THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York
96 Jewett Parkway • Buffalo, NY 14214

December 2, 2026
St. Andrew, tr.
6:00 P.M.
Congregational responses are **in bold.**

Opening Hymn

Stay with us, Christ, for it is evening.
Make your Church bright with your radiance.

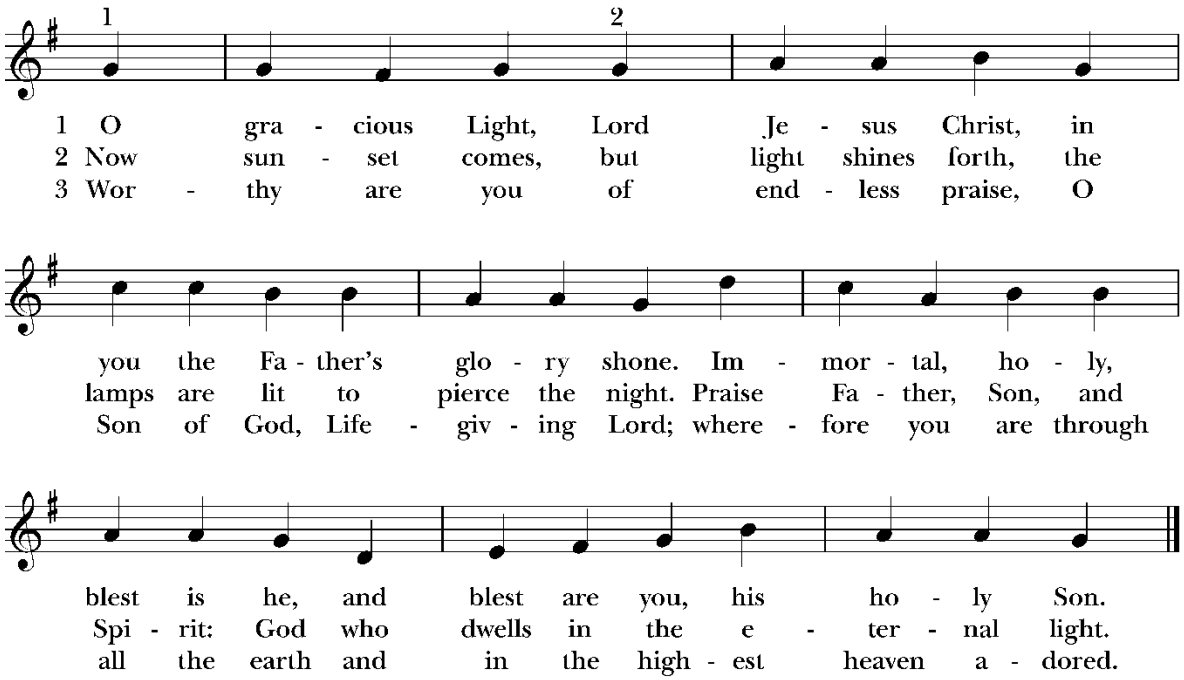
God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honor of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(source: A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 569)

Confession of Sin
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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. Amen.

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

Phos hilaron



This hymn may be sung unaccompanied as a four-part canon at a distance of one measure.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of *O Gracious Light*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.
Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); adapt. *Hymnal 1982*.

Psalm 19, v1-6 *(St. Helena Psalter)*
said responsively by the half verse

1 The heavens declare your glory, O God, *
and the firmament shows your handiwork.
2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
5 In the deep you have set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy 30:11-14

This commandment that I'm giving you right now is definitely not too difficult for you. It isn't unreachable. It isn't up in heaven somewhere so that you have to ask, "Who will go up for us to heaven and get it for us that we can hear it and do it?" Nor is

it across the ocean somewhere so that you have to ask, “Who will cross the ocean for us and get it for us that we can hear it and do it?” Not at all! The word is very close to you. It’s in your mouth and in your heart, waiting for you to do it.

