# PRAY WITHOUT CEASING Morning and Evening Prayer for the Seasons of the Church Year

Prepared by the Ven. Dr. Richard Leggett for the Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee of the Anglican Church of Canada

Authorized by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada 2019

# **Morning Prayer for Easter**

From Easter to Ascension

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

# Introductory Responses

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Let us praise our God

who has given us life and hope

by raising Jesus from the dead.

Let us rejoice, then, even in our distress.

We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.

O God, you have claimed us as your own

and called us from our darkness into the light of your day.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Or

O Lord, open our lips and our mouth shall proclaim your praise. In your resurrection, O Christ, let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

Blessed are you, God of our salvation, to you be praise and glory for ever.

As once you ransomed your people from Egypt and led them to freedom in the promised land, so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the loving reign of the risen Christ.

May we, the first fruits of your new creation, rejoice in this new day you have made

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<sup>1</sup> The Book of Alternative Services (1985), 98 alt.

and praise you for your mighty acts. 2

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever. 3

or

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever. 4

or

Blessed be the holy and undivided Trinity, one God.

Blessed be God forever. 5

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## The Psalm

A Psalm from the Daily Office Lectionary, the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings is said or sung.

At the end of the Psalm one of the following may be said or sung.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. 6 or

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. 7

or

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.

Morning Prayer continues with the Reading.

# The Reading

A Reading from the Daily Office Lectionary, the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings is read. After a period of silent reflection one of the following is said.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

or

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 263.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 278.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Celebrating Common Prayer (1992), frontispiece alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Enriching Our Worship 1 (1998), 20 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Celebrating Common Prayer (1992), frontispiece.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Enriching Our Worship I (1998), 20.

#### Thanks be to God.

or

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Morning Prayer continues with the Responsory or the Canticle or both. If two Readings are read, then the Responsory follows the first Reading and the Canticle the second.

# The Responsory

# The Responsory is said or sung.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

Christ is risen from the dead,

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound

and the dead shall be raised.

Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep,

but we shall be changed.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting? 8

Morning Prayer continues with [the Second Reading or] the Canticle or an Affirmation of Faith.

## The Canticle

'The Song of Zechariah', 'The Song of Moses and Miriam' or 'A Song of the New Creation' may be said or sung.

The Song of Zechariah (Luke 1.68-79)

Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, \*

you have come to your people and set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, \*

born of the house of your servant David.

Through your holy prophets, \*

you promised of old to save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all who hate us, \*

to show mercy to our forebears,

and to remember your holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:  $^{\ast}$ 

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 266.

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free to worship you without fear, *
holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
to give God's people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.
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In the tender compassion of our God \* the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \* and to guide our feet into the way of peace. 9

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# The Song of Moses and Miriam (Exodus 15.1b-3, 6, 10, 13, 17)

I will sing to the Lord, for you have triumphed gloriously, \* the horse and rider you have thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my song \* and has become my salvation.

This is my God whom I will praise, \*

the God of my ancestors whom I will exalt.

The Lord is a warrior, \*

the Lord is the divine name.

Your mighty hand, O Lord, is glorious in power; \* your mighty hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

At the blast of your nostrils, the sea covered them; \* they sank as lead in the mighty waters.

In your unfailing love, O Lord, \*

you lead the people whom you have redeemed.

And by your invincible strength \*

you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

You will bring them in and plant them, O Lord, \* in the sanctuary which your hands have established. 10

Or

# A Song of the New Creation (Isaiah 43.15, 16, 18, 19, 20c, 21)

 $^{\circ}$ l am the Lord, your Holy One,  $^{*}$ 

the Creator of Israel, your Sovereign.'

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea,  $^{st}$ 

a path in the mighty waters,

'Remember not the former things,  $^{st}$ 

nor consider the things of old.

Behold, I am doing a new thing; \*

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006), 303.

<sup>10</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 265 alt.

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, \*

to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself, \*

that they might declare my praise.' 11

At the end of the Canticle one of the following may be said or sung.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. 12 or Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. 13 or

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.

Morning Prayer continues with an Affirmation of Faith or the Litany.

#### Affirmation of Faith

One of the following Affirmations of Faith may be said or sung.

