# Morning Prayer: Rite Two
## Wednesday, September 16, 2026
## The Feast of Holy Cross Day September 14

Using The Daily Office: Prayer with Creation
from Season of Creation Episcopal Liturgical Guide

Officiants: Laura Marshall and Clare Fedolfi

*Officiant 1* We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world is crucified to us and we to the world. *Galatians 6:14*

*Officiant 2* Jesus said, 'When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.' *John 12:32*

**Confession of Sin**

*Officiant 1* Let us confess our sins against God and all Creation.

*Silence*

*Officiant 1* Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you. We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives. We confess that we have misused your earth: grant us amendment of life. We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: strengthen us in self-control. We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: make us urgent now for its protection. Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. 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* This is the day the Creator has made.
*Officiant 2* Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
*Officiant 1* Glory to the Source, Wisdom, and Breath of Creation:
*Officiant 2* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Officiant 1* The loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole Creation:
*Officiant 2* Come let us adore the Creator.

**Invitatory Psalm for Creation** Psalm 8

O LORD our Governor, *
**how exalted is your Name in all the world!**
Out of the mouths of infants and children *
**your majesty is praised above the heavens.**
You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, *
**to quell the enemy and the avenger.**
When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, *
**the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**
What is man that you should be mindful of him? *
**the son of man that you should seek him out?**
You have made him but little lower than the angels; *
**you adorn him with glory and honor;**
You give him mastery over the works of your hands; *
**you put all things under his feet:**
All sheep and oxen, *
**even the wild beasts of the field,**
The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, *
**and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.**
O LORD our Governor, *
**how exalted is your Name in all the world!**

*Officiant 1* The loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole Creation:
*Officiant 2* Come let us adore the Creator.

**Psalm 98:1-4** *Said responsively breaking at the half verse*

Sing to the Lord a new song, *
**for he has done marvelous things.**
With his right hand and his holy arm *
**has he won for himself the victory.**
The Lord has made known his victory; *
**his righteousness has he openly shown**
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
**and all the ends of the earth**
**have seen the victory of our God.**

Glory to the Source, Wisdom, and Breath of Creation:
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen**

**The Lessons**

*Officiant 1* **A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Galatians**
*Galatians 6:14-18*

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule-- peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

*Officiant 1* Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.
*Officiant 2* Thanks be to God

Canticle **A Song of the Wilderness** *Isaiah 35:1-7,10*
*said responsively breaking at the half verse*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
**the desert shall rejoice and blossom;**
It shall blossom abundantly, *
**and rejoice with joy and singing.**
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
**the majesty of our God.**
Strengthen the weary hands, *
**and make firm the feeble knees.**
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
**Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."**
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
**and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.**
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *
**and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.**
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
**and streams in the desert;**
The burning sand shall become a pool *
**and the thirsty ground, springs of water.**
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
**with everlasting joy upon their heads.**
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
**and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.**

Glory to the Source, Wisdom, and Breath of Creation:
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen**

*Officiant 2* **A Reading from the Gospel according to John**

*John 12:31-36a*

Jesus said, "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

*Officiant 2* Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.
*Officiant 1* Thanks be to God

**Profession of Faith**

*Officiant 1* Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation.
For in him all things in heaven and on earth were created:
things visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers;
all things have been created through him and for him.
He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.
And he is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning, the firstborn from among the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased
to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross.

**The Prayers**

*Officiant 2* In God all Creation lives, moves, and has being.
*Officiant 1* Indeed we all are God's offspring.
*Officiant 2* Let us pray.

*Officiant 2* Our Father and Mother in heaven
*Officiant 1* **You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans**
*Officiant 2* Hallowed be your name
*Officiant 1* **By the care we take of your Creation**
*Officiant 2* Your kingdom come
*Officiant 1* **All that you see is good**
*Officiant 2* Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven
*Officiant 1* **Your will to till and care**
*Officiant 2* Give us this day our daily bread
*Officiant 1* **That all may have enough to live life in fullness**
*Officiant 2* Forgive us our trespasses
*Officiant 1* **Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern for other species and for future generations**
*Officiant 2* As we forgive those who trespass against us
*Officiant 1* **By reconciliation with justice and peace.**
*Officiant 2* Lead us not into temptation
*Officiant 1* **The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation**
*Officiant 2* And deliver us from evil
*Officiant 1* **The evil of destroying your gift of creation**
*Officiant 2* For yours is the kingdom
*Officiant 1* **Yours, Lord, not ours**
*Officiant 2* The power and the glory
*Officiant 1* **In the cross and resurrection**
*Officiant 2* For ever and ever
*Officiant 1* **You are the beginning and you are the end. Amen.**

**Suffrages B**

V. Heal your Creation, O God, and bless your offspring;
R. **Guide and sustain your creatures, now and always.**
V. Day by day your Creation blesses you;
R. **We join our voices to praise your Name for ever.**
V. O God, unite us with all Creation in harmony;
R**. Have compassion on our failings, O God.**
V. O God, show us your love and sustaining power;
R. **For your creatures live and move only in you.**
V. In you, O God, is our hope;
R. **And your Creation shall never hope in vain.**

*Officiant 1* Ever present God, whose Son our Savior was lifted high upon the cross that he might renew all Creation through himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our restoration, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him on his way to bring new life to all things; through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Creation Collect of the Day*

*Officiant 2* Jesus, crucified and risen, you have turned a criminal's cross into release and reconciliation. Let us who are marked with the cross be not ashamed to witness to you; for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*Officiant 1* 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 2* 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* Peace with yourself.
Peace with Creation.
Peace with one another.
The peace of Christ 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**

*Officiant 2* 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.*

*The General Thanksgiving*

*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* With all wisdom and insight God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. Amen.

*Ephesians 1:8-10*