



**St. John's Episcopal Church
Morning Prayer**

Sunday, September 26, 2021 – Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

All stand

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. *John 4:24*

HYMN

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Levas 178

1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from a
 2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my pe -
 3. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, May I thy con - so -

1. world of care, And bids me at my Fa - ther's throne Make
 2. ti - tion bear To Him whose truth and faith - ful - ness En -
 3. la - tion share, Till from Mount Pis - gah's loft - y height I

1. all my wants and wish - es known. In sea - sons of dis -
 2. gage the wait - ing soul to bless; And since He bids me
 3. view my home and take my flight: This robe of flesh I'll

1. tress and grief My soul has of - ten found re - lief.
 2. seek His face, Be - lieve His word and trust His grace.
 3. drop, and rise To seize the ev - er - last - ing prize.

1. And oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare By
 2. I'll cast on Him my ev - 'ry care, And
 3. And shout, while pass - ing through the air, "Fare -

1. thy re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.
 2. wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.
 3. well, fare - well, sweet hour of prayer!"

CONFESSON OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Officiant

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

VERSICLE (BCP p. 80)

All stand

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 forever. Amen. Alleluia.

ANTIPHON (BCP p. 80)

O God, you are my God; from break of day I seek you.

INVITATORY (BCP p. 80)

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *

that I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

PSALM: Psalm 19:7-14 To be read by the half verse.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable
in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

At the end of the Psalm 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 Lessons

FIRST READING:

The people sit.

A Reading from Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29.

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,’ to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

FIRST CANTICLE (BCP p. 85)

Canticle 12 (EOW): A Song of Creation

Benedicite, omnia opera Domini

Song of the Three, 35-65

One or more sections of this Canticle may be used. Whatever the selection, it begins with the Invocation / Doxology.

Invocation

Glorify the Lord, all you works of the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

In the high vault of heaven, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

I. The Cosmic Order

Glorify the Lord, you angels and all powers of the Lord, *
O heavens and all waters above the heavens.

Sun and moon and stars of the sky, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, every shower of rain and fall of dew, *
all winds and fire and heat.

Winter and summer, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O chill and cold, *
drops of dew and flakes of snow.

Frost and cold, ice and sleet, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O nights and days, *
O shining light and enfolding dark.

Storm clouds and thunderbolts, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

II. The Earth and its Creatures

Let the earth glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O mountains
and hills, and all that grows upon the earth, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O springs of water, seas, and streams, *
O whales and all that move in the waters.

All birds of the air, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Glorify the Lord, O beasts of the wild, *
and all you flocks and herds.

O men and women everywhere, glorify the Lord, *
sing praise and give honor for ever.

III. The People of God

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, *
 sing praise and give honor for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, *
 sing praise and give honor for ever.
Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, *
 sing praise and give honor for ever.
You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, *
 sing praise and give honor for ever.

Doxology

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; *
 sing praise and give honor for ever.
In the high vault of heaven, glorify the Lord, *
 sing praise and give honor for ever.

SECOND READING:

The people sit.

A Reading from James 5:13-20.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SECOND CANTICLE

Canticle 15 (EOW): The Song of Mary
Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, *
 for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
 you, the Almighty, have done great things for me,
 and holy is your name.
You have mercy on those who fear you *
 from generation to generation.
You have shown strength with your arm *
 and scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones *
 and lifting up the lowly.
You have filled the hungry with good things *
 and sent the rich away empty.
You have come to the help of your servant Israel, *
 for you have remembered your promise of mercy,
The promise made to our forebears, *
 to Abraham and his children for ever.

THIRD READING:

The people sit.

A Reading from The Gospel According to Mark 9:38-50.

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED (BCP p. 96)

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 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

SALUTATION (BCP p. 97)

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 97)

Officiant and People

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom 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 the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

SUFFRAGES (BCP p. 97)

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.**

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR MISSION (BCP p. 100)

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.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING (BCP p. 101)

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.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM (BCP p. 102)

Officiant and People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: 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.*

CONCLUDING VERSICLE (BCP p. 102)

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus (*next page*)

Hymnal #383

CONCLUDING SENTENCE (BCP p. 102)

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*

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all na - ture, O thou of
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair-er still the wood - lands, robed in the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair-er still the moon - light, and all the

God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

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