

**Notes.**

- Only the Office Lights are lit (and Paschal Candle in Easter; Advent candles in Advent); the Altar candles are not lit unless the Eucharist follows.
- The collect and lessons should be selected before the service begins.
- Vesting is cassock, surplice and tippet.

**Morning Prayer Rite II**

*Begin with either (1) Versicle [BCP 75] or (4) Preces [BCP 80]*

1. Versicle – choose one appropriate to the season [BCP 75-78] – *standing*.
2. Confession – choose one intro [BCP 79] – *kneeling (or standing)*.
3. Absolution – adjust for Lay Reader [BCP 80] – *lay officiant remains kneeling*. Note: the “Amen” during the confession is not italicized, while the “Amen” at the absolution is italicized. This is a universal clue throughout the BCP indicating whether or not the people participate in the preceding prayer. If the *Amen* is italicized the officiant leads the prayer alone and the people respond with the *Amen*. Where the Amen is not italicized, the preceding prayer (or Creed) is said by all. Compare the Amen in the prayer of General Thanksgiving [BCP 101], with the *Amen* in the prayer of Saint Chrysostom [BCP 102].
4. Preces: “Lord open our lips” [BCP 80] – *standing; sign the cross over lips*.

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

5. Gloria – *standing*.
6. Antiphon – choose appropriate to the season [BCP 80-82] – Traditionally the antiphon is said before and after the Invitatory (Venite/Jubilate/Pascha Nostrum), with the congregation responding with “Come let us adore Him.” - *standing*.
7. Invitatory Psalms: Venite/Jubilate/Pascha Nostrum – *standing*.
8. *Optional*: Antiphon is repeated.
9. Psalms – there are two methods for selecting the psalms – *seated or standing*.
  - A. Choose according to the Daily Office Lectionary (BCP 934-1001). For example, Monday of First week in Advent, Year One (BCP 936) provides Psalms 1, 2, 3 for M.P. and Psalms 4, 7 for E.P.
  - B. Choose according to day of the month (Benedictine practice). See the rubric above Psalm One (BCP 585), *First Day: Morning Prayer*Note: for either method, the psalms are offered without pause, the officiant begins each psalm (even if he/she ended the previous), the Gloria Patri is offered only once at the end of the series of psalms. The asterisk provides for a unified breath. (See rubrics: BCP 934-935). Stuhlman notes, “The psalms are traditionally recited standing in the Anglican office; sometimes, however, they are recited seated. The first alternative treats them as acts of praise; the second,

following the monastic tradition, as texts for meditation.” (Prayer Book Rubrics Expanded – Byron D. Stuhlman, page 38)

10. Gloria Patri. - *Commonly still seated after the Psalm/s, but one wonders how this could be.*

## The Lessons

11. Old Testament Lesson. Choose according to the Daily Office Lectionary (BCP 934-1001) *Officiant standing; people seated.*
12. Cantic. Note: hymns may be substituted. *Standing.*
13. New Testament Lesson. Choose according to the Daily Office Lectionary (BCP 934-1001). Note: commonly the Gospel lesson is left for E.P. (see “Concerning the Daily Office Lectionary” pages 934-935 for more instructions.) *Officiant standing; people seated.*
14. Cantic. Note: hymns may be substituted. *Standing*
15. Apostles Creed. *Standing.*

## The Prayers

16. The Lord's Prayer. *Kneeling or standing.*
  17. Suffrages – Choose A or B. (Note that Suffrages A are also offered during Evening Prayer.) “V” indicates the Officiant. “R” indicates the response. - *kneeling.*
  18. The Collect of the Day. The collect from the Sunday of the current week may be offered. Or, the collect for a Feast Day, if there is one, may be offered. Major Feast Days (or Holy Days) are listed in bold, and Lesser Feasts and Fasts are listed in normal print on pages 19-30. The contemporary collects for Holy Days are found on pages 237-250. Specific collects for Lesser Feasts and Fasts are found in the book titled “Lesser Feasts and Fasts”. However, universal collects for martyrs, missionaries, and saints are found on pages 246-250. - *kneeling.*
  19. Collect of the Day (2) – choose from a collect appropriate to the day of the week from those listed, between *A Collect for Sundays* [98] and *A Collect for Guidance* [100].
  20. Collect for Mission – choose one from the three listed on pages 100 and 101.
  21. *Optional:* Hymn or Anthem. This is the only rubric in M.P. indicating a hymn but this is not the only place where a hymn may be sung. [BCP 101]
  22. *Optional:* Homily or Devotional may be offered here. (See note: BCP 142)
  23. *Optional:* Intercessions and Thanksgivings. (See rubrics on page 101, and directions on page 142.)
  24. *Optional:* Offering. This is not an Offertory and should not be treated as such, since there will be no presentation at the altar, as in Communion. (See note: BCP 142).  
While not indicated, this is also a suitable place for announcements.
- Note: The rubric zone between the Collect for Mission and the General Thanksgiving seems to be left as open territory for anything still needed in the service. The order of hymn, homily, intercessions and offering is flexible.
25. The General Thanksgiving. - *Officiant and people; kneeling or standing.*

26. The Prayer of St. Chrysostom. This prayer is not required if the General Thanksgiving has been offered. One, or both may be used (see rubric, pg. 101). [BCP 102] This prayer is indicated for the officiant, but is commonly offered by both officiant and people. – *kneeling or standing*.
27. Dismissal. - *standing*.
28. Scripture. The concluding scripture correlates to a blessing.- *standing; traditional to cross one's self..*

## Helpful Resources

- Commentary on the American Prayer Book [1979]. By Marion Hatchett, Seabury Press, NY, 1981
- Daily Office Book – Year One/Year Two [1979]. Church Publishing, NY.
- From the Fathers to the Churches: Daily Spiritual Readings. Edited by Brother Kenneth, Collins Liturgical Publications, London, 1988.
- Lesser Feasts and Fasts [1997]. Church Publishing Incorporated, NY
- The Prayer Book Office. Compiled by Howard Galley, The Seabury Press, 1980
- Readings for the Daily Office from the Early Church. Ed. by J. Robert Wright, Church Hymnal Corporation, NY, 1991
- Prayer Book Rubrics Expanded. By Byron D. Stuhlman, The Church Hymnal Corporation, N.Y., 1987
- A Priest's Handbook. By Dennis Michno, Morehouse-Barlow Co., Inc., Wilton, Connecticut, 1983
- They Still Speak – Readings for the Lesser Feasts. Ed. by J. Robert Wright, Church Hymnal Corporation, NY, 1993

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