# 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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,

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<sup>11</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 583 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Celebrating Common Prayer (1992), frontispiece.

<sup>13</sup> Enriching Our Worship I (1998), 20.

and the life everlasting. Amen. 14

Or

Hear, O Israel

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these. 15

Morning Prayer continues with the Litany.

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

# The Litany

The Litany is said or sung.

Let us offer our intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings, saying, 'Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.'

May we live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross. Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May all people receive the good news of Christ's victory. Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May those born to new life in the waters of baptism know the power of Christ's resurrection.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

May those who suffer pain and anguish find healing and peace in the compassion of Christ.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006), 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> The Book of Alternative Services (1985), 53.

May we be united in Christ's undying love with all who have passed through the gates of death.

Redeemer of Israel, hear our prayer. 16

Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud. Among these concerns it is appropriate to remember

- the people of God that they might proclaim the risen Lord;
- God's creation that the peoples of the earth may meet their responsibility to care;
- those in despair and darkness that they may find the hope and light of Christ;
- those in fear of death that they may find faith through the resurrection and
- prisoners and captives. <sup>17</sup>

After a period of silence either the Collect of the Day or one of the following collects may be said or sung.

# Week of Easter

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, so that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep and our faith as true. **Amen**. <sup>18</sup>

# Week of Easter 2

O God, you raised up Jesus Christ as your faithful witness and the first-born of the dead. By your Holy Spirit, help us to witness to him so that those who have not yet seen may come to believe in him who is, and was, and is to come. **Amen**. <sup>19</sup>

#### Week of Easter 3

Holy and righteous God, you raised Christ from the dead and glorified him at your right hand. Let the words of scripture, fulfilled in Jesus your Son, burn within our hearts and open our minds to recognize him in the breaking of bread. **Amen**. <sup>20</sup>

# Week of Easter 4

Holy Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, so that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, where we celebrate with you for ever. **Amen**. <sup>21</sup>

# Week of Easter 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 382 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 365.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 106 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 115.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 116.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 118 alt.

God of life, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him. May we abide in his risen life, so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy. **Amen**. <sup>22</sup>

## Week of Easter 6

Faithful God, make our hearts bold with love for one another. Pour out your Spirit upon all people, so that we may live your justice and sing in praise the new song of your marvellous victory. **Amen**. <sup>23</sup>

Morning Prayer continues with the Lord's Prayer.

# The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us, 24 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 for ever. Amen.

Morning Prayer continues with the Dismissal.

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

#### The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Morning Prayer may conclude with the following Sentence.

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. **Amen**. <sup>25</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 120.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 122 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 268 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 268.

# Evening Prayer for Easter From Easter to Ascension

#### **GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

# **Introductory Responses**

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our hope.

Thanks be to God.

or

lesus Christ is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can extinguish. 26

# **Thanksgiving**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to offer thanks and praise. 27

or

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, God of the living, to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the deep waters of death you brought your people to new birth by raising Jesus to life in triumph.

Through him dark death has been destroyed and radiant life is everywhere restored.

As you call us out of darkness into his marvellous light, may our lives reflect his glory and our lips repeat the endless song. <sup>28</sup>

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever. 29

or

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever. 30

or

Blessed be the holy and undivided Trinity, one God.

Blessed be God for ever. 31

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> The Book of Alternative Services (1985), 61 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Eucharistic Prayers, Services of the Word, and Night Prayer: Supplementary to The Book of Alternative Services (2001), 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 269 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 291.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Celebrating Common Prayer (1992), frontispiece alt.

<sup>31</sup> Enriching Our Worship I (1998), 20 alt.

# THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## The Psalm

A Psalm from the Daily Office Lectionary, the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings is said or sung.

At the end of the Psalm one of the following may be said or sung.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. <sup>32</sup> or Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. <sup>33</sup> or 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.

Evening Prayer continues with the Reading.

# The Reading

A Reading from the Daily Office Lectionary, the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary or the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings is read. After a period of silent reflection one of the following is said.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

or

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

or

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Evening Prayer continues with the Responsory or the Canticle or both. If two Readings are read, then the Responsory follows the first Reading and the Canticle the second.

