

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Vespers

Thursday September 24, 2026

Cantor (all words in **bold**),
Reader, (Epistle and Gospel)
Psalmist,
Prayers of the People (please watch for <pause>)

Territorial Acknowledgment

Officiant/**Cantor**

We are gathered here on the traditional and unceded territory of the Halkomelem-speaking Salish peoples.

May Christ lead us on right pathways as we seek truth, and reconciliation in action.

The Preparation

Officiant

Gracious God, we thank you for gathering us together across physical distances through the digital spaces we share today. Where we are isolated, make us aware of your presence. Where we are distracted, center our minds on your peace. Bless our fellowship, guide our words and listening, and pour out your Holy Spirit upon this virtual gathering, that all we say and do may bring honor and glory to your holy name.

Amen.

Greeting and Call to Prayer

Officiant/**Cantor**

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love
you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Acts 19: 11-20

Reader

God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that when handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were brought to the sick, their diseases left them, and the evil spirits came out of them.

Then some itinerant Jewish exorcists tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, “I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims.” Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. But the evil spirit replied, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?” Then the man with the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered them all, and so overpowered them that they fled out of the house naked and wounded.

When this became known to all residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, everyone was awestruck; and the name of the Lord Jesus was praised. Also, many of those who became believers came confessing and disclosing their practices. A number of those who practiced magic collected their books and burned them publicly; when the value of these books was calculated, it was found to come to fifty thousand silver coins. So, the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Amen

Psalm 119:1-24

Psalmist

Aleph (verses 1–8)

Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.

You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances. I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

Beth (verses 9–16)

How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth. I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

Gimel (verses 17–24)

Deal bountifully with your servant, so that I may live and observe your word. Open my eyes, so that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. I am an alien in the land; do not hide your commandments from me. My soul is consumed with longing for your ordinances at all times. You rebuke the insolent, accursed ones, who wander from your commandments; take away from me their scorn and contempt, for I have kept your decrees. Even though princes sit plotting against me, your servant will meditate on your statutes.²⁴ Your decrees are my delight, they are my counselors.

Amen

John 12: 27-36

Reader

‘And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; the proud he has scattered in the imagination of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom,

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant

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.

...

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

...

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

...

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Prayers

Let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, hear our prayer."

Gracious God, we pray for your broken world today. We lift up places torn by conflict, economic exhaustion, and human displacement. Direct the minds of earthly leaders toward justice and the relief of the oppressed.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for a wounded world, including farmers facing unpredictable harvests, communities affected by severe weather, and the safeguarding of creation.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to God alone, that they may have a place in his eternal kingdom. <pause> ... Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Prayers of the People

Prayers

We pray for civic leaders, the protection of the vulnerable, and legislation upholding human dignity.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We intercede for those overwhelmed by modern pressures, economic survival, and burnout, asking for deliverance from unholy expectations.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We offer our prayers through Christ, who has cancelled our debt of sin and brought us into the joy of His salvation.

Amen

The Apostles' Creed

People

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.

Collects

Officiant

(The Prayer of St. John Chrysostom, Book of Common Prayer)

Lord God Almighty, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications 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 of your servants, as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Amen.

Conclusion & Blessing

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)

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.