

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Evening Prayer, *Enriching Our Worship*
September 16, 2026

[Dag Hammarskjöld](#), Peacemaker (transferred)

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God, be not far from us.

People Come quickly to help us, O God.

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

O Gracious Light

Light of the world,
in grace and beauty,
Mirror of God's eternal face,
Transparent flame of love's free duty,
You bring salvation to our race.

Now, as we see the lights of evening,
We raise our voice in hymns of praise;
Worthy are you of endless blessing,
Sun of our night,
lamp of our days.

Psalm 119:73-88

Your hands have made me and fashioned me; *
give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

**Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, *
because I trust in your word.**

I know, O Lord, that your judgments are right *
and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

**Let your loving-kindness be my comfort, *
as you have promised to your servant.**

Let your compassion come to me, that I may live, *
for your law is my delight.

**Let the arrogant be put to shame, for they wrong me with lies; *
but I will meditate on your commandments.**

Let those who fear you turn to me, *
and also those who know your decrees.

**Let my heart be sound in your statutes, *
that I may not be put to shame.**

My soul has longed for your salvation; *
I have put my hope in your word.
**My eyes have failed from watching for your promise, *
and I say, "When will you comfort me?"**

I have become like a leather flask in the smoke, *
but I have not forgotten your statutes.

How much longer must I wait? *
when will you give judgment against those who persecute me?

The proud have dug pits for me; *
they do not keep your law.

All your commandments are true; *
help me, for they persecute me with lies.

They had almost made an end of me on earth, *
but I have not forsaken your commandments.

In your loving-kindness, revive me, *
that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.

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

The First Lesson

Acts 17:22-34

A Reading from the Book of Acts

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, ‘We will hear you again about this.’ At that point Paul left them. But some of them joined

him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

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

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 16. The Song of Zechariah

Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
you have come to your people and set them free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of your servant David.**

Through your holy prophets you promised of old, that you would save us from our enemies, * from the hands of all who hate us.

**To show mercy to our forebears *
and to remember your holy covenant.**

This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship you without fear, *
holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

**To give God's people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

The Second Lesson

John 12:20-26

A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it,

and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

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.

Dag Hammarskjöld



You dare your Yes - and experience a meaning...You repeat your Yes - and all things acquire a meaning...When everything has a meaning, how can you live anything but a YES.

Maturity - among other things, the unclouded happiness of the child at play, who takes it for granted that he is at one with his play-mates.

God does not die on the day when we cease to believe in a personal deity, but we die on the day when our lives cease to be illumined by the steady radiance, renewed daily, of a wonder, the source of which is beyond all reason.

We share reflections on the day's scripture and readings.

What do you notice?

What is speaking to you?

What difference does it make?

*How do you feed your sense of wonder,
particularly as being "God's offspring," as Paul wrote?*

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 Prayers

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

The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary)

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Dag Hammarskjöld

Almighty God who exalted your humble Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords: Kindle within the hearts of the leaders of this world a yearning for peace with justice as you did within your servant Dag Hammarskjöld and, following his good example, ever guide our feet into the way of peace; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your 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 your love's sake. **Amen.**

*We offer intercessions and thanksgivings from our heart
either silently or aloud or in the chat function.*

We pray for healing for those on the parish prayer list, including: Andrew, Debbie and Evelyn Bourne, Peter Brown, Lydia Cedrone, John Claya, Jacob DeCarlen-Bumiller, John DeNatale, Donna, Peggy Downs, Dutchy, Erica, Kristen Goddard, Michelle Hager, CJ, Ginny Johnson, Jonathan, Chris Kelsey, Linda, Kevin MacKenzie, Mark Martino, Sara Murphy, Muriel Peters, Mo Pollman, Rebecca, Carolyn and Jeff Robinson, Cheryl Russo, Keith Santarelli, Sheila and Josh, Trudy, CV, Amy Walsh, Charlie Wisner, Kelly Wood, and Alan Wright.

The General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 101

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.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

BCP p. 102

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.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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