

Be My Disciples • Called to Prayer

Grades 4–6

Morning and Evening Prayer

Seasonal Prayers and Blessings for Special Times

General Introduction

Called to Prayer is intended as a guide for prayer with children in grades 4, 5, and 6. The format is designed for children to participate actively in prayer without the need for individual worship aids. This resource makes it possible to always connect class prayer with the liturgical feasts and seasons.

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER

The Liturgy of the Hours is the public prayer of the whole Church. When it becomes the personal prayer of all Christians, it makes clear the relationship that exists between liturgy and the whole of Christian life. “In it [the Liturgy of the Hours] Christ himself is present, in the assembled community, in the proclamation of God’s word . . . and through it the Church consecrates to God the whole cycle of day and night and the whole range of human activity.” (General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours, #13)

As children learn more about the liturgical year of the Church, it is appropriate for them to become more familiar with the official worship of the whole Church. The Liturgy of the Hours is an important part of the public prayer of the Church and is made up of Morning Prayer, Daytime Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Night Prayer.

The morning and evening prayers found in *Called to Prayer* have been adapted for use with children. They include both Morning and Evening prayer for each of the liturgical seasons of the church year. The morning prayers are intended for day school and daytime religion programs. The evening prayers provide an appropriate prayer option for evening religion programs.

☞ The opening Call to Prayer can be either sung or spoken. The spoken form is included at the beginning of each prayer; an alternative sung version is provided as well.

☞ The Canticle used for morning prayer is different than the one used for evening prayer, although they remain consistent throughout the year. This allows the children to become familiar with these prayers.

☞ The Psalms have been adapted from the psalmody of the various liturgical seasons and are used in a dialogic psalm response style. These responses are simple and easy for children to pray.

☞ Each prayer is planned to take approximately five minutes. It is possible to abbreviate the prayers as time or attention spans require.

SEASONAL PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

This section provides a variety of seasonal prayers that are appropriate to the cycles of the liturgical year. These can be used as individual prayers or incorporated into other prayer forms and liturgies. A variety of mantras are included which can be prayed in any of several forms.

Children love ritual, and the blessings included here offer opportunities to incorporate ritual blessings into the prayer life of children. The blessings of the Advent wreath, the Christmas tree, the gifts, the doorway at Epiphany, Lenten activities—all these help to sanctify the events of daily life in the context of the liturgical seasons. Abundant use of gestures and symbols, such as water, oil, and signing, enrich the child’s experience and expression of prayer.

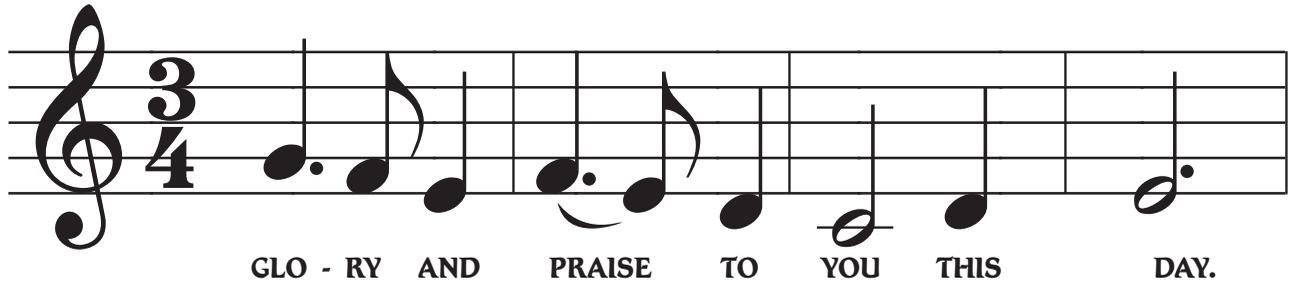
PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS FOR SPECIAL TIMES

Included in this section are prayers for various occasions, blessings, and intercessory prayers that can be integrated into the community’s life of prayer with great flexibility.

