

DAILY MORNING PRAYER

The Officiant may begin Morning Prayer by reading an opening sentence of Scripture. One of the following, or a sentence from among those provided at the end of the Office (pages 27-29), is customary.

The First Sunday of Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy – Melissa Shuran

Reader: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Isaiah 40:3

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the People

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence is kept. All kneeling, the Officiant and People say

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Spare all those who confess their faults.
Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in
Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

A Deacon or layperson remains kneeling and prays

Officiant: Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All stand.

Officiant O Lord, open our lips;
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
Officiant O God, make speed to save us;
People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

People **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Officiant Praise the Lord.

People **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Officiant: Our King and Savior now draws near: *

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

The Venite: Said together –

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving

And raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,

And a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

And the heights of the hills are his also,

The sea is his, for he made it,

And his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,

And kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

And we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Oh, that today you would harken to his voice.

The Psalm: Psalm 80 read responsively by full verse

80 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

² **Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!**

³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

⁴ **O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶ **You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh among themselves.**

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; *

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Lessons

Reader: The first lesson is taken from Isaiah 64:1-9a.

64 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³ When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴ From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. ⁵ You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷ There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. ⁸ But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹ Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

Reader: Here ends the Reading.

The following Canticles are normally sung or said after each of the lessons. The Officiant may also use a Cantic drawn from the Supplemental Canticles (pages 79-88) or an appropriate song of praise.

Said together - TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

We Praise You, O God

We praise you, O God; we acclaim you as Lord; *
all creation worships you, the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, *
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, *
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you. *
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. *
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded, your true and only Son, worthy of all praise, *
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory, *
 the eternal Son of the Father.
 When you took our flesh to set us free *
 you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.
 You overcame the sting of death *
 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
 You are seated at God's right hand in glory. *
 We believe that you will come to be our judge.
 Come then, Lord, and help your people, *
 bought with the price of your own blood,
 and bring us with your saints *
 to glory everlasting.

Reader: A reading from Mark 13:24-37.

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁴ “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

²⁸ “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

No One Knows That Day or Hour

³² “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard, keep awake.^[a] For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants^[b] in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵ Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows,^[c] or in the morning— ³⁶ lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

Reader: Here ends the lesson.

Said together: BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE

A Song of Praise

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.
Glory to you, beholding the depths; *
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

LUKE 1:68-79

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

**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 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 OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The People kneel or stand.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Officiant and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Officiant O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

People **And grant us your salvation.**

Officiant O Lord, guide those who govern us;

People **And lead us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People **And let your people sing with joy.**

Officiant O Lord, save your people;

People **And bless your inheritance.**

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People **And defend us by your mighty power.**

Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People **And take not your Holy Spirit from us.**

The Officiant then prays one or more of the following Collects, always beginning with the Collect of the Day (usually the Collect of the Sunday or Principal Feast and of any of the weekdays following, or of the Holy Day being observed), found on pages 598-640. It is traditional to pray the Collects for Peace and Grace daily. Alternatively, one may pray the Collects on a weekly rotation, using the suggestions in italics.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

From the Collects of the Christian Year

Officiant: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR STRENGTH TO AWAIT CHRIST'S RETURN

Sunday

Officiant: O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of your kingdom on the last great Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Unless the Great Litany or the Eucharist is to follow, one of the following prayers for mission is added. If the Great Litany is used, it follows here, or after a hymn or anthem, and concludes the Office.

PRAYER FOR MISSION

Officiant: Almighty and everlasting God, who alone works great marvels: Send down upon our clergy and the congregations committed to their charge the life-giving Spirit of your grace, shower them with the continual dew of your blessing, and ignite in them a zealous love of your Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Officiant may invite the People to offer intercessions and thanksgivings.

A hymn or anthem may be sung.

Before the close of the Office one or both of the following prayers may be used.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
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 Lord 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 Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

The Sermon: Prepared by Fr. Terry Sweeney.

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will grant their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

From Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost, "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to the preceding versicle and response.

The Officiant says one of these concluding sentences (and the People may be invited to join)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14^r