



## Introduction

*“I believe there is no Liturgy in the world, either in ancient or modern language, which breathes more of a solid, scriptural, rational piety than the Common Prayer of the Church of England.”*

- John Wesley

If the church had a heartbeat, Morning and Evening Prayer would be it. Daily prayer in the morning, evening, and at night was a feature of early Christianity, inherited from Jewish precedents. Such prayer was not the responsibility of particular kinds of Christians such as monastics (which did not yet exist), clergy, or the particularly pious, but was the responsibility of all Christians, whether alone or in small groups.

John Wesley’s quotation above, in addition to being a piece of unapologetic Anglican boosterism, also happens to be true: the whole of the Prayer Book (and its services) are a composite and arrangement of quotations from Scripture. In addition, both Morning and Evening Prayer include readings from the Old Testament and the New Testament, and (if read daily) these services allow a person to read through much of the Bible in the course of a year.

Morning and Evening Prayer serve, however, as more than mere repetitions of and containers for Scripture. They provide a form and a language and a framework by which to start and to end the day. They provide a vehicle for us to speak to God, and the space for us to hear God speaking back. The clergy of Christ Church warmly commend them to you.

These services may also be found online: [Morning Prayer](#); [Evening Prayer](#).

If time is of the essence, please also consider the short “Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families,” which begin on [page 136](#) in the Prayer Book.



## Evening Prayer

*Rite II*

Sentence of Scripture ( <i>reader's choice</i> )	p.115
[Confession & Absolution	p.116]
Invitatory	p.117
<i>O Gracious Light</i>	p.118
Psalms (found <a href="#">here</a> )	
<i>At the end of the Psalms, all say together Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.</i>	
First Lesson (from <i>Forward Day by Day</i> ... found <a href="#">here</a> )	
<i>Magnificat</i>	p.119
Second Lesson (from the New Testament... found <a href="#">here</a> )	
<i>Nunc dimittis</i>	p.120
Apostles' Creed	
Lord's Prayer	p.121
Suffrages ( <i>either set A or set B</i> )	pp.122-22
Collects	
<i>Traditionally, <b>three</b> collects are read: the first, for the day; the second, for Peace; the third, for Aid against Perils. The collect for the day is the same appointed for a Sunday and the whole week following. The collect for each Sunday may be found <a href="#">here</a> and beginning on page 211 in the Prayer Book.</i>	
Prayers ( <i>dealer's choice</i> )	
Prayer of St. Chrysostom ( <i>if applicable</i> )	p.126
"Let us bless the Lord"	
The Grace (... of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship etc.)	