



*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, June 16, 2026*  
*Ordinary Time, Proper 6*  
*Joseph Butler*  
*Bishop and Theologian, 1752*

## Opening Sentence

*Officiant*

May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O God, my rock and my redeemer. *Psalm 19:14*

## 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.

*Officiant* Our God has redeemed the world:

*People* Come, let us worship.

*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* Our God has redeemed the world:  
*People* Come, let us worship.

**Psalm Appointed 78:1-39**

*Read responsively by whole verse*

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; \*  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; \*  
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,  
and what our forebears have told us, \*  
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come  
your praiseworthy deeds and your power, O God, \*  
and the wonderful works you have done.

5 You gave your decrees to Jacob  
and established a law for Israel, \*  
which you commanded them to teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,  
and the children yet unborn, \*  
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

7 So that they might put their trust in you, \*  
and not forget your deeds,  
but keep your commandments;

8 And not be like their forebears,

a stubborn and rebellious generation, \*  
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,  
and whose spirit was not faithful to you.

9 The people of Ephraim, armed with the bow, \*  
turned back in the day of battle;

10 They did not keep your covenant \*  
and refused to walk in your law;

11 They forgot what you had done, \*  
and the wonders you had shown them.

12 You worked marvels in the sight of their forebears, \*  
in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.

13 You split open the sea and let them pass through; \*  
you made the waters stand up like walls.

14 You led them with a cloud by day, \*  
and all the night through with a glow of fire.

15 You split the hard rocks in the wilderness \*  
and gave them drink as from the great deep.

16 You brought streams out of the cliff, \*  
and the waters gushed out like rivers.

17 But they went on sinning against you, \*  
rebellious in the desert against the Most High.

18 They tested you in their hearts, \*  
demanding food for their craving.

19 They railed against you and said, \*  
“Can God set a table in the wilderness?”

20 True, God struck the rock,  
the waters gushed out, and the gullies overflowed; \*  
but is God able to give bread  
or to provide meat for the people?"

21 When you heard this, you were full of wrath; \*  
a fire was kindled against Jacob,  
and your anger mounted against Israel;

22 For they had no faith in you, \*  
nor did they put their trust in your saving power.

23 So you commanded the clouds above \*  
and opened the doors of heaven.

24 You rained down manna upon them to eat \*  
and gave them grain from heaven.

25 So mortals ate the bread of angels; \*  
you provided for them food enough.

26 You caused the east wind to blow in the heavens \*  
and led out the south wind by your might.

27 You rained down flesh upon them like dust \*  
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.

28 You let it fall in the midst of their camp \*  
and round about their dwellings.

29 So they ate and were well filled, \*  
for you gave them what they craved.

30 But they did not stop their craving, \*

though the food was still in their mouths.

31 So your anger mounted against them; \*  
you slew the strongest among them  
and laid low the youth of Israel.

32 In spite of all this, they went on sinning \*  
and had no faith in your wonderful works.

33 So you brought their days to an end like a breath \*  
and their years in sudden terror.

34 Whenever you slew them, they would seek you, \*  
and repent, and diligently search for you.

35 They would remember that you were their rock, \*  
that you, the Most High, were their redeemer.

36 But they flattered you with their mouths \*  
and lied to you with their tongues.

37 Their heart was not steadfast toward you, \*  
and they were not faithful to your covenant.

38 But you were so merciful that you forgave their sins  
and did not destroy them; \*  
many times you held back your anger  
and did not permit your wrath to be roused.

39 For you remembered that they were but flesh, \*  
a breath that goes forth and does not return.

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 **Romans 1:16-25**

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, 'The one who is righteous will live by faith.'

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse; for though they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools; and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.

Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever! Amen.

*Reader* Here ends the reading.

*read in unison* **Canticle L**

***A Song of Christ's Humility*** *Philippians 2:6-11*

Though in the form of God, \*

Christ Jesus did not cling to equality with God,  
But emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, \*  
and was born in human likeness.

Being found in human form, he humbled himself \*

and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Therefore, God has highly exalted him \*  
and given him the name above every name,  
That at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow, \*  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, \*  
to the glory of God the Father.

## **The Gospel**

*Reader A* reading from the **Gospel of Matthew 17:22-27**

As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, ‘The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised.’ And they were greatly distressed.

When they reached Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax came to Peter and said, ‘Does your teacher not pay the temple tax?’ He said, ‘Yes, he does.’ And when he came home, Jesus spoke of it first, asking, ‘What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute? From their children or from others?’ When Peter said, ‘From others’, Jesus said to him, ‘Then the children are free. However, so that we do not give offence to them, go to the lake and cast a hook; take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me.’

Here ends the reading.

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

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*Officiant* Let us declare our faith in the resurrection and reign of Christ

*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. 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*

O God, who raises up scholars for your church in every generation; we praise you for the wisdom and insight granted to your bishop and theologian Joseph Butler, and pray that your church may never be destitute of such gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, 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, Led by Responder*

### **A Collect for Social Justice and Peace**

Almighty God, source of true justice and peace, in you there is no distinction of persons, for in you we are equally loved. Reconcile us that we may live and work with each other and with you to establish your reign on earth where there is no poverty, war, or any oppression, 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.*

*The Intercessor concludes:* 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**

*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**

*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.*

### **Commemoration**

Joseph Butler was born in Berkshire in 1692, into a Presbyterian family. His early education was in dissenting academies, but in his early twenties he became an Anglican. He entered Oxford in 1715 and was ordained in 1718.

Butler distinguished himself as a preacher while serving Rolls Chapel, Chancery Lane, London, and then went on to serve several parishes before being appointed Bishop of Bristol in 1738. He declined the primacy of Canterbury, but accepted translation to Durham in 1750. He died on June 16, 1752, in Bath, and his body was entombed in Bristol Cathedral.

Butler's importance rests chiefly on his acute apology for orthodox Christianity against the Deistic thought prevalent in England in his time in his work *The Analogy of Religion, Natural and Revealed, to the Constitution and Course of Nature*, 1736. He maintained the "reasonable probability" of Christianity, with action upon that probability as a basis for faith.

Butler's was a rational exposition of the faith grounded in deep personal piety, a worthy counterpoint to the enthusiasm of the Wesleyan revival of the same period.

—Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2022 Church Publishing

*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, From the Manual of the Society of the Companions of the Holy  
Cross Submitted by Judith Lockhart Radtke*