# The Responsory

The Responsory is said or sung.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Celebrating Common Prayer (1992), frontispiece.

<sup>33</sup> Enriching Our Worship I (1998), 20.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting?

Christ is risen from the dead.

the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound

and the dead shall be raised.

Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep,

but we shall be changed.

Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your sting? 34

Evening Prayer continues with [the Second Reading or] the Canticle or an Affirmation of Faith.

#### The Canticle

'The Song of Mary', 'A Song of Faith' or 'A Song of God's Children' may be said or sung.

# The Song of Mary (Luke 1.46-55)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, \*

for you, Lord, have looked with favour

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,  $^{st}$ 

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  $^st$ 

and sent the rich away empty.

You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, \*

to remember the promise of mercy,

the promise made to our ancestors, \*

to Abraham and his children for ever. 35

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 266.

<sup>35</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006), 315 alt.

# A Song of Faith (1 Peter 1.3-5, 18, 19, 21)

Blessed are you, the God and Father \* of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope \* through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, \* kept in heaven for us,

who are being protected by your power through faith, \* for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

We were ransomed from the futile ways of our ancestors \* not with perishable things like silver or gold

but with the precious blood of Christ \*

like that of a lamb without spot or stain.

Through Christ we have confidence in your, O God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, \* so that our faith and hope are set on you. 36

Or

# A Song of God's Children (Romans 8.2, 14, 15b-19)

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus \*
has set us free from the law of sin and death.
All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God; \*

for we have received the Spirit that enables us to cry, 'Abba, Father'.

The Spirit bears witness that we are children of God \* and if God's children, then heirs of God;

if heirs of God, then fellow-heirs with Christ; \* since we suffer with him now, that we may be glorified with him.

These sufferings that we now endure \*
are not worth comparing to the glory
that shall be revealed.

For the creation waits with eager longing \* for the revealing of the children of God. <sup>37</sup>

# At the end of the Canticle one of the following may be said or sung.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. <sup>38</sup> or

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005) 271 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005) 615 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Celebrating Common Prayer (1992), frontispiece.

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen. 39 or

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.

Evening Prayer continues with an Affirmation of Faith or the Litany.

## Affirmation of Faith

One of the following Affirmations of Faith may be said or sung.

# 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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. <sup>40</sup>

Or

## Hear, O Israel

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Enriching Our Worship I (1998), 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006), 105.

This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these. 41

Evening Prayer continues with the Litany.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

# The Litany

The Litany is said or sung.

Let us pray, saying, 'Giver of life, hear our prayer.'

Fill us with the joy of Christ's holy and life-giving resurrection.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Strengthen isolated and persecuted churches in the Easter gospel.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Provide for those who lack food, work or shelter.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Bring wars and famines throughout the earth to an end.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Reveal the light of your presence to the sick, the weak and the dying.

Giver of life, hear our prayer.

Send the fire of your Holy Spirit upon your people.

Giver of life, hear our prayer. 42

Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud. Among these concerns it is appropriate to remember

- the people of God that they might proclaim the risen Lord;
- God's creation that the peoples of the earth may meet their responsibility to care;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> The Book of Alternative Services (1985), 53.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> The Book of Alternative Services (1985), 122-123 alt.

- those in despair and darkness that they may find the hope and light of Christ;
- those in fear of death that they may find faith through the resurrection and
- prisoners and captives. 43

After a period of silence either the Collect of the Day or one of the following collects may be said or sung.

## Week of Easter

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, so that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep and our faith as true. **Amen**. <sup>44</sup>

# Week of Easter 2

O God, you raised up Jesus Christ as your faithful witness and the first-born of the dead. By your Holy Spirit, help us to witness to him so that those who have not yet seen may come to believe in him who is, and was, and is to come. **Amen**. <sup>45</sup>

# Week of Easter 3

Holy and righteous God, you raised Christ from the dead and glorified him at your right hand. Let the words of scripture, fulfilled in Jesus your Son, burn within our hearts and open our minds to recognize him in the breaking of bread. **Amen**. <sup>46</sup>

# Week of Easter 4

Holy Shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, so that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, where we celebrate with you for ever. **Amen**. <sup>47</sup>

## Week of Easter 5

God of life, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him. May we abide in his risen life, so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy. **Amen**. <sup>48</sup>

## Week of Easter 6

Faithful God, make our hearts bold with love for one another. Pour out your Spirit upon all people, so that we may live your justice and sing in praise the new song of your marvellous victory. **Amen**. <sup>49</sup>

Evening Prayer continues with the Lord's Prayer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 365.

