

Today we celebrate and give thanks for the staffs of St. Catherine's and ECOHS. We are blessed to have creative, committed, caring, joyful, smart and fun employees. They come to our work as professionals, but see their part in our shared ministry as a vocation, a calling from God. While their gifts and presence are always integral to our common life, in Covid-tide, they have risen to the occasion, leaning into challenges as opportunities, and we are profoundly grateful. We also continue to be grateful for the generosity of our pledgers who allow our staff to do the work God and the Church has given them to do.

Thank you.

Mother Sarah, rector of St Catherines and Mother Mandy, interim at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

### A note about Morning Prayer

Marking the times of the day with prayer — sanctifying time — is a practice shared by all of the Abrahamic faith traditions (Christianity, Judaism and Islam). In the monastic communities of the early church, life centered around shared prayer in the divine offices, or liturgy of the hours. These offices consisted of a psalm, appointed Bible readings, canticles, and the Lord's Prayer. Eventually seven offices developed: Matins, Prime, Terce, Sext, None, Vespers, and Compline.

During the English Reformation, Thomas Cranmer, the primary author of the first Book of Common Prayer, simplified these many offices to two — Morning and Evening Prayer. The offices are designed to be led by laity or clergy, making them accessible to everyone. For centuries, Morning Prayer shaped the pattern of Sunday worship in many communities, especially when clergy were shared between multiple communities. Of necessity, the Eucharist only occurred when the priest could be present, often just one Sunday a month. And, as often happens, a pattern born of necessity became the tradition. The 1979 Book of Common Prayer restored the practice of the early church with the Eucharist as the primary expression of worship on Sundays in the Episcopal tradition.

As we return to the tradition of Morning Prayer in our faith communities during this diaspora, we are consciously returning to that longstanding tradition of sanctifying time. The Daily Office can be a rich and rewarding way to connect with God. Daily lectionary readings ground the offices solidly in scripture, and following the lectionary cycle makes it possible for one to read/hear most of the Bible in the course of the two year cycle of readings. Just as the cycles of the liturgical year orient us toward the overarching story of the redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, grounding our days in the the offices provides us with a daily reminder of God's activity throughout the ages.

# An Order for Morning Prayer

September 13, 2020

Prelude

*Nick Bowden*

*The officiant begins the service:*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*  
Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to  
your dwelling. *Psalms 43:3*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together, all kneeling*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **The Invitatory and Psalter**

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Except in Lent, add Alleluia.*

*All people that on earth do dwell*

*verses 1-4*

*Unison or harmony*

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with  
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our aid he  
 3 O en - ter then his gates with praise, ap - proach with joy his  
 4 For why? the Lord our God is good, his mer - cy is for  
 \*5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom heaven and

1 cheer - ful voice: him serve with mirth, his praise forth  
 2 did us make: we are his folk, he doth us  
 3 courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his Name al -  
 4 ev - er sure; his truth at all times firm - ly  
 5 earth a - dore, from men and from the an - gel

1 tell, come ye be - fore him and re - - jice.  
 2 feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.  
 3 ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.  
 4 stood, and shall from age to age en - - dure.  
 5 host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - - more.

*Then follows*

## Psalm 114

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.**

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?**

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

*At the end of the Psalms is sung or said*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## The First Lesson

*Read by Cathy Schlecht, Parish Administrator of Church of the Holy Spirit*

## Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Hymn #690

*Guide me O thou great Jehovah*

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;  
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,  
lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,  
land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -  
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

