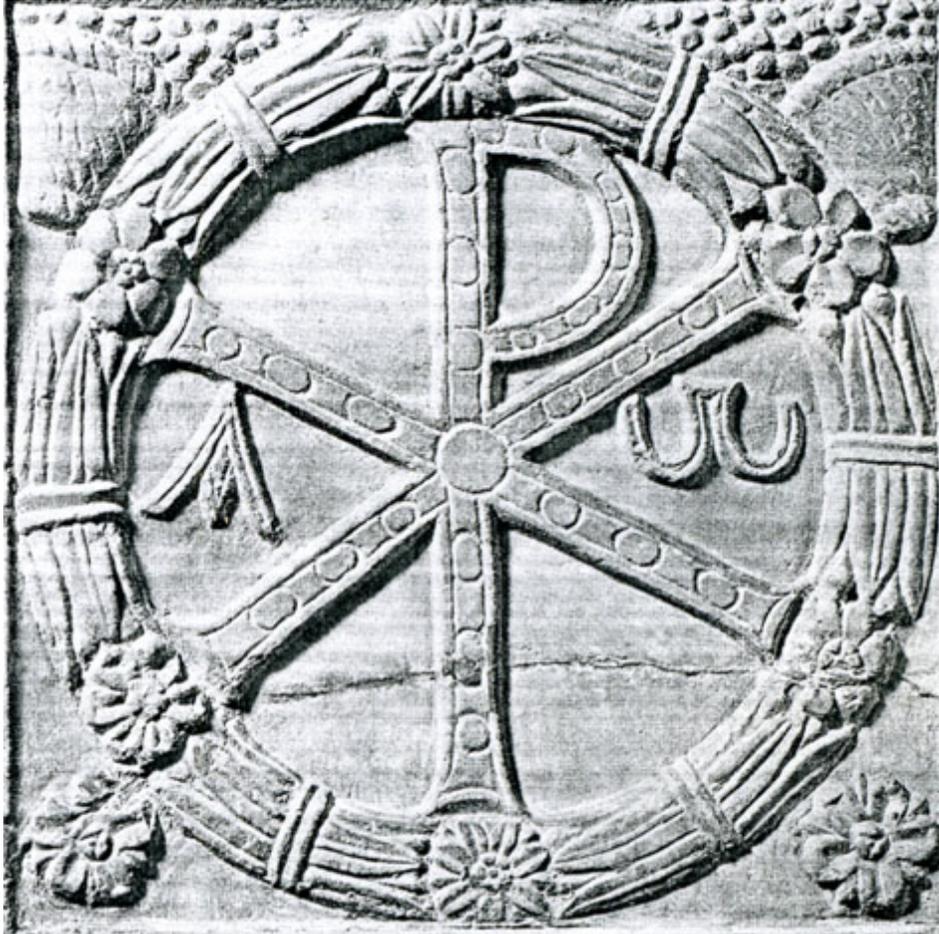




ORDER FOR MORNING PRAYER

Wednesdays, 7:30am



Welcome to our church community! St. Stephen's is made up of all kinds of people -- we walk, without judgment, with those taking different paths to God so that we may be transformed through Jesus Christ as we serve others.

We are so happy you are worshiping with us today. If you've not done so yet, we invite you to fill out one of the Welcome/Bienvenidos cards on the table at the rear of the nave and put it in the envelope provided on that table; we'll send you our newsletter and be in touch to tell you how glad we are to have you with us today.

Welcome to The Episcopal Church!

As Episcopalians, we are followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and believe in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Episcopal Church has members in the United States, as well as in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Haiti, Honduras, Micronesia, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, Venezuela, and the Virgin Islands.

We strive to love our neighbors as ourselves and respect the dignity of every person.

The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, and traces its heritage to the beginnings of Christianity.

Our liturgy retains ancient structure and traditions, and is celebrated in many languages.

We welcome men and women, married or celibate, to be ordained as bishops, priests, and deacons.

We believe in amendment of life, the forgiveness of sin, and life everlasting.

Lay people exercise a vital role in the governance and ministry of our Church.

Holy Communion may be received by all baptized Christians, not only members of the Episcopal Church.

We uphold the Bible and worship with the Book of Common Prayer.

We affirm that committed relationships are lifelong and monogamous. Episcopalians also recognize that there is grace after divorce and do not deny the sacraments to those who have been divorced.