<sup>44</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 106 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 115.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 116.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 118 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 120.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002), 122 alt.

# The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us, 50 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 for ever. Amen.

Evening Prayer continues with the Dismissal.

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

### The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Evening Prayer may conclude with the following Sentence.

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. Amen. 51

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<sup>50</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 268 alt.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005), 268.

# PRAY WITHOUT CEASING Morning and Evening Prayer for the Seasons of the Church Year

Prepared by the Ven. Dr. Richard Leggett for the Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee of the Anglican Church of Canada

#### 2019

## A RATIONALE FOR THE OFFICES

In the years since the publication of *The Book of Alternative Services* many Anglicans have found a renewed interest in regular and structured daily prayer as a means of 'praying without ceasing'. This renewed interest, however, was not served well by how Morning and Evening Prayer were laid out in *The Book of Alternative Services*. A full and satisfying use of the Offices required worshippers to turn numerous times to different pages and then back again. This editorial design meant that many of the riches of the Offices in *The Book of Alternative Services* were not well-used or even well-known.

Other factors have also influenced Daily Prayer in these first decades of the twenty-first century. First, although *The Book of Alternative Services* made some strides in more complementary language for God and more inclusive language for people, many contemporary worshippers desired that more progress be made towards language that is 'faithful and fair'. In this set of offices a balance has been sought between traditional and more inclusive language for God

Second, in 1992 the Society of Saint Francis published *Celebrating Common Prayer*, a daily prayer book that introduced a new way of structuring the Daily Offices around the liturgical year. This innovative approach, along with a wider selection of canticles and prayers, influenced many Anglicans throughout the world. In 2005 the Church of England published *Common Worship: Daily Prayer* which provides worshippers with daily prayer for every day of the week in ordinary time and daily prayer for the seasons of the liturgical year. This resource has influenced the work of the Liturgy Task Force in preparing this resource for trial use in the Anglican Church of Canada.

While the structure of Morning and Evening Prayer in *The Book of Alternative Services* is the foundation of the offices that follow, *Common Worship: Daily Prayer* has provided both texts and approaches to the offices for each season. Each office is designed so that those who use it for prayer need only move page by page through the office.

May our work enable the people of God pray without ceasing in all times and in all places.

The Liturgy Task Force May 2016

#### Notes on the Rites

# The Gathering of the Community

 Morning and Evening Prayer may begin with either a set of introductory responses based on the seasonal material from The Book of Alternative Services or a set based on Common Worship: Daily Prayer.

# The Proclamation of the Word

- The Offices have been designed to be used with the Daily Office Lectionary or the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary of *The Book of Alternative Services*. If the Weekday Eucharistic Lectionary is chosen, then the first reading and psalm from Year I are used in the morning and the psalm and gospel from Year 2 in the evening. Another resource that may be explored is the *Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings*.
- Both The Book of Alternative Services and Common Worship: Daily Prayer have been mined to provide the responsories for the offices.
- In each office a choice of three canticles is provided. In Morning Prayer one may choose 'The Song of Zechariah', the traditional morning canticle, or one of two canticles taken from the Hebrew or Deuterocanonical Scriptures. In Evening Prayer one may choose 'The Song of Mary', the traditional evening canticle, or one of two New Testament canticles.
- The two affirmations of faith from *The Book of Alternative Services* have been included in the offices. The text of The Apostles' Creed is taken from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

# The Prayers of the Community

- Each office has a litany and a suggested set of intercessions. These suggested intercessions are taken from Common Worship: Daily Prayer.
- The concluding collects are all taken from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, but the collect of the day is always an alternative.
- The introduction to the Lord's Prayer combines that of Common Worship: Daily Prayer with that of The Book of Alternative Services.

# The Sending Forth of the Community

• The concluding sentence are taken from Common Worship: Daily Prayer.

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