**The Second Lesson**

*Read by Pat Pepper, Volunteer Coordinator at St Catherine's*

**Matthew 18:21-35**

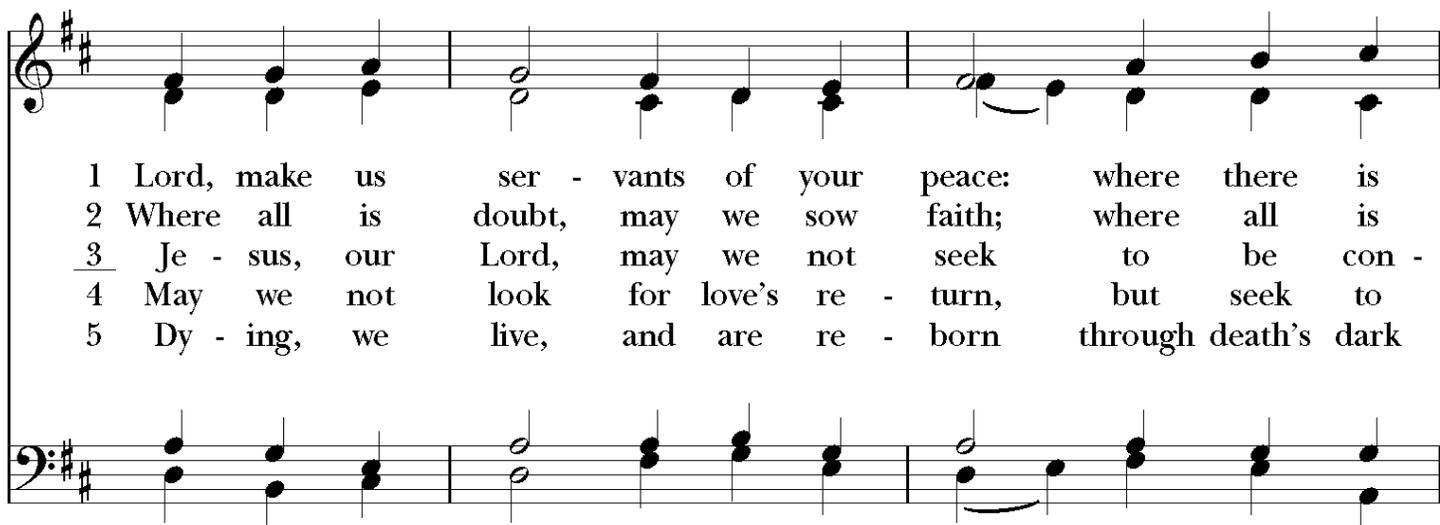
Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

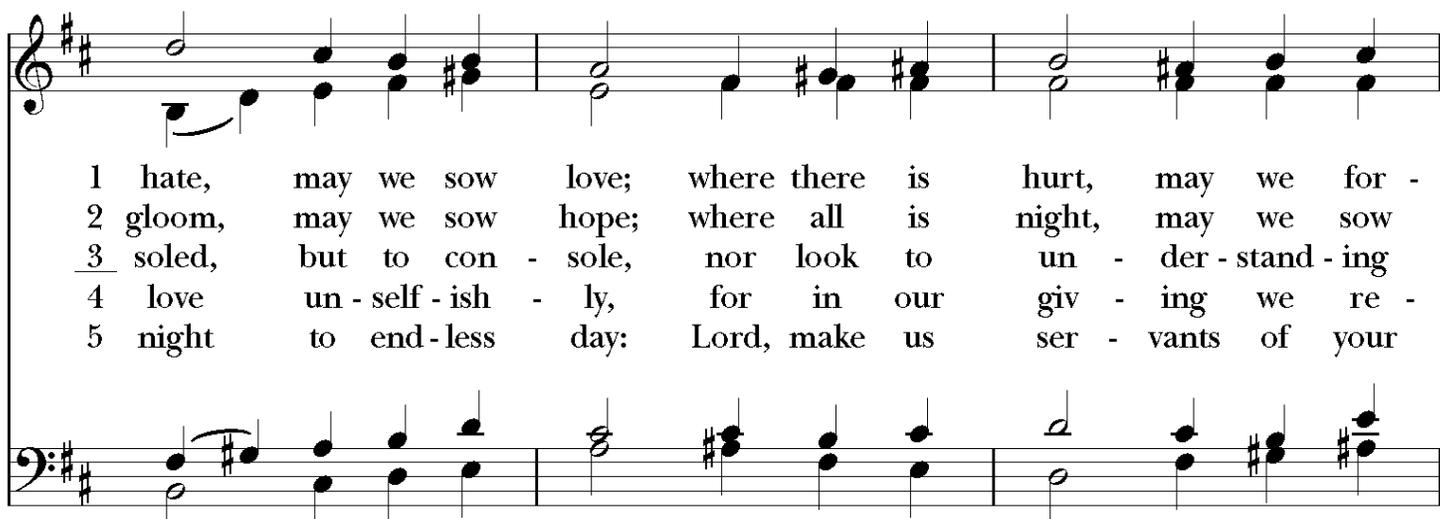
The Word of the Lord.

