

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Vespers

Thursday July 16, 2026

Book of Alternative Services

Territorial Acknowledgment

Officiant

We are gathered here on the unceded territory of the Halkomelem-speaking peoples, including the Qayqayt First Nation, who have lived on and cared for these lands since time immemorial.

As we meet tonight, we acknowledge their enduring connection to this land and commit ourselves to the ongoing work of truth, justice, and reconciliation.

The Preparation

Officiant

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

Greeting and Call to Prayer

Officiant/People

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us.

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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. Alleluia!

O Gladsome Light

People

PHOS HILARON

O gladsome light, pure brightness of the ever living Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

**O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered.**

O offspring of his servant Abraham,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
He is the Lord our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.
He is mindful of his covenant forever,
of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,
the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,
which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,
saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance."

Psalm Prayer

Officiant

God of our ancestors, you are always mindful of your covenant. Give us grace to see your working in our daily lives, that we may always walk in your presence and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

1 Kings 3:5-9

Reader

A reading from the Book of the 1 Kings.

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Romans 8:12–25 ^{1/2}

Reader

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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.

Prayers of the People ^{1/2}

Prayers

Leader: Let us pray that the Word of God be fertile in our lives, the Church and the world. To the bidding, 'Nurturing God' please respond 'hear our prayer.' Give to the Church the grace to receive the word of faith in obedience and to bring forth good fruit for the salvation of souls. Take away all that hinders her witness, so that all her people may share in the work for the harvest to come.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Come in mercy to all who are hungry for justice, community, and truth. Rouse the indifferent and redeem those who are choked by the cares and temptations of this world. Bless the servants of your word who bring healing power to the nations.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: As we share our lives with others who are close to us, help us to live as those who have heard and received good news, that we may be examples of abundant life. May this community be a field which the Lord blesses richly.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Prayers of the People 2/2

Prayers

Leader: We give thanks for the richness of your grace in our lives, and the gifts you provide that we may grow stronger in faith.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember our loved ones whose harvest has ripened and been gathered into the eternal life. Give us grace to realize the seeds that they planted in us through their love

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray in the name of Christ, who brings to us the good seed of the kingdom.

People: Amen

Collects & Blessing

Officiant

COLLECT FROM "PRAYER WITHOUT CEASING"

Page 281

O God, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, and all just works: give to your servants that peace which the world cannot give; so that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments and, freed from the fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

CONCLUSION

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.