Morning Prayer

Ordinary Time

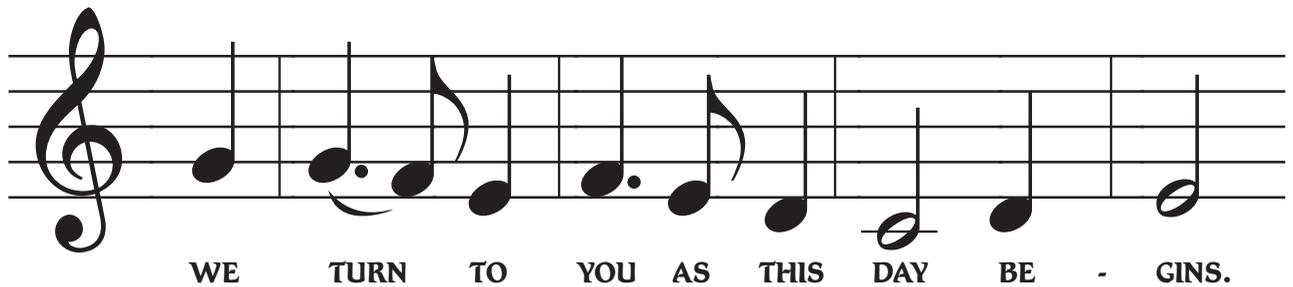
Morning Offering



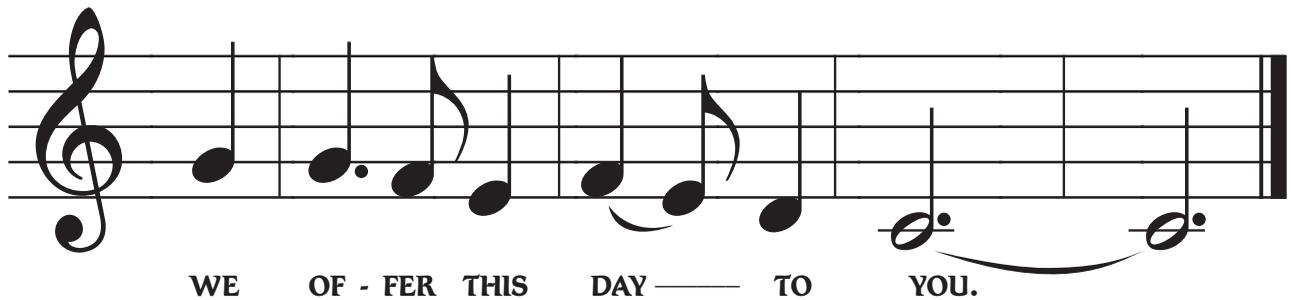
GLO - RY AND PRAISE TO YOU THIS DAY.



GRA - CI - AS, THANK YOU, O GOD.



WE TURN TO YOU AS THIS DAY BE - GINS.



WE OF - FER THIS DAY TO YOU.



Morning Prayer

Ordinary Time

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Lord, open my lips.
Response: **And my mouth will proclaim your praise.**
 (Make the Sign of the Cross over your lips while praying the response).

Presider: As day begins, we proclaim your praise, Lord.
Response: **Glory be to the Father
 and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ever shall be
 world without end. Amen.**
 (Optional song: "Morning Offering")

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: Come let us sing to the Lord!
Response: **Come, let us sing to the Lord!**

Presider: Come, let us sing to the Lord
 and shout with joy to the rock who saves us.
 Let us approach God with praise and thanksgiving
 and sing joyful songs to the Lord.

Response: **Come, let us sing to the Lord!**

Presider: The Lord is God, the mighty God,
 a great king over all the earth.
 In God's hands are the depths of the earth
 and the highest mountains as well.
 God made the sea; it belongs to God,
 the dry land, too, for it was formed by God's hands.

Response: **Come, let us sing to the Lord!**

Presider: Come, then let us bow down and worship,
 bending the knee before the Lord, our maker.
 For the Lord is our God and we are God's people,
 the flock God shepherds.

Response: **Come, let us sing to the Lord.**

BASED ON PSALM 95

All: **Glory be to the Father
 and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ever shall be
 world without end. Amen.**

READING

Colossians 3:12–15

CANTICLE

Presider: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.
Praise and exalt God forever.
Sun and moon,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Stars of Heaven,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Every shower and dew,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you winds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Fire and heat,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Frost and chill,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Lightning and clouds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you sons and daughters,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Let all the Earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt God above all forever.

