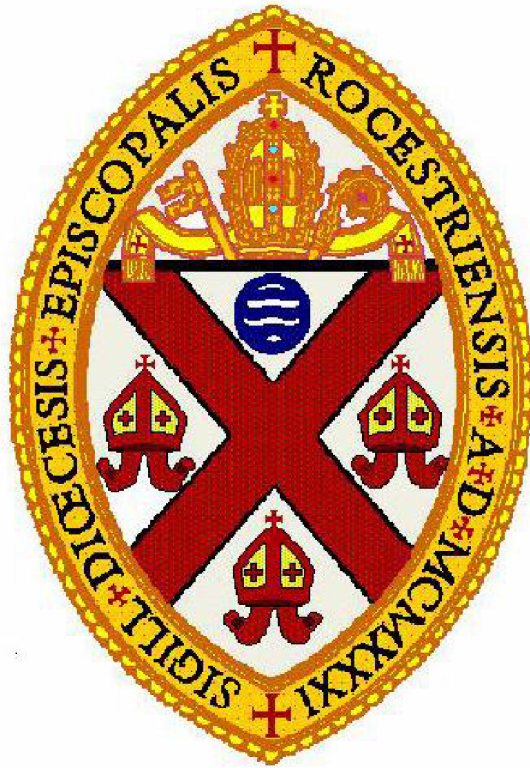


Morning Prayer



THE 92ND CONVENTION
OF THE
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
OCTOBER 28, 2023

The Feast of Saint Simon and Saint Jude

Prelude: Adagio Cantabile from the Pathetique Sonata Ludwig van Beethoven

Land Acknowledgment

The Episcopal Diocese of Rochester is located on the traditional homelands of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy; an alliance of six sovereign nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The confederacy precedes the establishment of this diocese, New York State, and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Haudenosaunee dispossession, and honor the ongoing connection of Haudenosaunee people, past and present, to these lands and waters.

A Collect

Leader: Our Creator, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name. You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love, and empowered us by your Spirit to speak the truth in love, and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one another to grow into the full stature of your spirit, which is our light and our life. **Amen.**

Opening Sentence

Leader: God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth.

Opening Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see,

only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Confession

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God.

Leader and People

**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.**

Absolution

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

Leader: O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People: And your glory all the day long.

All say together

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

The Holy One is in our midst: O come let us worship.

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

All say together

1 Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving

and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.

3 For you are a great God,

you are great above all gods.

4 In your hand are the caverns of the earth,

and the heights of the hills are yours also.

5 The sea is yours, for you made it,

and your hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, bow down, and bend the knee,

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

7 For you are our God,

and we the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand.

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

All say together

The Holy One is in our midst: O come let us worship.

Psalm 119:89-96

All say together

**89 O Lord, your word is everlasting;
it stands firm in the heavens.**

**90 Your faithfulness remains from one generation to another;
you established the earth, and it abides.**

**91 By your decree these continue to this day,
for all things are your servants.**

**92 If my delight had not been in your law,
I should have perished in my affliction.**

**93 I will never forget your commandments,
because by them you give me life.**

**94 I am yours; oh, that you would save me!
for I study your commandments.**

**95 Though the wicked lie in wait for me to destroy me,
I will apply my mind to your decrees.**

**96 I see that all things come to an end,
but your commandment has no bounds.**

All say together

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

Reader: A Reading from the Epistle to the Ephesians 2:13-22

Now in Christ Jesus you Gentiles, who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

A Prayer for Peace

All pray together

God of light and salvation, our refuge and our strength,

**We pray for the people of Israel and Palestine
amid the escalating violence.**

**We pray for those killed and injured
by rockets and gunfire from Gaza in southern Israel.**

May your rod and staff comfort them.

We pray for those who are grieving.

May they know your ever-present help.

**We pray for the protection of those
who have been taken hostage by Hamas.**

As they walk through this dark valley, may they fear no evil.

We pray for the civilians of Gaza.

**May they know that their help comes
from the Maker of heaven and earth.**

And we pray for those in leadership in Gaza and Israel.

May you guide them along the right paths.

**We ask all this in unity with Jesus Christ
and trusting in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Reader: A Reading from the Gospel of John 15:17-27

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

"If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world-- therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'Servants are not greater than their master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not have sin. But now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. It was to fulfill the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.'

"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Homily

The Rt. Rev. Stephen T. Lane

The Apostles' Creed

All say together

**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

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All say together

**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

Leader: Help us, O God our Savior;

People: **Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

Leader: Look upon your congregation;

People: **Give to your people the blessing of peace.**

Leader: Declare your glory among the nations;

People: **And your wonders among all peoples.**

Leader: Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

People: **Never forget the lives of your poor.**

Leader: Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

People: **And your favor to those who are true of heart.**

Leader: Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

People: **So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**

A Collect for the Election of a Bishop

Leader: Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Ever-living God, we give thanks for the abundant life in our Diocese as we celebrate those baptized, confirmed, and received into the Episcopal Church. We celebrate and offer prayers of thanksgiving for the lives of those who have died since our last convention, and now live in your everlasting light. All this, we pray in the holy name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Leader: O God, we thank you for the glorious company of the apostles, and especially on this day for Simon and Jude; and we pray that, as they were faithful and zealous in their mission, so we may with ardent devotion make known the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect For the Diocese

Leader: O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop Stephen, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your Word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The General Thanksgiving

Leader and People

**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

All say together

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.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

Leader: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: The Church of Christ In Every Age

**The church of Christ in every age, beset by change but spirit led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.**

**Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat and never live until they die.**

**Then let the servant church arise. A caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.**

**For Christ alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood.
And teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.**

**We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all without reserve. And spread Christ's liberating word.**

Postlude: Theme and Variations from Sonata No. 27

Joseph Haydn

Many thanks to Karyn Robbins, our musician today; the Rev. Lance Robbins, Rector of Church of the Good Shepherd, Webster; Bruce Dunn and Chris Nuccitelli for their technical expertise; and the liturgy design by Patti Cummings and +Steve Lane.

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