



**VESPERS**  
**on the eve of the Commemoration of**  
**Charles Henry Brent**  
**Bishop of the Philippines, and of**  
**Western New York, 1929**

**2026 Mar 26**

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

# The Preparation

## *Officiant*

One of the great early leaders of the modern ecumenical movement was Charles Henry Brent, a bishop in the Episcopal Church of the United States. He was born and educated in Ontario, and ordained in the diocese of Toronto, but a lack of openings led him to move to the United States, where he served parishes in Buffalo and Boston. In 1901, at the age of thirty-nine, he was appointed bishop of the Philippines and, for seventeen years, laboured to bring Christianity to the pagan tribes in the northern part of that country. After the First World War he returned to the continental United States as bishop of Western New York. In the meantime Brent had also become fired with the passion for Christian unity. His quiet energy in this cause eventually resulted in the first Faith and Order Conference, held under his presidency at Lausanne, Switzerland, in the year 1925. He died of a heart-attack at Lausanne four years later, but the Faith and Order movement continued and eventually helped to create the World Council of Churches.

Adapted from *“For All the Saints”*  
Anglican Church of Canada.

# The Preparation

*Officiant*

O God, make speed to save us,  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

From the rising of the Sun to its setting  
**your glory is proclaimed in all the world.**

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

# Act of Praise

We Praise You, Father, for Your Gift  
Common Praise #33

## *Cantor or Officiant*

We praise you Father, for your gift of dusk and nightfall over earth, foreshadowing the mystery of death that leads to endless day.

Within your hands we rest secure, in quiet sleep, our strength renew; yet give your people hearts that wake in love to you, unsleeping Lord.

Your glory may we ever seek in rest, as in activity, until its fullness is revealed, O source of life, O Trinity.

# The Psalm

Psalm 133

## *Psalmist*

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, \*  
**when bretheren live together in unity.**

It is like fine oil upon the head, \*  
**that runs down upon the beard.**

Upon the beard of Aaron, \*  
**and runs down upon the collar of his robe.**

It is like the dew of Hermon \*  
**that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: \*  
**life for evermore.**

# The Psalm Prayer

Creator of the universe, from whom all things come, to whom all things return, give your people such unity of heart and mind, that all the world may grow in the life of your eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# The Reading

## John 17: 20 - 25

### *Reader*

A reading from John.

“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me.”

# Response

*After a brief period of reflection  
the Reader says:*

Blessed are the meek for they shall  
inherit the Earth.

**Thanks be to God!**

# Affirmation of Faith

Let us Affirm our Faith as we recite “Hear, O Israel”

**Hear, O Israel,  
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.  
Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.  
This is the first and the great commandment.  
The second is like it:  
Love your neighbour as yourself.  
There is no commandment greater than these.**

# Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

## *Presider*

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Diocese of Valparaiso - Iglesia Anglicana de Chile as they seek a new Bishop. God of Love and compassion, **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican-Lutheran-Moravian cycle, we pray for The Rt. Revd. Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu, Bishop, and the people and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal; the Assistant to the Bishop and staff of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod;; The people and ministries of Edmonton Moravian Church in Edmonton; and the elimination of racial discrimination. God of Love and compassion, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our diocesan cycle, we pray for the Deanery of Royal City - South Burnaby, The Revd. Arvin Amayag, Regional Dean; All Saints, Mission, The Revd. Paul Bowie;; and the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and The Yukon. God of Love and compassion, **Hear our Prayers.**

## Intercessions, Petitions, & Thanksgivings (Cont'd)

### *Presider*

In our parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we pray for Shane, our Metropolitan; Mark, the National Indigenous Archbishop; John, our Archbishop; Stephanie, our Priest; Bishop Benny and the people of the Northern Philippines; our sister Parish of St. Gabriel, the archangel; all preparing for baptism or confirmation, and any others you wish to name, either silently or aloud. God of Love and compassion, **Hear our Prayers.**

Grant, O God, that the prayers we offer may be your channel for new and abundant life not only hoped for, but worked for, through faithful word and deed. **Amen.**

# The Collect

*Officiant*

God of truth and peace,  
you kindled the will of Charles Henry Brent with a  
desire for the unity of your Church and gave him  
perseverance for the fulfilling of your design. Deliver  
us from arrogance of heart and the falsehoods bred  
by prejudice, that we may find one heart in prayer and  
one voice in confessing your truth; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# The Lord's Prayer

## *Officiant*

Believing in the promises of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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,  
and 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 forever.  
Amen.**

# The Sending Forth

*Deacon (or Officiant)*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

*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.**