BASED ON DANIEL 3:57–88

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

PRAYER

Presider: God, our Father, gifts without measure flow from your goodness.
Our life itself is your gift. Guide us on this day's journey,
for only your love makes us whole. Keep us strong in your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: **Amen.**





Evening Prayer

Ordinary Time

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Light and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Presider: The response is: Our help comes from God.
Response: **Our help comes from God.**

Presider: I look up to the mountains.
Where will help come from?
My help comes from God,
who made Heaven and Earth.

Response: **Our help comes from God.**

Presider: God will not let us stumble.
The God who keeps us,
who watches over us,
does not slumber or sleep.

Response: **Our help comes from God.**

Presider: God is our guard and our shade.
With God at our side,
the sun will not harm us by day,
nor the moon by night.

Response: **Our help comes from God.**

Presider: God keeps us from harm,
and protects our lives.
God watches over us,
as we come and as we go each day.

Response: **Our help comes from God.**

BASED ON PSALM 121

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

READING

1 John 4:7–8,12

CANTICLE

Presider: My soul sings of the greatness of God. I rejoice in God, my savior.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God has done great things for me.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God's mercy is from generation to generation.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God turns away from the proud hearted but attends to the little ones.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God feeds the hungry and sends the rich away empty.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God remembers us and keeps the promises made to Abraham, Sarah and their descendants.
Response: Holy is God's name.

BASED ON LUKE 1:46-55

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

PRAYER

Presider: God of light and darkness,
hear us as we come to the close of this day.
For all that this day held, we give you thanks.
For the times we did not use your gifts this day, we are sorry.
Now as evening and darkness come,
we ask you to watch over us and be our light.

Response: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.





Morning Prayer

Advent

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Lord, open my lips.
Response: And my mouth will proclaim your praise.
(Make the Sign of the Cross over your lips while praying the response).

Presider: As day begins, we proclaim your praise, Lord.
Response: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.
(Optional song: "Morning Offering")

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: For you I wait, O God!
Response: For you I wait, O God!

Presider: I lift my heart to you, O God.
It is you I trust, do not disappoint me.
No one who trusts in God will be disappointed
unless they break their faith with you.

Response: For you I wait, O God!

Presider: Show me your ways, O God,
and teach me your paths.
Help me walk in your way and teach me.
For you are God, my Savior.

Response: For you I wait, O God!

Presider: All day long I hope in you, O God,
because you are so good and full of kindness.
In your mercy remember me,
and forget all my mistakes.
Turn to me and have mercy on me.

Response: For you I wait, O God!

BASED ON PSALM 25

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

READING

Isaiah 40:3-5

CANTICLE

Presider: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.
Praise and exalt God forever.
Sun and moon,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Stars of Heaven,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Every shower and dew,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you winds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Fire and heat,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Frost and chill,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Lightning and clouds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you sons and daughters,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Let all the Earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt God above all forever.

BASED ON DANIEL 3:57-88

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
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THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

PRAYER

Presider: God, our Father, gifts without measure flow from your goodness.
Our life itself is your gift. Guide us on this day's journey,
for only your love makes us whole. Keep us strong in your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: **Amen.**





Evening Prayer

Advent

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Light and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: Come, Lord, set us free.
Response: Come, Lord, set us free.

Presider: God, you have forgiven us.
Do not be angry anymore.
Let us see your kindness,
and give us your saving help.
Response: Come, Lord, set us free.

Presider: I will listen to what you say, O God.
For you speak of peace.
Peace for your people and for all who hope in you.
Your saving presence is near for those who trust you.
Response: Come, Lord, set us free.

Presider: Love and faithfulness will meet.
Justice and peace will embrace.
Faithfulness will spring out of the ground
and justice will come down from Heaven.
Response: Come, Lord, set us free.

Presider: God will give us what is good,
and our land shall yield fruit.
Justice will march before our God,
and peace will follow the way.
Response: Come, Lord, set us free.

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

BASED ON PSALM 85

READING

Philippians 4:4-7



CANTICLE

Presider: My soul sings of the greatness of God. I rejoice in God, my savior.
Response: Holy is God's name.
Presider: God has done great things for me.
Response: Holy is God's name.
Presider: God's mercy is from generation to generation.
Response: Holy is God's name.
Presider: God turns away from the proud hearted but attends to the little ones.
Response: Holy is God's name.
Presider: God feeds the hungry and sends the rich away empty.
Response: Holy is God's name.
Presider: God remembers us and keeps the promises made to Abraham, Sarah and their descendants.
Response: Holy is God's name.

