



The Office of Morning Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Anglican Church of Canada is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.



Territorial Acknowledgment

Although we have come together in digital space, we each stand in place on solid ground that is the ancestral territory of peoples who were here long before the Europeans crossed the ocean. *We gratefully acknowledge that we are in the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.*

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: O Spirit of the Living God, vs 1,3,4

Silence

Let us pray,
Loving God,
help us to live respectfully on these lands,
seeking justice and peace.
Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing to you with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
so that we might follow Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (adapted)*

Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.
Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.

Jubilate - Psalm 100 (*Inclusive Language Psalter*)

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
 serve the Lord with gladness
 and come into the divine presence with a song.
Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God;
 the One made us is the One to whom we belong;
 we are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.
Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving;
 go into these courts with praise;
 give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord.
For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting;
 and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
let us praise and worship God who has called us together.
Let us celebrate God's majesty,
and delight in the wonder of God's love.
Together we shall confess our sins
and receive assurance that we are forgiven.

As the scriptures are read,
we can allow God's word to speak to us,
and ponder its meaning for our lives.
In our prayers, we give thanks for God's goodness,
we pray for others as well as for ourselves,
and we offer our lives anew in Christ's service.

All this we do,
because we believe in the presence among us
of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

The Confession

Hear these words of scripture.

If we claim to be sinless,
we are self-deceived and strangers to the truth.
If we confess our sins,
God is just and may be trusted to forgive our sins
and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.
Spirit of God, search our hearts.

In silence,
remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Silence

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of mercy,
we have sinned against you and against others.
We have sinned in what we have done,
and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for our sins,
forgive us all that is past
and raise us to newness of life. Amen.**

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent,
forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

O come, let us sing to the Lord,
let us rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

We sing to you, O God, and bless your name;
and tell of your salvation from day to day.

We proclaim your glory to the nations,
your praise to the ends of the earth.

The Readings, Psalm, and Holy Gospel

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

The narrative of Pentecost exemplifies Luke's expert storytelling ability. The reading includes hidden references to the Hebrew Bible, a citation from the prophets, a contemporary geography lesson, an account of miracles, and the folksy detail of the accusation of drunkenness. As we await the eschatological end of all things, we are now those who prophesy, see visions, and dream dreams. Although some Christians connect glossolalia with Pentecost, Luke describes these "tongues" as other languages with which to evangelize the world.

When the day of Pentecost had come, the apostles were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the

coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

The people respond: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 104:25-35

The psalm for the day, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, is a psalm in which it is usual to translate the Hebrew of verse 30 with the term "Spirit," rather than "breath" or "wind." The psalm praises God the creator, whose Spirit continually creates all that lives. Verses 27-28 have become part of a common table prayer. In an example of the lectionary's use of the Bible, the condemnation of verse 35a is omitted.

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

You hide your face, and they are terrified; you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

May your glory, O Lord, endure for ever; may you rejoice in all your works;

you look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

May these words of mine please you; I will rejoice in the Lord. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Romans 8:22-27

We and the whole creation are groaning in labor, awaiting the birth of God's new age in which Christ's resurrection will renew all things. Until that end time, we have the Spirit who is praying for us before God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

The people respond: **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: Send Down The Fire vs.1,2 and 4

Gospel: John 15:26-27, 16:4B15

The Gospel of John is appointed for most of the primary festivals of the liturgical year because of John's high Christology and its centrality in the development of Christian doctrine. John says theologically the narrative of Pentecost: God sends the Spirit into the gathered community so that they can know the truth of Christ's resurrection. Christian theology subsumed John's description of the Advocate into its understanding of the Holy Spirit, and passages such as this led to the development of the doctrine of the Trinity. The Spirit is now the link between the believing community and God.

Jesus said to the disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are

you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
The people respond: **Thanks be to God**

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.**

Prayers of the People

Today we pray for the people of Palestine and Israel. We pray for their government leaders, that a peaceful resolution can be found to the struggle both nations face. The acts of violence against civilians is an affront to God, and we pray that such violence will cease.

God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving.

We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and to be loved. In our Christ Church Prayer cycle, we pray Joan Purcell, Jean Pye, Brenda & Mark Rainnie, Esther & Dennis Ramsay, Nancy & William Ringo. Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbours and our community, loving others as he loves us.

Silence

Lord hear our prayer; **and let our cry come to you.**

We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble especially for **Those ill or in Hospital, and those in need:** Joan Halsey , Glen, Nancy, Les, Rick, Melba, Shelia Jollimore, Edith, Bob, Christine, Susan, Shelagh, Bev & John Zinck, Faye & Brud Thornham, Allan, Ross and Residents of the Admiral, Oakwood, Oceanview, Parkland, and all in Care Homes. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

Silence

Lord hear our prayer; **and let our cry come to you.**

We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of these lands. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

Silence

Lord hear our prayer; **and let our cry come to you.**

We pray for your Church throughout the world: Justin Welby Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop Linda Nicholls Primate, Archbishop Mark MacDonald Indigenous Bishop, Archbishop David Edwards Metropolitan, and Bishop Sandra Fyfe, our diocesan bishop, and The Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax, Nova Scotia: The Reverend Very Reverend Paul Smith, Dean, and Frances, all Assistant Clergy, Deacons, and Honourary Canons, thanking all who serve Christ and his kingdom. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their work and witness in the world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

Silence

Lord hear our prayer; **and let our cry come to you.**

We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ (remembering today....), and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

Silence

Lord hear our prayer; **and let our cry come to you.**

Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you. Hear the prayers of your people.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God of mercy,
you have given us grace to pray with one heart and one voice;
and have promised to hear the prayers
of two or three who agree in your name;
fulfil now, we pray,
the prayers and longings of your people
as may be best for us and for your kingdom.
Grant us in this world to know your truth,
and in the world to come to see your glory.
Amen.

Collect of the Day

Creator Spirit,
make the dry bones of our lives
live and breathe and grow again.
Pour out your Spirit upon the whole creation.
Come in rushing wind and flashing fire
to turn the sin and sorrow within us
into faith, power and delight.
Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.

Collect Prayers

Almighty and everliving God,
increase in us your gift of faith,
that forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to what is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Holy and everliving God,
by your power we are created
and by your love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service,
and live each day in love to one another and to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your 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, the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
The almighty and merciful God bless us
and keep us now and for ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Here I am Lord / I the Lord of Sea and Sky

This service is assembled from morning prayer resources found in the New Zealand Prayer book, published by the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia <https://anglicanprayerbook.nz/> and adapted to fit our local context in Canada.

The Psalms are drawn from the Inclusive Language Psalter, commended for use by the Council of General Synod, March 2019 and found online at <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/GS2016-Liturgical-Psalter-2016-05-04.pdf>



The Anglican Church of Canada



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