

Outline for Service of Morning Prayer

Opening Sentences

Psalm Readings

Scripture Readings

Reflection on Readings

Canticle of Zechariah

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord's Prayer

(Hymn)

Dismissal

OPENING SENTENCES

1 *See Isa. 55:12*

The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the forest shall clap their hands.
For behold, our Lord and Ruler is coming to reign forever.
Alleluia!

Or

2 *Ps. 85:10-11*

Love and faithfulness will meet;
justice and peace will embrace.
Faithfulness will spring from the earth
and justice will look down from heaven.

Or

3 The Lord shall come when morning dawns,
and earth's dark night is past.
As the sentry waits for daybreak,
so my soul hopes for the Lord.

Or

4 Like the sun in the morning sky,
the Savior of the world will come.
Like rain on the meadow,
he will descend.

Psalm Readings

Scripture Readings

Silent Reflection

[A Brief Interpretation of the Reading, or a Nonbiblical Reading]

Canticle of Zechariah

Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
⁶⁹He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. ⁷²Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Satisfy us with your love in the morning,
and we will live this day in joy and praise.

One of the following, or other prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, may be said:

Sunday

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 beauty of your creation . . .

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

the sustaining love of family and friends . . .

the fellowship of faith in your church. . . .

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 . . .

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

all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

all who strive to save the earth from destruction . . .

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

Monday

We praise you, God our creator, for your handiwork in shaping and sustaining your wondrous creation. Especially we thank you for

the miracle of life and the wonder of living . . .

particular blessings coming to us in this day . . .

the resources of the earth . . .

gifts of creative vision and skillful craft . . .

the treasure stored in every human life. . . .

We dare to pray for others, God our Savior, claiming your love in Jesus Christ for the whole world, committing ourselves to care for those around us in his name.

Especially we pray for

those who work for the benefit of others . . .

those who cannot work today . . .

those who teach and those who learn . . .

people who are poor . . .

the church in Europe. . . .

Tuesday

Eternal God, we rejoice this morning in the gift of life, which we have received by your grace, and the new life you give in Jesus Christ. Especially we thank you for

the love of our families . . .

the affection of our friends . . .

strength and abilities to serve your purpose today . . .

this community in which we live . . .

opportunities to give as we have received. . . .

God of grace, we offer our prayers for the needs of others and commit ourselves to serve them even as we have been served in Jesus Christ. Especially we pray for those closest to us, families, friends, neighbors . . .

refugees and homeless men, women and children . . .

the outcast and persecuted . . .

those from whom we are estranged . . .

the church in Africa. . . .

Wednesday

God of all mercies, we praise you that you have brought us to this new day, brightening our lives with the dawn of promise and hope in Jesus Christ. Especially we thank you for

the warmth of sunlight, the wetness of rain and snow, and all that nourishes the earth . . .

the presence and power of your Spirit . . .

the support and encouragement we receive from others . . .

those who provide for public safety and well-being . . .

the mission of the church around the world. . . .

Merciful God, strengthen us in prayer that we may lift up the brokenness of this world for your healing, and share in the saving love of Jesus Christ. Especially we pray for those in positions of authority over others . . .

the lonely and forgotten . . .

children without families or homes . . .

agents of caring and relief . . .

the church in Asia and the Middle East. . . .

Thursday

Loving God, as the rising sun chases away the night, so you have scattered the power of death in the rising of Jesus Christ, and you bring us all blessings in him.

Especially we thank you for

the community of faith in our church . . .

those with whom we work or share common concerns . . .

the diversity of your children . . .

indications of your love at work in the world . . .

those who work for reconciliation. . . .

Mighty God, with the dawn of your love you reveal your victory over all that would destroy or harm, and you brighten the lives of all who need you. Especially we pray for families suffering separation . . .

people different from ourselves . . .

those isolated by sickness or sorrow . . .

the victims of violence or warfare . . .

the church in the Pacific region. . . .

Friday

Eternal God, we praise you for your mighty love given in Christ's sacrifice on the cross, and the new life we have received by his resurrection. Especially we thank you for

the presence of Christ in our weakness and suffering . . .

the ministry of Word and Sacrament . . .

all who work to help and heal . . .

sacrifices made for our benefit . . .

opportunities for our generous giving. . . .

God of grace, let our concern for others reflect Christ's self-giving love, not only in our prayers, but also in our practice. Especially we pray for

those subjected to tyranny and oppression . . .

wounded and injured people . . .

those who face death . . .

those who may be our enemies . . .

the church in Latin America. . . .

Saturday

Great and wonderful God, we praise and thank you for the gift of renewal in Jesus Christ. Especially we thank you for

opportunities for rest and recreation . . .

the regenerating gifts of the Holy Spirit . . .

activities shared by young and old . . .

fun and laughter . . .

every service that proclaims your love. . . .

You make all things new, O God, and we offer our prayers for the renewal of the world and the healing of its wounds. Especially we pray for

those who have no leisure . . .

people enslaved by addictions . . .

those who entertain and enlighten . . .

those confronted with temptation . . .

the church in North America. . . .

Individual prayers of thanksgiving and intercession may be offered.

There may be silent prayer. The leader then says one of the following prayers, or a similar prayer.

God of all wisdom,
our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love,
and our minds search for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Savior,
and strengthen us to grow in love,
that at the dawn of his coming
we may rejoice in his presence
and welcome the light of his truth.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Or

O Christ, splendor of the glory of God,
and perfect image of the Eternal One who begot you,
we praise you for the infinite love which sent you among us;
we confess you as the light and life of the world;
and we adore you as our Lord and our God,
now and forever.

Amen.

Or

Holy God,
the mystery of your eternal Word
took flesh among us
when Mary, without reserve, entrusted her life to you.
Strengthen us by the example of her humility,
that we may always be ready to do your will
and welcome Christ into our lives,
who lives and reigns forever and ever. [473]

Amen

Lord's Prayer

[Hymn or Spiritual]

Dismissal

The leader dismisses the people using one of the following:

The grace of God be with us all, now and always.

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Or

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Or

To God be honor and glory forever and ever.

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Or

May we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge
of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

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