BASED ON LUKE 1:46-55

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
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and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

PRAYER

Presider: God of light and darkness,
hear us as we come to the close of this day.
For all that this day held, we give you thanks.
For the times we did not use your gifts this day, we are sorry.
Now as evening and darkness come,
we ask you to watch over us and be our light.
Response: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.
Response: Amen.





Morning Prayer

Christmas

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Lord, open my lips.
Response: **And my mouth will proclaim your praise.**
 (Make the Sign of the Cross over your lips while praying the response).

Presider: As day begins, we proclaim your praise, Lord.
Response: **Glory be to the Father
 and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ever shall be
 world without end. Amen.**
 (Optional song: "Morning Offering")

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: Today is born a Savior, Christ the Lord!
Response: **Today is born a Savior, Christ the Lord!**

Presider: Sing a new song to our God.
 Sing to God all lands of the Earth.
 Tell of God's saving deeds day after day.
 Proclaim God's wonders to all people.

Response: **Today is born a Savior, Christ the Lord!**

Presider: God is great and loudly to be praised.
 God made the Heavens,
 and dwells in glory and splendor,
 surrounded by beauty and greatness.
 Give to God glory and praise!

Response: **Today is born a Savior, Christ the Lord!**

Presider: Let the heavens be glad, let the Earth rejoice.
 Let all the trees of the forest sing for joy
 before the Lord, who comes to rule the Earth
 with justice and to judge the people with truth.

Response: **Today is born a Savior, Christ the Lord!**

BASED ON PSALM 96

All: **Glory be to the Father
 and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ever shall be
 world without end. Amen.**

READING

Isaiah 60:1-3

CANTICLE

Presider: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.
Praise and exalt God forever.
Sun and moon,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Stars of Heaven,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Every shower and dew,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you winds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Fire and heat,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Frost and chill,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Lightning and clouds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you sons and daughters,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Let all the Earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt God above all forever.

BASED ON DANIEL 3:57-88

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

PRAYER

Presider: God, our Father, gifts without measure flow from your goodness.
Our life itself is your gift. Guide us on this day's journey,
for only your love makes us whole. Keep us strong in your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: **Amen.**





Evening Prayer

Christmas

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: God our strength is with us!
Response: God our strength is with us!

Presider: God is our refuge and our strength,
 our helper in times of distress.
 Even if the earth shudders,
 and mountains fall into the sea,
 we have no fear, for God is with us!

Response: God our strength is with us!

Presider: In the city of our God, there is a river
 whose streams bring joy to the people.
 God is with them. They will not be disturbed.
 At the break of day, God comes to their aid.

Response: God our strength is with us!

Presider: Come! See the wonderful things God has done,
 making wars cease; turning swords into plowshares.
 Be still and know our God
 who rules over all the Earth.

Response: God our strength is with us!

BASED ON PSALM 46

All: Glory be to the Father
 and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ever shall be
 world without end. Amen.

READING

Isaiah 9:l, 5

CANTICLE

Presider: My soul sings of the greatness of God. I rejoice in God, my savior.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God has done great things for me.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God's mercy is from generation to generation.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God turns away from the proud hearted but attends to the little ones.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God feeds the hungry and sends the rich away empty.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God remembers us and keeps the promises made to Abraham, Sarah and their descendants.
Response: Holy is God's name.

BASED ON LUKE 1:46-55

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

PRAYER

Presider: God of light and darkness,
hear us as we come to the close of this day.
For all that this day held, we give you thanks.
For the times we did not use your gifts this day, we are sorry.
Now as evening and darkness come,
we ask you to watch over us and be our light.

Response: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.





Morning Prayer

Lent

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Lord, open my lips.
Response: And my mouth will proclaim your praise.
(Make the Sign of the Cross over your lips while praying the response).

Presider: As day begins, we proclaim your praise, Lord.
Response: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.
(Optional song: "Morning Offering")

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: Your face, O God, I seek.
Response: Your face, O God, I seek.

Presider: God is my light and my savior,
whom should I fear?
God is my strength,
why should I be afraid?
Response: Your face, O God, I seek.

Presider: When people attack me and lie about me,
my heart will not be afraid.
All I ask is to dwell in your house, O God,
and to see your face.
Response: Your face, O God, I seek.

