



FAMILY PRAYER

EPIPHANY

The absolute grace of the Gospel—God pours out his unconditional love for us in the redemptive work of Christ—is so beautiful that it compels us to respond by offering all of our life to God as worship.

As individuals, we pray and read scripture every day throughout the day using forms of common prayer that unite us spiritually throughout the week.

CONCERNING FAMILY PRAYER

These devotions follow the basic structure of the Daily Office of the Church and are particularly appropriate for families with young children.

The Reading and the Collect may be read by one person, and the other parts said in unison, or in some other convenient manner.

Appropriate Opening Sentences, Psalms, Readings, and Collects are provided in each service. When desired, however, the Collect of the Day, or any of the Collects appointed in the Daily Office, may be used instead.

It may be helpful for individuals, especially for families with smaller children, to spend a moment preparing for prayer before beginning. A sustained moment of silence is often a good starting place. Physical aids such as lighting candles, making the sign of the cross, sitting, standing, and kneeling at appropriate points, all may be helpful in focusing hearts, minds, and bodies for worship.

It is customary to pray the Confession and say the Apostles' Creed at least once during the course of each day.

IN THE MORNING

The following or some other verse of Scripture is said

From the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 1:11

PSALM 5:1-3

- 1 Give ear to my words, O Lord;
consider my meditation**
- 2 O hearken unto the voice of my calling, my King and my God,
for unto you will I make my prayer.**
- 3 My voice shall you hear in the morning, O Lord;
early in the morning will I direct my prayer unto you,
and will look up.**

**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.**

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:12-14

A period of silence may follow.

A hymn or canticle may be used; the Apostles' Creed may be said.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day: Defend us by your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor run into any danger; and that, guided by your Spirit, we may do what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

AT MIDDAY

The following or some other verse of Scripture is said

From the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 1:11

PSALM 121

- 1 I will lift up my eyes unto the hills;
from whence comes my help?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord,
who has made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved,
and he who keeps you will not sleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord himself is your keeper;
the Lord is your defense upon your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not burn you by day,
neither the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil;
indeed, it is he who shall keep your soul.
- 8 The Lord shall preserve your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore.

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.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:4-5

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty Savior, who at mid-day called your servant Saint Paul to be an apostle to the Gentiles: We pray you to illumine the world with the radiance of your glory, that all nations may come and worship you; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

IN THE EARLY EVENING

The following or some other verse of Scripture is said

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Isaiah 60:3

PHOS HILARON

O Gladsome Light

O gladsome light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,

O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,

and our eyes behold the vesper light,

we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,

O Son of God, O Giver of Life,

and to be glorified through all the worlds.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

A period of silence may follow.

A hymn or canticle may be used; the Apostles' Creed may be said.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord; and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE DAY

The following or some other verse of Scripture is said

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Isaiah 60:3

PSALM 134

- 1 Behold now, praise the Lord,
all you servants of the Lord,**
- 2 You that stand by night in the house of the Lord,
even in the courts of the house of our God.**
- 3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary
and sing praises unto the Lord.**
- 4 The Lord who made heaven and earth
give you blessing out of Zion.**

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

You keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on you, because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord for ever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

Isaiah 26:3-4

A period of silence may follow.

A hymn or canticle may be used.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others. It is appropriate that prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings of the day, and penitence for our sins, be included.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, illumine this night with your celestial brightness, and from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS *The Song of Simeon*

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace,
according to your word.
For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of your people Israel.
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.

Luke 2:29-32

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us, this night and evermore. Amen.

When the Apostles Creed is included in Family Prayer, the text is as follows:

THE APOSTLES CREED

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 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.

When the Confession of Sin is included in Family Prayer, the text is as follows:

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the People

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence is kept.

All kneeling, the Officiant and People say

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

A Deacon or layperson remains kneeling and prays

Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



JONAH'S CALL

A GOSPEL CHURCH. A CITY CHURCH.