



*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. Each service is preceded by 3 minutes silence.

If you would like to add to our prayer list, please email Winnie Grace at wingrace1@gmail.com.

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

Monday, August 17, 2026

Ordinary Time, Proper 15

*Samuel Johnson, 1772, Timothy Cutler, 1765,
and Thomas Bradbury Chandler, 1790 Priests*

Opening Sentence

The Officiant says the following

Through Jesus let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of lips that acknowledge God's name. *Hebrews 13:15*

Invitatory Rite

Officiant O God, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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

Officiant Our God orders all things well:

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 orders all things well:
People Come, let us worship.

Psalm Appointed 106:1-18

Read responsively by whole verse

1 Alleluia! Give thanks, for the Holy One is good; *
God's mercy endures for ever.

2 Who can declare the mighty acts of God *
or show forth rightful praise?

3 Happy are they who act with justice *
and always do what is right!

4 Remember me, O God, with the favor you have for your people, *
and visit me with your saving help;

5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.

6 We have sinned as our forebears did; *
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.

7 In Egypt they did not consider your marvelous works,
nor remember the abundance of your love; *
they defied you, O Most High, at the Red Sea.

8 But you saved them for your Name's sake, *
to make your power known.

9 You rebuked the Red Sea, and it dried up, *

and you led them through the deep as through a desert.

10 You saved them from the hand of those who hated them *
and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

11 The waters covered their oppressors; *
not one of them was left.

12 Then they believed your words *
and sang you songs of praise.

13 But they soon forgot your deeds *
and did not wait for your counsel.

14 A craving seized them in the wilderness, *
and they put you to the test in the desert.

15 You gave them what they asked, *
but sent leanness into their soul.

16 They envied Moses in the camp, *
and Aaron, the holy one of God.

17 The earth opened and swallowed Dathan *
and covered the company of Abiram.

18 Fire blazed up against their company, *
and flames devoured the wicked.

Glory 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 **Acts 7:44-8:1a**

‘Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, who found favour with God and asked that he might find a dwelling-place for the house of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by human hands; as the prophet says,

“Heaven is my throne,

and the earth is my footstool.

What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord,

or what is the place of my rest?

Did not my hand make all these things?”

‘You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are for ever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.’

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died. And Saul approved of their killing him.

Reader Here ends the reading.

Read in unison **Life in the Spirit** *based on Romans 8:2, 14–19*

In Christ the life-giving law of the Spirit:
has set us free from the law of sin and death.

All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God:
it is the Spirit that enables us to cry, Abba, Father.

The Spirit confirms that we are God's children:
and if children then we are heirs.

We are heirs of God, and fellow heirs with Christ:
if we share his suffering now,
in order to share his splendor hereafter.

The sufferings we now endure:
bear no comparison with the splendor
to be shown to us.

The created universe itself waits with eager longing:
for the children of God to be revealed.

The Gospel

Reader A reading from the **Gospel of John 5:19-29**

Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomsoever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgement to the Son, so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life.

‘Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgement, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

Reader Here ends the reading.

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

Apostles Creed

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

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

God of your pilgrim people, you called Samuel Johnson, Timothy Cutler, and Thomas Chandler to leave their spiritual home and embrace the Anglican way: We give you thanks for their devoted service in building up your Church and shepherding your flock in colonial times; and we pray that, like them, we may follow where your Spirit leads and be ever eager to feed the hearts and minds of those entrusted to our care, in the Name of Jesus Christ; 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, Led by Responder

For People Facing Uncertainty

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to us all as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. 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.*

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God our Creator for all gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

We thank you, God.

For all that is gracious in the lives of all peoples, revealing the image of Christ,

We thank you, God.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

We thank you, God.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

We thank you, God.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

We thank you, God.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

We thank you, God.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

We thank you, God.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
We thank you, God.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and
promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Redeemer;
*To him be praise and glory, with you, O Creator, and the
Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.*

Together

God of work and rest and pleasure, Grant that what we do today may be
for us an offering rather than a burden; And for those we serve, may it be
the help they need. Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon 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

Samuel Johnson, born in Connecticut in 1696, was ordained
Congregational minister in 1719. But ongoing study and his experience of
ministry led to an appreciation of episcopal orders and apostolic
succession, as well as the ordered liturgy of the Book of Common Prayer.
Shortly after his ordination, he and sympathetic others met and discussed

the Anglican alternative including Harvard graduate Timothy Cutler, then rector of Yale College. In September of 1722, Johnson, Cutler, and their friend Daniel Browne—the “Yale Apostates”—confronted the trustees of Yale College and announced their intention to seek ordination in the Church of England. In March 1723, they were ordained to the Anglican priesthood by the Bishop of Norwich.

Returning to New England as a missionary for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (SPG), Johnson became the rector of the first Anglican congregation in Connecticut, at Stratford, where he served until he became the first President of King’s College (now Columbia University) in New York. Cutler, after doctoral studies at Oxford and Cambridge, served as rector of Christ Church, Boston, where he tirelessly advocated for the appointment of an Anglican bishop in the colonies until his death on August 17, 1765.

Johnson’s pupil, Thomas Bradbury Chandler (April 26, 1726–June 17, 1790), also an ardent advocate for bishops in the colonies, continued the work. Chandler, the father-in-law of Bishop John Henry Hobart, served for 43 years as the rector of St. John’s, Elizabethtown (now Elizabeth), New Jersey, and was himself appointed the first Anglican bishop in the Americas, in Nova Scotia, but was unable to accept the appointment due to illness.

Johnson, Cutler, and Chandler were notable exponents of Anglican theology and polity in the formative years of pre-Revolutionary America, when the diverse “marketplace” of religion in the colonies was in its infancy, but growing robustly in a climate sympathetic to religious freedom. The experience, examples and advocacy of Johnson, Cutler, Chandler, and others like them contributed substantially to the continuation of Anglicanism in post-Revolutionary America, adapting Anglican thought and practice to a newly emerging United States.

—Great Cloud of Witnesses 2016 Church Publishing

Liturgy created with the following resources: Book of Common Prayer, Enriching

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