We affirm that issues such as birth control are matters of personal informed conscience.

We celebrate our unity in Christ while honoring our differences, always putting the work of love before uniformity of opinion.

All are welcome to find a spiritual home in the Episcopal Church.

** Extracted from The Episcopal Church website.*

Bienvenido a la Iglesia Episcopal!

Los episcopales seguimos a Jesucristo, nuestro Señor y creemos en el Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo.

La Iglesia Episcopal tiene miembros en Estados Unidos, en Colombia, la República Dominicana, Ecuador, Austria, Bélgica, Francia, Alemania, Italia, Suiza, Haití, Honduras, Micronesia, Puerto Rico, Taiwán, Venezuela y las Islas Vírgenes.

Nos esforzamos por amar al prójimo como a nosotros mismos y respetamos la dignidad de todo ser humano.

La Iglesia Episcopal forma parte de la Comunión Anglicana, y su patrimonio arranca del principio del Cristianismo.

Nuestra liturgia conserva estructuras y tradiciones antiguas y se celebra en muchas lenguas.

Recibimos a hombres y mujeres, casados o célibes, para ser ordenados de obispos, sacerdotes y diáconos.

Creemos en la enmienda de vida, en el perdón de los pecados y en la vida eternal.

Los laicos ejercen una función vital en el gobierno y ministerio de nuestra Iglesia.

La Santa Comunión la pueden recibir todos los cristianos bautizados, nos solamente los miembros de la Iglesia Episcopal.

Defendemos la Biblia y adoramos con el Libro de Oración Común.

Afirmamos que las relaciones comprometidas y monógamas son para toda la vida. Los episcopales reconocen que hay gracia después del divorcio y no niegan los sacramentos a los divorciados.

Afirmamos que temas como el control de la natalidad son asuntos de conciencia personal.

Celebramos nuestra unidad en Cristo al paso que respetamos nuestras diferencias, siempre colocando el trabajo de amor antes que la uniformidad de opinión.

Todos son bienvenidos a encontrar un hogar espiritual en la Iglesia Episcopal.

** Extraído del sitio web de la Iglesia Episcopal.*

OPENING SENTENCES

The Officiant may say one of the following:

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! *2 Corinthians 5:17, NRSV*

Or

God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. *John 4:24*

Or

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be always acceptable in your sight, O God, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalm 19:14*

Or

O send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me unto your holy hill, and to your dwelling. *Psalm 43:3*

All Saints and Major Saints' Days

You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but citizens together with the saints and members of the household of God. *Ephesians 2:19*

Occasions of Thanksgiving

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

INVITATORY AND PSALTER

All stand, if able.

Officiant O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.
People **and your glory all the day long.**

Or

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

Officiant As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence,
O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may say in unison:

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving *
and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.
For you are a great God; *
you are great above all gods.
In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.
The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. *
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!
Let us listen today to God's voice:
Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways." So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Or, in place of an Invitatory Psalm, the following Morning Psalms may be said.
Please, observe a pause after each asterisk and in the end of each sentence.*

Psalm 63:1-8 *Deus, Deus meus*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *

and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Psalm 67:1-5 *Deus misereatur*

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

*One or two lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying
A Reading (Lesson) from _____.*

After the Readings, the Reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
or

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept after each Reading. One of the Canticles on pages 10 to 18 is said after each Reading. If three Lessons are used, the Lesson from the Gospel is read after the second Canticle.

Please, when reciting Psalms, observe a pause after each asterisk and in the end of each sentence.

The bible readings can be found on the separate handout.

The Creed of the Apostles may be said.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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

The People stand or kneel

Officiant Hear our cry, O God.

People And listen to our prayer

Officiant Let us pray.

People are invited to pray the Our Father in the language they feel more comfortable.

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 FOR USE IN MORNING PRAYER

Form A

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.

Form B

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

***People:* And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day is said.

COLLECTS

The Officiant then says one or more of the following collects:

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness while it was day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

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 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 Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for the Mission of the Church

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 the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

The Officiant may present the prayers from our neighbors (from the Prayer Board).

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

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Maker 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.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant - 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.*

Officiant - Let us bless the Lord.

