturgy, we offer intercessions on behalf of the community, the church, and the world. At some services, the leader will invite personal intercession, at which time you are welcome to unmute and offer your own biddings. Otherwise, please keep your microphone muted as you pray with the responder.

If you would like to add to our prayer list, please email Vicar adwoa Wilson at [awilson@diovermont.org](mailto:awilson@diovermont.org).

As an Abbey, we also offer formation in Scripture, Anglican tradition, and the spiritual life. With some occasional or seasonal omissions, these offerings occur on Saturday mornings for 30-60 minutes, immediately following 8:00 am prayer.

Welcome!

# MORNING PRAYER

*Tuesday, April 14, 2026*

*Week 2 in Eastertide*

*Edward Thomas Demby, 1957,  
and Henry Beard Delany, 1928  
Bishops*

## Opening Sentence

*The Officiant says the following*

After his suffering Jesus presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. *Acts 1.3*

## 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 forever. Amen. Alleluia.

*Officiant* Alleluia, Christ is risen indeed:

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

*Said in unison* **Christ our Passover** *Pascha nostrum*  
*1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22*

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.  
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.

The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.  
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.  
Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

*Officiant* Alleluia, Christ is risen indeed:

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

### **Psalm Appointed 5 & 6**

*Read responsively by whole verse*

#### **Psalm 5**

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**

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 forever. Amen.

## **The Lessons**

### **First Reading**

*Reader* A reading from **1 Peter 1:13-25**

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly

had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. For

'All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

but the word of the Lord endures for ever.'

That word is the good news that was announced to you.

Here ends the reading.

*read in unison* **A Song of Ezekiel** *Ezekiel 36:24-28*

I will take you out of the nations \*

and gather you from every land, and bring you to your own soil.

I will sprinkle clean water over you,

and you shall be clean from all that defiles you; \*

I will cleanse you from the taint of all your idols.

I will give you a new heart \*

and put a new spirit within you;

I will take the heart of stone from your body \*

and give you a heart of flesh.  
I will put my spirit into you  
and make you conform to my statutes; \*  
you shall keep my laws and live by them.  
You shall live in the land which I gave to your ancestors; \*  
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader.* A reading from the **Gospel of John 14:18-31**

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’ Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, ‘Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

‘I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, “I am going away, and I am coming to you.” If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

Here ends the reading.

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

### **Affirmation of Faith**

*Together*

We believe in one God, who is Creator,  
maker of all we see and all we don't see;  
Who is Ruler of the universe:  
Source of all creation!

We believe in one God, who is Jesus Christ,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God and true man.  
He is one with the Creator; the Word made flesh, our Messiah:  
Savior of all creation!

We believe in one God, who is Holy Spirit,  
Breath of God moving among us.  
Who is one with Creator; one with Christ; our Comforter and our Guide:  
Mentor of all creation!

### **The Prayers**

*Officiant*    The Lord be with you  
*People*        And also with you.

### *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**

*Officiant*

Loving God, we thank you for the ministries of Edward Thomas Demby and Henry Beard Delany, bishops of your Church who, though limited by segregation, served faithfully to your honor and glory. Assist us, we pray, to break through the limitations of our own time, that we may minister in obedience to Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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, led by Responder*

### **For Justice**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*During this time, one of our Abbey intercessors will offer our collective prayers for this community, the church, and the world.*

*Intercessor*      Lord in your mercy.

*People:*          Hear our prayer.

*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.

### **Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us bless God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

*People* To God be thanks forever. Alleluia, Alleluia.

*The Officiant ends with a Concluding Sentence*

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**

Edward Thomas Demby and Henry Beard Delany, two of the first African American bishops in The Episcopal Church, were instrumental in the struggle of minorities to take their place in the highest positions of leadership in a church often hostile to their presence.

Born in Wilmington, Delaware, on February 13, 1869, Edward Demby attended Howard University and became an Episcopalian while serving as the Dean of Students at Paul Quinn College in Texas. Bishop John Spalding recognized Demby's gifts for ministry and sent him to work in the Diocese of Tennessee. Ordained a deacon in 1898 and a priest the next year, he served parishes in Illinois, Missouri, and Florida. In 1907, he returned to Tennessee as rector of Emmanuel Church in Memphis. He was also appointed as an Archdeacon for Colored Work, with responsibilities for the segregated "colored convocations" in the South.

While serving as Archdeacon, Demby was elected in 1918 as Bishop Suffragan for Colored Work in the Diocese of Arkansas and the Province of the Southwest. A major contributor to the westward expansion of The Episcopal Church, Demby drew African Americans into the church through his work with black hospitals, schools, and orphanages. Despite the difficulties he encountered among the white leadership in the South, Demby worked his whole life toward the full recognition of African Americans in The Episcopal Church and was instrumental in securing that African Americans held positions of leadership for national church offices concerning ministry to African Americans. He died on October 14, 1957, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Henry Beard Delany was ordained to the episcopate the same year as Edward Demby. Born a slave in St. Mary's, Georgia, on February 5, 1858,

he was educated at St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina. Ordained a deacon in 1889 and a priest three years later, Delany served as vice principal of St. Augustine's. In 1908, Delany was appointed as an Archdeacon for Colored Work, working in the Diocese of North Carolina. He was called to be Bishop Suffragan for Colored Work in the Diocese of North Carolina, but his ministry extended into the Dioceses of East and Western North Carolina, South Carolina, and Upper South Carolina.

Delany was a strong advocate for the integration of African American Episcopalians into the wider Church despite the Jim Crow laws of the day and the efforts of many leaders of the white majority in the church who viewed the presence of men like Demby and Delany as threats to their power and authority. He died on April 14, 1928, at St. Augustine's College.

—Great Cloud of Witnesses 2016 Church Publishing

*Liturgy created with the following resources: Book of Common Prayer, Enriching Our Worship, and Saint Helena Breviary*