Morning Prayer *Matins*

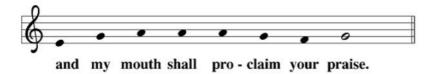


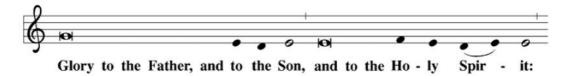
Opening

The assembly stands.

The leader begins the dialogue, and the assembly responds, concluding with a doxology.



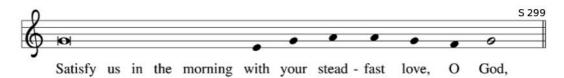


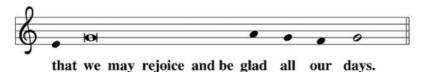


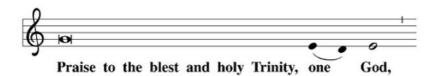


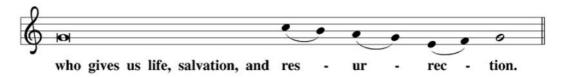
The alleluia is omitted during Lent.











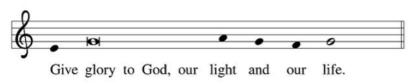
The alleluia is omitted during Lent.



Psalmody

The psalmody begins with a morning psalm of praise: Psalm 95:1-7a (the Venite), Psalm 63:1-8, Psalm 67, Psalm 100, or another appropriate psalm.

The psalm may be preceded and followed by a general or seasonal invitatory. When the invitatory is sung, the following or a similar tone may be used, the assembly echoing the leader.









The assembly is seated.

The psalmody may continue with one or more additional psalms. Each is followed by a time of silence, which may be concluded by a psalm prayer; the assembly responds **Amen.**

Song

Additional assembly song may follow the psalmody. A hymn appropriate to the time of day or the season is normally sung, the assembly standing.

Word

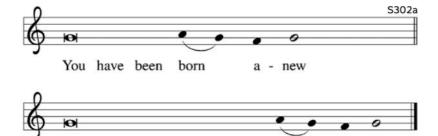
Readings

The assembly is seated.

The service includes one or more scripture readings. After the conclusion of each reading, the assembly may respond **Thanks be to God**.

The reading of scripture is followed by silence for reflection. Other forms of reflection may also follow, such as brief commentary, teaching, or personal witness; non-biblical readings; interpretation through music or other art forms; or guided conversation among those present.

The reflection may conclude with a scriptural dialogue. When it is sung, the following or a similar tone may be used, the assembly echoing the leader.



through the living and abiding word

OR



Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

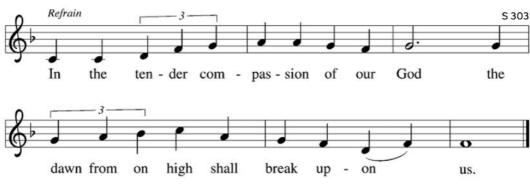
God.

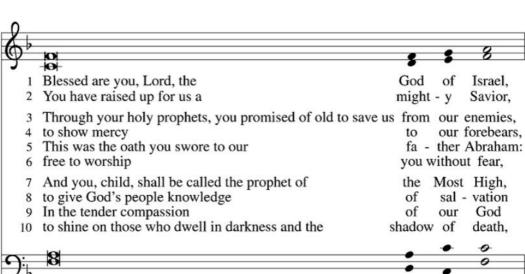


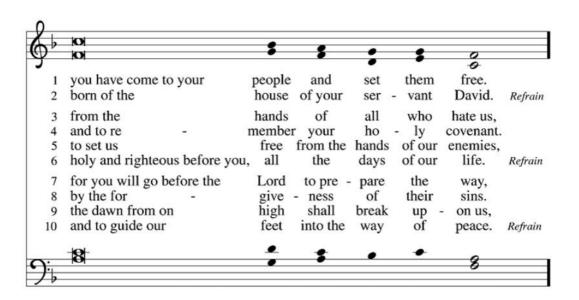
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

Gospel Canticle

The assembly stands to sing the gospel canticle for morning, the song of Zechariah, using the following or another musical version (#226, 250, 552). "We praise you, O God" (#227, 228, 414) may be used in place of the Benedictus.







Prayers

The assembly kneels or stands. The following or another form of the prayers may be used.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness...

for the gifts of relationship with others...

for the communion of faith in your church...

Other thanksgivings may be added.

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord. Especially we pray—

for those who govern nations of the world...

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare ...

for all who work for peace and international harmony ...

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction \dots

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land...

Other intercessions may be added.

One or more of the following prayers and other appropriate prayers may be used.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity. In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

Amen.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

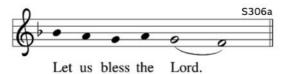
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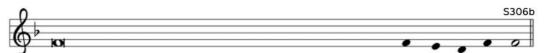
The assembly stands.

Especially on Sundays, morning prayer may include a thanksgiving for baptism. One of the forms on pp. 307-308 may be used. If the thanksgiving for baptism is omitted, the service concludes as follows.

Blessing







Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serveus.

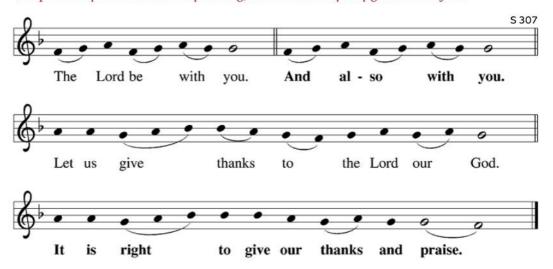


A hymn may be sung.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

A baptismal hymn or canticle may be sung, and the assembly may gather at the font.



Water may be poured into the font as the leader gives thanks.

Ever-living God, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water, and "We praise you, O God" (#227, 228, 414) or another hymn or canticle related to baptism may be sung.

The leader addresses the assembly in these or similar words.

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

Thanksgiving for Baptism Paschal Blessing

A baptismal hymn or canticle may be sung, and the assembly may gather at the font.





The resurrection narrative is sung or spoken.

On the first day of the week at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

"We praise you, O God" (#227, 228, 414) is sung. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing of the canticle.

O God, for our redemption you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin so that we may rise to live with Christ forever; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Almighty God bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in peace. **Amen.**

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