People - **Thanks be to God.**

The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following

Officiant - 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*

Officiant - May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen. Romans 15:13*

Officiant - 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*

CANTICLES

The following canticles are extracted from the Enriching Our Worship publication. Supplemental Liturgical materials prepared by The Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music of The Episcopal Church. Other suitable and authorized canticles can be found in the Book of Common Prayer.

Canticle A

A Song of Wisdom

Sapientia liberavit Wisdom 10:15-19,20b-21

Wisdom freed from a nation of oppressors *
a holy people and a blameless race.
She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord, *
withstood dread rulers with wonders and signs.
To the saints she gave the reward of their labors, *
and led them by a marvelous way;
She was their shelter by day *
and a blaze of stars by night.
She brought them across the Red Sea, *
she led them through mighty waters;
But their enemies she swallowed in the waves *
and spewed them out from the depths of the abyss.
And then, Lord, the righteous sang hymns to your Name, *
and praised with one voice your protecting hand;
For Wisdom opened the mouths of the mute, *
and gave speech to the tongues of a new-born people.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle B

A Song of Pilgrimage

Priusquam errarem Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16,20b-22

Before I ventured forth, even while I was very young, *
I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.
In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, *
and I will seek her to the end.
From first blossom to early fruit, *
she has been the delight of my heart.
My foot has kept firmly to the true path, *
diligently from my youth have I pursued her.
I inclined my ear a little and received her; *
I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.
To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, *
for I have resolved to live according to her way.

From the beginning I gained courage from her, *
therefore I will not be forsaken.
In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, *
therefore have I gained a good possession.
As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language,*
and with it will I offer praise to God.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle C

The Song of Hannah

1 Samuel 2:1-8

My heart exults in you, O God; * my triumph song is lifted in you.
My mouth derides my enemies, * for I rejoice in your salvation.
There is none holy like you, * nor any rock to be compared to you, our God.
Do not heap up prideful words or speak in arrogance; *
Only God is knowing and weighs all actions.
The bows of the mighty are broken, * but the weak are clothed in strength.
Those once full now labor for bread, * those who hungered now are well fed.
The childless woman has borne sevenfold, * while the mother of many is forlorn.
God destroys and brings to life, casts down and raises up; *
gives wealth or takes it away, humbles and dignifies.
God raises the poor from the dust; * and lifts the needy from the ash heap
To make them sit with the rulers * and inherit a place of honor.
For the pillars of the earth are God's * on which the whole earth is founded.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle D

A Song of the Wilderness

Isaiah 35:1-7,10

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.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle E

A Song of Jerusalem Our Mother

Isaiah 66:10-14

Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her * all you who love her,
Rejoice, rejoice with her, * all you who mourn over her,
That you may drink deeply with delight * from her comforting breast.
For thus says our God, *
“I will extend peace to her like a river, the wealth of nations like an overflowing
stream.
“You shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and you shall nestle in her lap.
“As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; *
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.
“You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice, *
you shall flourish like the grass of the fields.”
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle F

A Song of Lamentation

Lamentations 1:12,16; 3:19,22-24,26

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? *
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,
Which was brought upon me, * inflicted by God’s fierce anger.
For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears, *
for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage.
Remember my affliction and my bitterness, * wormwood and gall!
The steadfast love of God never ceases, * God’s mercies never end.
They are new every morning; * great is your faithfulness.
“God is my portion,” says my soul, * “therefore will I hope in God.”
It is good that we should wait quietly * for the coming of God’s salvation.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle G

A Song of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you from among all nations; *
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; *
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.
A new heart I will give you * and a new spirit put within you.
I will take the stone heart from your chest * and give you a heart of flesh.
I will help you walk in my laws * and cherish my commandments and do them.
You shall be my people, * and I will be your God.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle H

A Song of Hosea

Hosea 6:1-3

Come, let us return to our God, * who has torn us and will heal us.
God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, * after two days revive us,
On the third day restore us, * that in God's presence we may live.
Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, *
whose justice dawns like morning light, its dawning as sure as the sunrise.
God's justice will come to us like a shower, * like spring rains that water the earth.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle I

A Song of Jonah

Jonah 2:2-7,9

I called to you, O God, out of my distress, and you answered me; *
out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.
You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, *
and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and billows passed over me.
Then I said, "I am driven away from your sight; *
how shall I ever look again upon your holy temple?"
The waters closed in over me, the deep was round about me; *
weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains.
I went down to the land beneath the earth, *
yet you brought up my life from the depths, O God.
As my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, O God, *
and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

