DAILY EVENING PRAYER

The Officiant may begin Evening Prayer by reading an opening sentence of Scripture. One of the following, or a sentence from among those provided at the end of the Office (pages 54–56), is customary.

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. JOHN 8:12

or this

LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth. PSALM 26:8

or this

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense; and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. PSALM 141:2

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the People

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us, in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary,

as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me;

or this

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence is kept. All kneeling, the Officiant and People say

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;
and [apart from thy grace,] there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults.
Restore thou those that 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.

The Priest alone stands and says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their

sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or this

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

A Deacon or layperson remains kneeling and prays

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY

All stand.

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips;
People **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**
Officiant O God, make speed to save us;
People **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
People **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**
Officiant Praise ye the Lord.
People **The Lord's Name be praised.**

The following or some other suitable hymn or Psalm may be sung or said.

PHOS HILARON
O Gladsome Light

O gladsome light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, *
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light, *
we sing thy praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Thou art worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, *
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Then follows

THE PSALM OR PSALMS APPOINTED

At the end of the Psalms the Gloria Patri (Glory be...) is sung or said

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

THE LESSONS

One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from _____.

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Or the Reader may say

Here endeth the Reading.

The following Canticles are normally sung or said after each of the lessons. The Officiant may also use a Canticle drawn from the Supplemental Canticles (pages 79–88) or an appropriate song of praise.

MAGNIFICAT
The Song of Mary

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; *
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed,
for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. LUKE 1:46-55

NUNC DIMITTIS
The Song of Simeon

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 be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. LUKE 2:29-32

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

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.

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Officiant Let us pray.

The People kneel or stand.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Officiant and People

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.

Then follows one of these sets of Suffrages

Officiant O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
People **And grant us thy salvation.**
Officiant O Lord, guide those who govern us;
People **And lead us in the way of justice and truth.**
Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
People **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Officiant O Lord, save thy people;
People **And bless thine inheritance.**
Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord;
People **And evermore mightily defend us.**
Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us;
People **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

or this

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That there may be peace in thy Church and in the whole world,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in thy faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by thy Holy Spirit in the communion of [_____ and] all thy saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat thee, O Lord.

The Officiant then prays one or more of the following Collects, always beginning with the Collect of the Day (usually the Collect of the Sunday or Principal Feast and of any of the weekdays following, or of the Holy Day being observed) found on pages 598–640. It is traditional to pray the Collects for Peace and Aid against Perils daily. Alternatively, one may pray the Collects on a weekly rotation, using the suggestions in italics.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY
From the Collects of the Christian Year

A COLLECT FOR RESURRECTION HOPE *Sunday*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by triumphing over the powers of darkness didst prepare our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant us, who have this day given thanks for thy Resurrection, to praise thee in that city whereof thou art the light; where with the Father and the Holy Ghost thou livest and reignest, world without end. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PEACE *Monday*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS *Tuesday*

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thine only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PROTECTION *Wednesday*

O God, who art the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank thee for the timely blessings of the day, and humbly beseech thy merciful protection all the night. Bring us, we pray thee, in safety to the morning hours; through him who died for us and rose again, thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST *Thursday*

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know thee as thou art revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of thy love. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR FAITH *Friday*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by thy death didst take away the sting of death: Grant unto us thy servants so to follow in faith where thou hast led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in thee, and awake up after thy likeness; for thy tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR THE EVE OF WORSHIP *Saturday*

O God, the source of eternal light: Shed forth thine unending day upon us who watch for thee, that our lips may praise thee, our lives may bless thee, and our worship on the morrow may give thee glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Unless the Great Litany or the Eucharist is to follow, one of the following prayers for mission is added. If the Great Litany is used, it follows here, or after a hymn or anthem, and concludes the Office.

PRAYER FOR MISSION

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship thee, all nations obey thee, all tongues confess and bless thee, and men and women everywhere love thee and serve thee in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or this

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. **Amen.**

or this

O God, who dost manifest in thy servants the signs of thy presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another thine abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Officiant may invite the People to offer intercessions and thanksgivings.

A hymn or anthem may be sung.

Before the close of the Office one or both of the following prayers may be used.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

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 may 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.

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

From Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost, "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to the preceding versicle and response.

The Officiant says one of these concluding sentences (and the People may be invited to join)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** 2 CORINTHIANS 13:14[T]

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.** ROMANS 15:13

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** EPHESIANS 3:20-21[T]

OPENING SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

ADVENT

Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.
MARK 13:35-36

CHRISTMAS

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. REVELATION 21:3

EPIPHANY

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. ISAIAH 60:3

LENT *and* OTHER PENITENTIAL OCCASIONS

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 JOHN 1:8-9

I acknowledge my transgressions:
and my sin is ever before me. PSALM 51:3

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him. DANIEL 9:9

HOLY WEEK

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. ISAIAH 53:6

EASTER

Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 CORINTHIANS 15:57

ASCENSION

Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us. HEBREWS 9:24

PENTECOST

The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. REVELATION 22:17

There is a river, the streams whereof shall
make glad the city of God,
the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.
PSALM 46:4

TRINITY SUNDAY

Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. ISAIAH 6:3

DAYS OF THANKSGIVING

The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens. By his knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew.

PROVERBS 3:19-20

AT ANY TIME

O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth stand in awe of him. PSALM 96:9

I will thank the LORD for giving me warning,
my reins also chasten me in the night season.
I have set the LORD alway before me;
for he is on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall.

PSALM 16:8-9

ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

The Confession and Apostles' Creed may be omitted, provided each is said at least once during the course of the day.

The Gloria Patri (Glory be...) in the opening versicles may be said in unison.

The Officiant and People may join in saying "Alleluia" (except in Lent) as an alternative to the versicles "Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's Name be praised."

If an offering is to be received, it is appropriate to do so during the hymn or anthem following the Collects.

A sermon may be preached after the lessons, after the hymn or anthem following the Collects, or after the conclusion of the Office.