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

Canticle of the Turning *Daigle/Cooley/Donohoo* *Insert*

Andrew, the Apostle

Most references to Andrew in the New Testament simply include him on a list of the Twelve Apostles, or group him with his brother, Simon Peter. But he appears acting as an individual three times in the Gospel of John. When a number of Greeks (perhaps simply Greek-speaking Jews) wish to speak with Jesus, they approach Philip, who tells Andrew, and the two of them tell Jesus (Jn 12:20-22). (It may be relevant here that both "Philip" and "Andrew" are Greek names.) Before Jesus feeds the Five Thousand, it is Andrew who says, "Here is a lad with five barley loaves and two fish." (Jn 6:8f) And the first two disciples whom John reports as attaching themselves to Jesus (Jn 1:35-42) are Andrew and another disciple (whom John does not name, but who is commonly supposed to be John himself -- John never mentions himself by name, a widespread literary convention). Having met Jesus, Andrew then finds his brother Simon and brings him to Jesus. Thus, on each occasion when he is mentioned as an individual, it is because he is instrumental in bringing others to meet the Saviour. In the Episcopal Church, the Fellowship of Saint Andrew is devoted to encouraging personal evangelism, and the bringing of one's friends and colleagues to a knowledge of the Gospel of Christ.

Please stand for the proclamation of the Gospel
The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Matthew (4:18-22)
Glory to you, Lord Christ

As Jesus walked alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, because they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” he said, “and I’ll show you how to fish for people.” Right away, they left their nets and followed him. Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily

Please remain sitting for the singing of the
Nunc dimittis *Insert*

The Affirmation of Faith
Please stand, as we proclaim our faith, by saying:
We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;
In the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,
Conflict and caring link arms
And the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God
Who sits down in our midst
To share our humanity,
A feasting God.
We affirm a faith,
That takes us beyond a safe place
Into action, into vulnerability,
Into the streets.
We commit ourselves to work for change
And put ourselves on the line;
To bear responsibility, to take risks,
Live powerfully and face humiliation;
To stand with those on the edge;
To choose life
And be used by the Spirit
For God's new community of Hope. Amen.
(from Iona Abbey Worship Book by The Iona Community)

The Prayers

Prayers of the People
Creator of the stars in the sky, the sun, and the moon, You are the light by which we wake and work.
Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.
Surround your church, her leaders, and people, with your armor of light. Strengthen them as they reach out to you in prayer and hope. Open their hearts to your will.
Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.
We pray for our leaders: Savior of the nations, guide those who govern, and awaken those they lead, that we may all live in the spirit of cooperation and share so that all have enough: food, care, and peace.

Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.
For people across the world whose spirits bend under the yoke of oppression and struggle, give the people of this community a sense of togetherness and support. Open our eyes to those who fall by the wayside and whose faces and needs remain invisible.
Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.
Lover of our souls, you continue to mold us in your image and hold us in your hands. We ask your blessing on those who struggle with illness, anxiety, grief, or isolation.
Especially those we now name
Illumine our darkness, and keep us alert.
Father of us all, we pray for those who have recently returned to your embrace and those who are broken with grief.
[maintain silence]

The priest then closes the prayers with the collect of the day

The Collect of the Day
Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give unto us, who are called by your Word, grace to follow him without delay, and to bring those near to us into his gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer 3, Enriching Our Worship)

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you**.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
Presider
All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places,
our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world
and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;
You brought forth all creatures of the earth
and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
And so as the morning stars sing your praises
we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage
and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:
"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
"Drink this, all of you:
this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood,
poured out for you and for all

for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us:
the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us
the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us
with [blessed *Andrew*, and] all your people
into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.
Presider and People
Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

*And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now **sing:***
Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done in earth
As it is in heaven
Give us this day, our daily bread
And forgive us our debts
As we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom,
And the power
And the glory
Forever. Amen

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.

We break this bread
to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

The Gifts of God given for us, the beloved of God: Come and be fed.

Prayer after Communion
Let us pray.
Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing
Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always
protected you and loves you as a mother.
Go in peace to follow the good road
and may the blessing of God:
Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, be with you now and forevermore.
Amen.
(source: from Saint Clare)

Closing Hymn

The Dismissal
Our worship has ended, our service continues:
Go in peace to love, serve and proclaim the love of God to all whom you encounter!
Thanks be to God.