Presider: Do not turn away from me, O God.
Do not abandon or forsake me.
Teach me your ways and lead me on a straight path.
Let my heart know courage as I wait for God!
Response: Your face, O God, I seek.

BASED ON PSALM 27

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

READING

Isaiah 58:6–8a



CANTICLE

Presider: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.
Praise and exalt God forever.
Sun and moon,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Stars of Heaven,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Every shower and dew,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you winds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Fire and heat,
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Presider: Frost and chill,
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Presider: Lightning and clouds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you sons and daughters,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Let all the Earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt God above all forever.

BASED ON DANIEL 3:57-88

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
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on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
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Presider: God our Father, gifts without measure flow from your goodness.
Our life itself is your gift. Guide us on this day's journey,
for only your love makes us whole. Keep us strong in your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: **Amen.**





Evening Prayer

Lent

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Light and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: God is full of mercy and kindness.
Response: God is full of mercy and kindness.

Presider: Out of the depths I cry to you, O God.
Lord, hear my voice.
Open your ears to my pleading.
Hear me, O God.

Response: God is full of mercy and kindness.

Presider: If you, O God, keep track of our sins,
how can we ever stand before you?
But in you is forgiveness for all our failures.
For your mercy, we praise you.

Response: God is full of mercy and kindness.

Presider: I am waiting for you, O God,
like the watchman who waits for dawn.
I am waiting for you, my God,
trusting in your word.

Response: God is full of mercy and kindness.

Presider: With you, O God, is mercy and great love,
for you are faithful and full of healing grace.
And you will save your people
from all their sins.

Response: God is full of mercy and kindness.

BASED ON PSALM 130

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

READING

Jeremiah 29:12-14



CANTICLE

Presider: My soul sings of the greatness of God. I rejoice in God, my Savior.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God has done great things for me.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God's mercy is from generation to generation.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God turns away from the proud hearted but attends to the little ones.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God feeds the hungry and sends the rich away empty.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God remembers us and keeps the promises made to Abraham, Sarah and their descendants.
Response: Holy is God's name.

BASED ON LUKE 1:46-55

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Amen.

PRAYER

Presider: God of light and darkness,
hear us as we come to the close of this day.
For all that this day held, we give you thanks.
For the times we did not use your gifts this day, we are sorry.
Now as evening and darkness come,
we ask you to watch over us and be our light.

Response: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.





Morning Prayer

Easter

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Lord, open my lips.
Response: **And my mouth will proclaim your praise.**
(Make the Sign of the Cross over your lips while praying the response).

Presider: As day begins, we proclaim your praise, Lord.
Response: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**
(Optional song: "Morning Offering")

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: Sing joyfully to our God.
Response: **Sing joyfully to our God.**

Presider: Sing joyfully to God, all you lands!
Serve our God with gladness.
Know that God made us. We belong to God.
We are God's children, the flock God carefully tends.
Response: **Sing joyfully to our God.**

Presider: Come into God's house with thanksgiving.
Enter God's presence with hearts of praise.
Give thanks to God and bless God's name.
Response: **Sing joyfully to our God.**

Presider: The Lord is good.
God's loving kindness lasts forever.
God's faithfulness will never end.
Response: **Sing joyfully to our God.**

BASED ON PSALM 100

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

READING

John 20:19-21

CANTICLE

Presider: Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.
Praise and exalt God forever.
Sun and moon,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Stars of Heaven,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Every shower and dew,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you winds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Fire and heat,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Frost and chill,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Lightning and clouds,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: All you sons and daughters,
Response: **bless the Lord.**

Presider: Let all the Earth bless the Lord.
Praise and exalt God above all forever.

BASED ON DANIEL 3:57-88

All: **Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

PRAYER

Presider: God, our Father, gifts without measure flow from your goodness.
Our life itself is your gift. Guide us on this day's journey,
for only your love makes us whole. Keep us strong in your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: **Amen.**





Evening Prayer

Easter

CALL TO PRAYER

Presider: Light and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Presider: The response today is: It is good to give thanks to God!
Response: It is good to give thanks to God!

Presider: O God, it is good to give you thanks,
to sing and make music to praise your name;
to tell of your love each morning,
and of your faithfulness every night.
Response: It is good to give thanks to God!