**People**

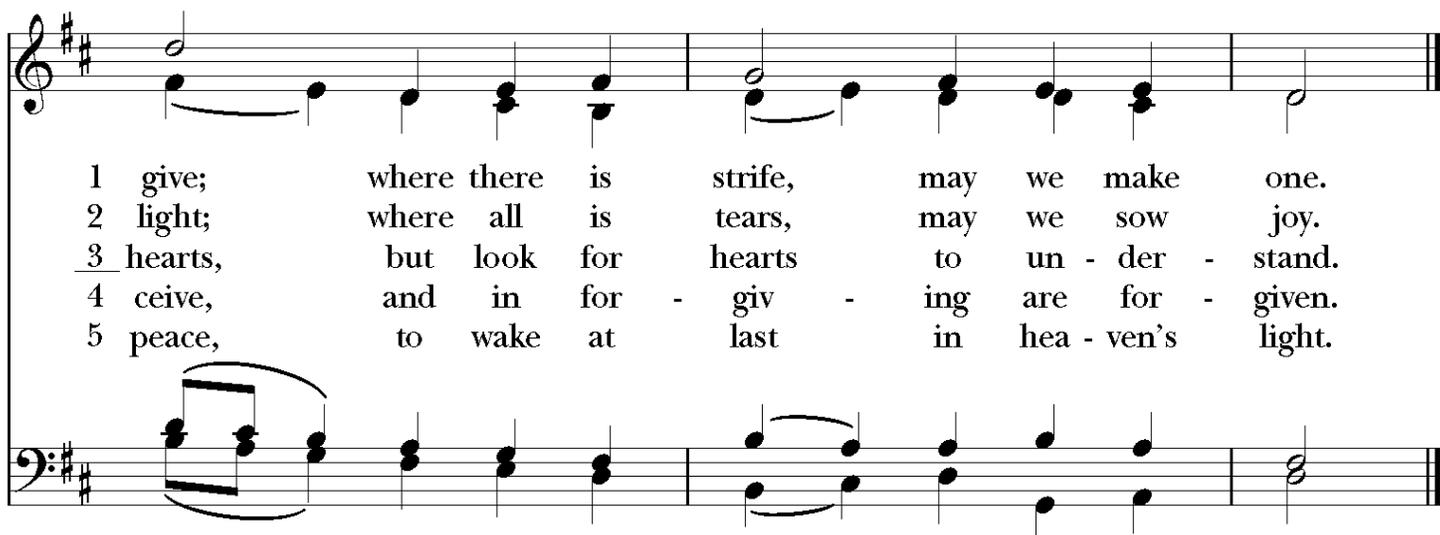
**Thanks be to God.**

*Lord make us servants of your peace*


1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is  
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is  
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -  
 4 May we not look for love's re - turn, but seek to  
 5 Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born through death's dark



1 hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -  
 2 gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow  
 3 soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing  
 4 love un - self - ish - ly, for in our giv - ing we re -  
 5 night to end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants of your



1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.  
 2 light; where all is light tears, may we sow joy.  
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.  
 4 ceive, and in for - giv - ing are for - given.  
 5 peace, to wake at last in hea - ven's light.

## Homily

### The Apostles' Creed

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.

*Officiant and People together*

### The Prayers

*The People stand or kneel*

Officiant     The Lord be with you.  
People        **And also with you.**  
Officiant     Let us pray.

*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.**

*Then follows the Suffrages*

## A

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**R. And grant us your salvation.**  
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**R. Let your people sing with joy.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
**R. Your saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

*The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects*

### *The Collect of the Day*

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### *A Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *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 Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

## **The General Thanksgiving**

*Officiant and People*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your beloved 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,**

**BCP 101, Adapted**





1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
2 loft, O\_\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing  
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -  
4 way, O\_\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
5 part, O\_\_\_ sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that  
6 breath, O\_\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back  
7 ness, O\_\_\_ praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,  
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,  
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:

*Refrain*



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.*