

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped
for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Morning Prayer
August 11, 2019, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75 of the Book of Common Prayer and occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**. The initials “SH” refer to page numbers in the small Supplemental Hymnal in the pew racks.

*During your preparation for the service you may want to use this Prayer
Before Worship from p 833 of the BCP:*

O Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication: Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: *How Firm a Foundation*.....636

The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

We stand or kneel.

**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 us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord 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 (*we stand*)

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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. Alleluia.

Alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord renews the face of the earth: Come let us adore him.

Jubilate – Psalm 100.....Songsheet

Psalm 33:12-22 (*we continue standing*)

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! *
happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

**The Lord looks down from heaven, *
and beholds all the people in the world.**

From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *
on all who dwell on the earth.

**He fashions all the hearts of them *
and understands all their works.**

There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *
a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

**The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *
for all its strength it cannot save.**

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, *
on those who wait upon his love,

**To pluck their lives from death, *
and to feed them in time of famine.**

Our soul waits for the Lord; *
he is our help and our shield.

**Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *
for in his holy Name we put our trust.**

Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, *
as we have put our trust in you.

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 (we sit)

The First Lesson – Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15 – Hymn – *Tell Out My Soul*.....437

Epistle Lesson - Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old--and Sarah herself was barren -- because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle B – A Song of Pilgrimage.....Page 5 of Bulletin

The Gospel Lesson – Luke 12:32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn – *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers (we stand)*.....68

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.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation (*we sit*)

The Offering

I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Hymn – *The God of Abraham Praise*401

Presentation – Doxology380:3

The Prayers (*we stand or kneel*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

Suffrage

Help us, O God our Savior;

Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

Look upon your congregation;

Give to your people the blessing of peace.

Declare your glory among the nations;

And your wonders among all peoples.

Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

Never forget the lives of your poor.

Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

And your favor to those who are true of heart.

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the Day

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mike and Elizabeth

God our Father, we thank you for the gift of your priesthood in the Church. We pray for all priests and those in formation for the priesthood, especially Mike Harber. Fill Mike and Elizabeth with the joy of your Holy Spirit as they imitate you, the Good Shepherd, laying their lives down daily for those you have given them to serve.

Let your love fill and satisfy their hearts as you teach them to give of themselves more deeply. Make them ardent yet gentle heralds of the Gospel and tender ministers of your mercy, especially toward those most in need of it. Make their hearts – and ours – more like yours, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer 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.**

Hymn: *How Wondrous and Great Thy Works* (we stand)532

Intercessions and Thanksgivings (*we stand or kneel*)

We pray for the souls of all those who have departed this life, including those we now name silently or aloud.

Silence

In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering from illness, including **Brian** Hudson, **Jere** Van Etten, **Greg** Dubay, **Barbara** Trogdon, **Laura** and **Russell** Foss, **John** Haynie, **Mike** Oniffrey, **Micah** Hart, **Dennis** Harper, **David** Hodges, **Barbara** Garnett, **Charlie** Hayes, **Hays** McKay, **Larry** and **Pat** Sharpton, and the others we now name.

Silence

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose. For the Alabama Cursillo Secretariat and Cursillo Community; St. Mary's on the Highlands, Birmingham; St. Mary's, Childersburg; and St. Mary's, Jasper.

The General Thanksgiving

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.

Hymn: *Give Me Oil in My Lamp (we stand)*.....SH 58

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

As your worship concludes, you may choose to use this Prayer After Worship from p 834 of the BCP:

Grant, we beseech you, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through your grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Usher: Amanda Borden
Altar Guild: Lee Borden
Lay Reader: Suzy Wilson
Officiant: Kathy Haynie
Refreshments: Elizabeth Harber
Grounds: Jimmy and Betty Weldon

And next:

Usher: Mike Rallo
Altar Guild: Betty Weldon
Lay Reader: Betty Weldon
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Kay Dickey
Grounds: John Haynie and Mike Rallo

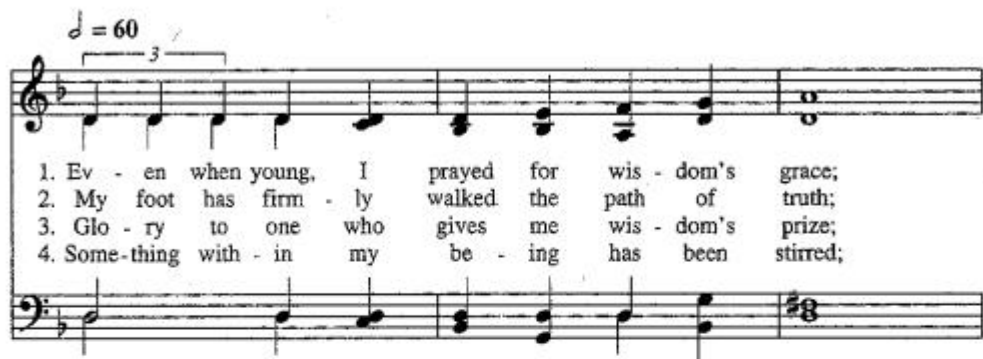
A Song of Pilgrimage

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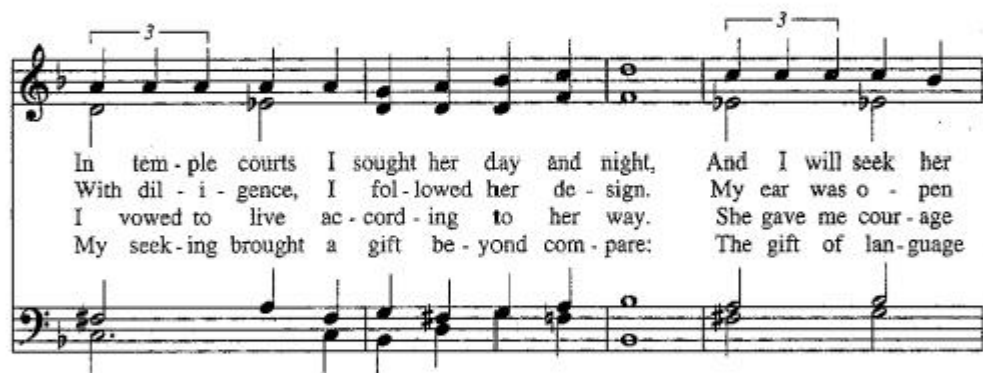
Priusquam errarem

Canticle B (metrical paraphrase)

$\text{♩} = 60$



1. Ev - en when young, I prayed for wis - dom's grace;
2. My foot has firm - ly walked the path of truth;
3. Glo - ry to one who gives me wis - dom's prize;
4. Some-thing with - in my be - ing has been stirred;



In tem - ple courts I sought her day and night, And I will seek her
With dil - i - gence, I fol - lowed her de - sign. My ear was o - pen
I vowed to live ac - cord - ing to her way. She gave me cour - age
My seek - ing brought a gift be - yond com - pare: The gift of lan - guage



to the ver - y end; she is my heart's de - light.
to re - ceive her words; Now wis - dom's skill is mine.
from the ve - ry start; She will not let me stray.
loosed my halt - ing tongue; God's praise is now my prayer.

Words: Patricia B. Clark (b. 1938)

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Music: *Diligence*, Thomas Pavlechko (b. 1962)

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