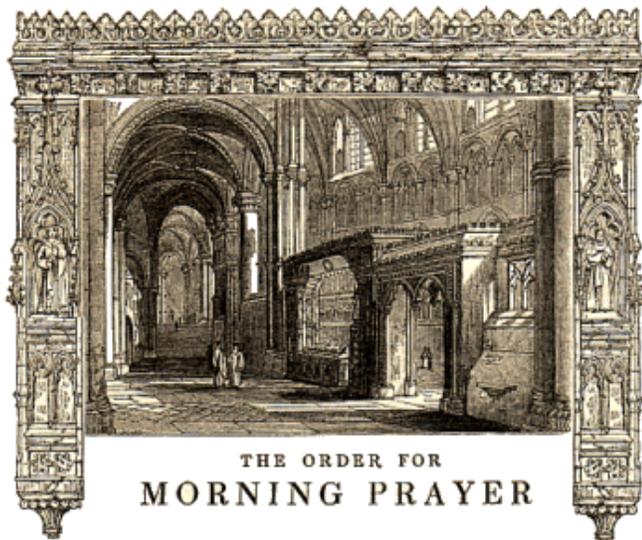


A little history about Morning Prayer



Morning Prayer once was the chief Sunday service in most Anglican churches on three out of four Sundays, the First Sunday usually being a celebration of Holy Communion.

This practice has not continued because the Eucharist has been recognized as the "principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day" in most parishes (see BCP, p. 13). However, Morning Prayer is clearly designated as a daily service for the worship of the church. This usage reflects the ancient tradition of the Daily Office.

In its classic form, in the 1662 version of the Prayer Book, the Morning Prayer is essentially unchanged from Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's Second Prayer Book of Edward VI, published in 1552. It draws on

the monastic offices of Matins, Lauds and Prime, beginning with opening versicles and responses, continuing with the invitatory "Venite" (Psalm 95), the "Te Deum" and "Benedictus", interspersed with Bible readings, as well as recitation of the Apostles' Creed, and ending with closing versicles adapted from the Breviary.

The Prayer Book lectionary provides for a virtually complete reading of the Bible in the course of a year. The usual practice in medieval parish worship was for the congregation to attend the office of Matins, followed by the Latin Mass according to the Roman Rite, followed by the Litany of the Saints, sung in procession.

Following the Reformation, the usual Sunday Service followed a similar pattern, but with the English Litany said between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion. On Sundays when there was no celebration of Communion (i.e. most of them), only the ante-Communion would be said. Even so — and taking into account the legal requirement to read one from the specified set of printed Homilies — the post-Reformation service lasted more than twice as long as its pre-Reformation equivalent.

Historically, Morning Prayer was the main Sunday morning service on most Sundays in all Anglican parishes, with Holy Communion being celebrated after Morning or Evening Prayer (typically once a month, on the first Sunday).

In the twentieth century, Holy Communion became the main Sunday morning service once or twice per month. With the revival of the Eucharist as the principal Sunday service during the second half of the twentieth century, Morning Prayer has been the principal Sunday service less frequently.

You can find wonderful online spoken Morning prayer resource at:

<http://www.missionstclare.com/english/>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/feedarea/CofEPrayerWindow.aspx> (Church of England)

<http://divineoffice.org/>

www.commonprayer.org/offices/morpry_n.cfm (from 28 BCP)

Morning Prayer Rite I

Note, text in bold is said by all the people.

Officiant: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ

The Confession of Sin

Officiant: Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear this holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All:

**Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed
from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy 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.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in
Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

Did You Know?

In many times and places, daybreak has been a time of prayer. Jews prayed in their synagogues at sunrise as well as at other times each day. This Jewish pattern of prayer formed the basis of the Christian monastic Daily Office, with its prayers or "hours" at seven times in each day.

Thomas Cranmer's revision of the Daily Office for the first English Prayer Book (1549) reduced the number of services to two—one for morning (Matins) and one for evening (Evensong or vespers).

In the Second English Prayer Book (1552), the morning service was given its present name, Morning Prayer.

Leader: The Almighty and merciful Lord grants us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

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.

Leader: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

People: O come let us adore him.

Leader: Let us say The Venite, in unison

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the corners of the earth, *
and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it, *
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God, *
and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.

Did You Know?

Many elements of Morning Prayer come from the monastic hours of worship including Matins (e.g., Venite and Te Deum), Lauds (e.g., Benedicite, omnia opera Domini, a "chapter" of scripture, Benedictus Dominus Deus, collect of the day), and Prime (e.g., a second "chapter" of scripture and the Apostles' Creed). Psalms were recited at every one of the offices, with the whole Psalter recited once a week.

In the 1549 BCP, psalms were read at both Morning and Evening Prayer, with the whole Psalter read "in course" once each month.

The Lessons

The Psalm appointed for the day is read responsively, led by the Officiant.

The Old Testament Lesson: *The reader ends the reading with “The word of the Lord.”*
The people respond, “Thanks be to God.”

Officiant: Let us say Canticle 2 in unison

2 A Song of Praise *Benedictus es, Domine* *Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34*

**Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; * praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou for the name of thy Majesty; * praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; * praised and exalted above all for ever.
Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim;
* praised and exalted above all for ever.**

**Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; * praised and exalted above
all for ever.**

Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; * praised and exalted above all for ever.

**Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; * praised and exalted above
all for ever.**

The Epistle Lesson: *The reader ends the reading with “The word of the Lord.”*
The people respond, “Thanks be to God.”

Leader: Let us say Canticle 5 in unison

5 The Song of Simeon *Nunc dimittis* *Luke 2:29-32*

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, * according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, * which thou hast prepared before the face
of all people,**

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, * and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

**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 Gospel Lesson: *The Officiant ends the reading with “The word of the Lord.”*
The people respond, “Thanks be to God.”

The Meditation

Officiant: Let us affirm our faith with the words of The Apostles' Creed, *please stand*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The People stand or kneel

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.

**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.**

Leader: Let us Say Suffrages A responsively.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in thee can we live in safety.

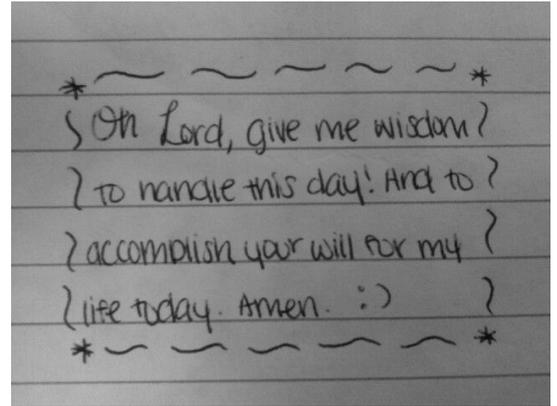
V. Lord, keep this nation under thy care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let thy way be known upon earth;

R. Thy 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 Collects and People's Prayers

Collect of the Day (traditional language)

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who didst stretch out thine arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of thy saving embrace: So clothe us in thy Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know thee to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of thy Name. **Amen.**

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow., as read from our prayer sheet.

The General Thanksgiving

Spoken in unison

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

We are glad you're here.

