

Morning Prayer: Rite Two
Wednesday, July 2, 2025
The Feast of Independence Day **July 4**

Officiants: Maggie Marshall and Linda Masiello

Officiant 1 We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks,
calling upon your Name and declaring all your wonderful deeds.
Psalm 75:1

Officiant 2 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in
trouble.
Psalm 46:1

Confession of Sin

Officiant 1 Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence

Officiant 1 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.

Officiant 2 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

Officiant 1 Lord, open our lips.
Officiant 2 And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Officiant 1 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit:
Officiant 2 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen. Alleluia.

Officiant 1 The earth is the Lord's for he made it:
Officiant 2 Come let us adore him.

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7 Said responsively breaking at the half verse*

Come let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the
sheep of his hand.*
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Officiant 1 The earth is the Lord's for he made it:
Officiant 2 Come let us adore him.

Psalm 145:1-9 *Said responsively breaking at the half verse*

I will exalt you, O God my King, *

and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you *

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *

there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another *

and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *

and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *

and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *

they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *

slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone *

and his compassion is over all his works.

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

Officiant 1 **A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews**

Hebrews 11:8-16

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.

Officiant 1 The Word of the Lord

Officiant 2 Thanks be to God

Canticle **A Song of the Heavenly City** *Revelation 21:22-26, 22:1-4*
Said responsively breaking at the half verse

I saw no temple in the city, *

**for its temple is the God of surpassing strength
and the Lamb.**

And the city has no need of sun or moon to light it, *

**for the glory of God shines on it, and its lamp is the
Lamb.**

By its light the nations shall walk, *

**and the rulers of the world lay their honor and glory
there.**

Its gates shall never be shut by day, nor shall there be any night; *

into it they will bring the honor and glory of nations.

I saw the clean river of the water of life, bright as crystal, *

flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

The tree of life spanned the river, giving fruit every month, *

and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of nations.

All curses cease where the throne of God and the Lamb stands,
and all servants give worship there; *

**there they will see God's face, whose Name shall be on
their foreheads.**

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.

Officiant 2 **A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew**
Matthew 5:43-48

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Officiant 2 The Word of the Lord

Officiant 1 Thanks be to God

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant 1

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

Officiant 2 The Lord be with you.

Officiant 1 And also with you.

Officiant 2 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.

Suffrages B

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**
V. Day by day we bless you;
R. **We praise your Name for ever.**
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. **For we put our trust in you.**
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Officiant 1 Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant 2 O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Collect for Peace

Officiant 1 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.*

Prayer for Mission

The Peace and Greetings

Officiant 2 The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

Officiant 1 **And also with you**

The worshippers exchange the Peace and greet one another.

One of the Officiants prays Thanksgivings and Intercessions shared in Chat.

Closing Prayers

Thanksgiving for the Nation

Officiant 1 Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them. Heal us.

Officiant 2 **We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them. Forgive us.**

Officiant 1 We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them. Inspire us.

Officiant 2 **We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light. Enlighten us.**

Officiant 1 We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again. Renew us.

Officiant 2 **Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. Amen.**

Officiant 1 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.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant 1 Let us bless the Lord.

Officiant 2 Thanks be to God.

Officiant 1 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*