With the voice of thanksgiving, I will sacrifice to you; *
what I have vowed I will pay, for deliverance belongs to the Lord!
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle J

A Song of Judith

Judith 16:13-16

I will sing a new song to my God, *
for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.
Let the whole creation serve you, * for you spoke and all things came into being.
You sent your breath and it formed them, * no one is able to resist your voice.
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, *
rocks melt like wax at your presence.
But to those who fear you, * you continue to show mercy.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle K

A Song of Our Adoption

Ephesians 1:3-10

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *
for you have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, *
that we should be holy and blameless before you.
You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, *
according to the good pleasure of your will,
To the praise of your glorious grace, *
that you have freely given us in the Beloved.
In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ,
the forgiveness of our sins, According to the riches of your grace *
which you have lavished upon us.
You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, *
the mystery of your will,
According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, *
as a plan for the fullness of time,
To gather together all things in Christ, * things in heaven and things on earth.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle L

A Song of Christ's Humility

Philippians 2:6-11

Though in the form of God, *
Christ Jesus did not cling to equality with God,
But emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, *
and was born in human likeness.
Being found in human form, he humbled himself *
and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.
Therefore, God has highly exalted him *
and given him the name above every name,
That at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow, *
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, *
to the glory of God the Father.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle M

A Song of Faith

1 Peter 1:3-4,18-21

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *
by divine mercy we have a new birth into a living hope;
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, *
we have an inheritance that is imperishable in heaven.
The ransom that was paid to free us *
was not paid in silver or gold,
But in the precious blood of Christ, *
the Lamb without spot or stain.
God raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory *
so that we might have faith and hope in God.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle N

A Song of God's Love

1 John 4:7-11

Beloved, let us love one another, * for love is of God.
Whoever does not love does not know God, * for God is Love.
In this the love of God was revealed among us, *
that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through Jesus Christ.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us *
and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.
Beloved, since God loved us so much, * we ought also to love one another.
For if we love one another, God abides in us, * and God's love will be perfected in us.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle O

A Song of the Heavenly City

Revelation 21:22-26, 22:1-4

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.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle P

A Song of the Spirit

Revelation 22:12-17

"Behold, I am coming soon," says the Lord, "and bringing my reward with me, *
to give to everyone according to their deeds.
"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, *
the beginning and the end."
Blessed are those who do God's commandments,
that they may have the right to the tree of life, *
and may enter the city through the gates.
"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, *
with this testimony for all the churches.
"I am the root and the offspring of David, *
I am the bright morning star."
"Come!" say the Spirit and the Bride; *

“Come!” let each hearer reply!
Come forward, you who are thirsty, *
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle Q

A Song of Christ's Goodness

Anselm of Canterbury

Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you; *
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
Often you weep over our sins and our pride, *
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgment.
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, *
in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.
Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; *
by your anguish and labor we come forth in joy.
Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; *
through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.
Your warmth gives life to the dead, *
your touch makes sinners righteous.
Lord Jesus, in your mercy, heal us; *
in your love and tenderness, remake us.
In your compassion, bring grace and forgiveness, *
for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare us.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle R

A Song of True Motherhood

Julian of Norwich

God chose to be our mother in all things *
and so made the foundation of his work,
most humbly and most pure, in the Virgin's womb.
God, the perfect wisdom of all, * arrayed himself in this humble place.
Christ came in our poor flesh * to share a mother's care.
Our mothers bear us for pain and for death; *
our true mother, Jesus, bears us for joy and endless life.
Christ carried us within him in love and travail, *
until the full time of his passion.
And when all was completed and he had carried us so for joy, *
still all this could not satisfy the power of his wonderful love.
All that we owe is redeemed in truly loving God, *

for the love of Christ works in us; Christ is the one whom we love.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle S

A Song of Our True Nature

Julian of Norwich

Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, * our trespasses and our humiliations.
Christ also revealed his blessed power, * his blessed wisdom and love.
He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need; * he raises
us in spirit and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.
God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature; *
God is the true father and mother of natures. We are all bound to God by nature, *
and we are all bound to God by grace. And this grace is for all the world, *
because it is our precious mother, Christ. For this fair nature was prepared by Christ
for the honor and nobility of all, * and for the joy and bliss of salvation.
Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Canticle T

Surge, illuminare

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.
They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory.
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.

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