Presider: All that you do, O God, makes my heart glad.
All that you do, makes me shout for joy.
How wonderful are your deeds, O God!
How very deep are all your thoughts.
Response: It is good to give thanks to God!

Presider: Your thoughts are not understood by many.
The foolish do not know
that though it looks as if the wicked prosper,
growing as quickly as the grass, they will not last.
But you, God, do last and live forever.
Response: It is good to give thanks to God!

Presider: The just and upright will flourish like palm trees,
grow tall like the great cedars.
For they are planted in God's house, and thrive in God's presence,
praising the goodness of God who is their rock.
Response: It is good to give thanks to God!

BASED ON PSALM 92

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

READING

1 Peter 3: 8–11

CANTICLE

Presider: My soul sings of the greatness of God. I rejoice in God, my Savior.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God has done great things for me.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God's mercy is from generation to generation.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God turns away from the proud hearted but attends to the little ones.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God feeds the hungry and sends the rich away empty.
Response: Holy is God's name.

Presider: God remembers us and keeps the promises made to Abraham, Sarah and their descendants.
Response: Holy is God's name.

BASED ON LUKE 1:46-55

All: Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

PRAYER

Presider: God of light and darkness,
hear us as we come to the close of this day.
For all that this day held, we give you thanks.
For the times we did not use your gifts this day, we are sorry.
Now as evening and darkness come,
we ask you to watch over us and be our light.

Response: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: May the Lord bless us,
protect us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Response: Amen.





Seasonal Prayers

Advent

BLESSING OF AN ADVENT WREATH

Presider: Let us now pray for God's blessing upon us and upon this wreath.

(After a short silence the leader prays:)

Lord, our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.

(Invite all to extend their hand in blessing over the wreath.)

Lord, God, let your blessing come upon us
as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light
be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response: Amen.

O ANTIPHONS

O Wisdom of God, you guide all creation with loving care,
come and show us the path to salvation.

O Lord of Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush,
come, stretch out your hand. Set us free.

O Flower of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all people,
come without delay. Save us.

O Key of David, who opens Heaven's gate,
come, break down our prison walls. Lead us to freedom.

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of God's light and sun of justice,
come, shine on those lost in darkness.

O King of nations, who created us and binds us together,
come, save your people.

O Emmanuel, God with us,
come, set your people free.



Seasonal Prayers

Christmas and Epiphany

CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING

Presider: God of all creation, we praise you for this tree which brings beauty and memories and the promise of life. . . . May your blessing be upon all who gather around this tree, all who keep the Christmas festival by its lights. . . . You are our God, living and reigning, for ever and ever.

Response: Amen.



BLESSING AT A GIFT EXCHANGE

Gracious God, you are the great Gift-Giver. Bless these gifts which we give to one another. May those who receive them be joyful. May we who give them be blessed. Help us share with all your gift of peace, Jesus, our Brother. Amen.

NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

O God, . . . you have given us the wonder of time, blessings in days and nights, seasons and years.

Bless your children at the turning of the year and fill the months ahead with the bright hope that is ours in the coming of Christ.

You are our God, living and reigning, for ever and ever. Amen.



EPIPHANY BLESSING

Homes and doorways were traditionally blessed on Epiphany. Gather at the door. With chalk, mark a cross on the door frame, then pray.

Welcoming God, bless this doorway. May all who come through it find here welcome, peace, and friendship. Amen.



Seasonal Prayers

Lent

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Leader: In Baptism, we were claimed for Jesus and marked with the sign of the cross. Today, we mark ourselves with this sign so that Christ may be in our thoughts, in our hearts, and in all that we do.

All: *Slowly and with large gestures make the sign of the cross.*
**In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**



BLESSING OF LENTEN ACTIVITIES

Blessed are you, Lord,
God of all creation,
you call us to true fasting,
to set free the oppressed,
to share our bread with the hungry,
to shelter the homeless
and to clothe the naked.

LENTEN MANTRAS

Blessed is the tree of the cross where we find life.

Lord, Jesus, have mercy on me.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

PRAYER OF MERCY

Loving God, our source of life,
you know our weakness.
May we reach out with joy to grasp your hand
and walk more readily in your ways.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Seasonal Prayers

Easter and Pentecost

EASTER MANTRAS

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad. Alleluia!

Christ is risen, Alleluia!



EASTER PSALM

Psalm 23 with its reference to water, oil, cup, and banquet is a traditional Easter prayer.

God, you are my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where you give me rest.
Near restful waters you lead me
to revive my drooping spirit.

You guide me along the right path;
you are true to your name.
You are there with your crook and your staff
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me.
My head you have anointed with oil.
My cup is overflowing.
Surely your goodness and kindness will be with me
always. Amen.



BASED ON PSALM 23

PENTECOST PRAYERS

Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit.
Renew the face of the Earth.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.



Prayers and Blessings

Special Times

LITANY OF THANKS

Presider: Let us give thanks to God, for he is good.

Response: Let us give thanks to God, for he is good.

Presider: For life and health and laughter.

Response: Let us give thanks to God, for he is good.

Presider: For day and night and changing seasons.

Response: Let us give thanks to God, for he is good.

Presider: For food, clothes, and shelter.

Response: Let us give thanks to God, for he is good.

Presider: For friends, family, and people who love us.

Response: Let us give thanks to God, for he is good.

Presider: *Invite people to name what they are grateful for. Then pray:*
For all the gifts we have named, O God, we give thanks.
And for the many other gifts we did not name, we give thanks.
Keep our hearts ever grateful. Amen.

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

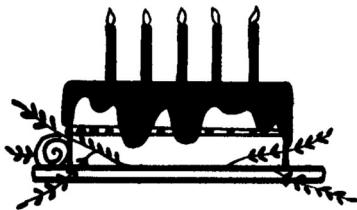
God the Creator, we praise you for (Name),
whose birthday is today.

Place hands on the person, or extend hands over them.

May God who gave you life keep you. Amen.

May God bless you as you grow. Amen.

May God fill you with joy and peace. Amen.

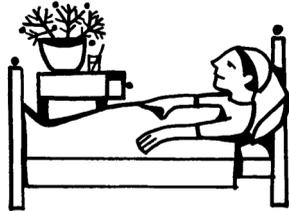


DAILY PRAYER

Hear this!

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!

You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your mind,
and with all your heart, and with all your strength.



FOR SOMEONE WHO IS SICK

God of love,
ever caring, ever strong,
stand by us in our time of need.

Watch over (Name), who is sick;
look after (her/him) in every danger,
and grant (her/him) your healing and peace.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.
Amen.

WHEN SOMEONE HAS DIED

God, our hearts are sad for our friend has died.
Hold (Name) in the palm of your hands.
Do not forget (her/him) and do not forget us.
Bless us and wipe away the tears from our eyes.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

WHEN SOMEONE IS GOING AWAY

May God bless your comings and your goings.
May God direct your feet into the way of peace.
May God bless you and keep you,
now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING OF A ROOM

O God, give your blessing to all who share this room,
that we may be knit together in companionship.
Grant this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME BLESSING

Welcoming God, bless (Name),
who joins us today.
May our hearts be open to receive the gifts he/she brings.
May our hands be ready to help.
May (he/she) find here a warm hearth fired with love. Amen.



Intercessory Prayers

- Presider:** Let us offer our prayers to God.
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For the Church, that she may always be a place of welcome and peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For the leaders of our country that they may rule wisely and justly, let us pray to the Lord.
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For our city and for all who live here, let us pray to the Lord.
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For our families that they may grow in love and care for one another, let us pray to the Lord.
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For our own needs, (*Invite people to add their own intentions.*)
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
- Presider:** Let us join these prayers to the great prayer Jesus gave us.
Response: Our Father, . . .

Another Form of Intercessory Prayer

- Presider:** Holy God, you love us, care for us, and know our needs before we even ask. Knowing that you listen, we pray.
Response: O God, hear us; hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For the poor, for those who have no homes, for those without food or clothing, may they not give up and may we learn to share.
Response: O God, hear us; hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For people who are discouraged and lonely, may they know the closeness of God.
Response: O God, hear us; hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For all children that they may have parents and adults who love them, care for them, and give them freedom to grow.
Response: O God, hear us; hear our prayer.
- Presider:** For those who have died, may God hold them close and may we never forget them.
Response: O God, hear us; hear our prayer.
- Presider:** God, we know you hear us. You even hear the prayers in our hearts for which we have no words. Trusting you, we offer these prayers in Jesus' name.
Response: Amen.