



Daily Prayer

Pattern for Worship

From the gathering around word and sacrament on the first day of the week, Christians are sent by God to continue their worship each day through lives of service. St. Paul's guidance to "pray without ceasing . . . for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thess. 5:17-18) suggests that the Christian life is prayer: openness to the presence of God, responsiveness to the word of God, recognition that all of life is in Christ, and engagement in care for one another and for the whole creation. Daily prayer is a gift that nourishes growth toward living all of daily life in prayer.

Evening and morning are primary times for common prayer in various faith traditions. For Christians, Evening Prayer and Morning Prayer have an additional dimension, calling to mind Christ's passage through death to resurrection. As evening comes, we look to the light of Christ that scatters the darkness, even as we anticipate the great awakening of the resurrection. With the rising sun, we praise God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and we ask the Holy Spirit's help in taking up the cross to follow Jesus into another day. Night Prayer offers a time to acknowledge both the gifts and the failings of each day, and we commend ourselves and the whole world into God's hands as night comes.

Although the patterns for these times of common daily prayer are not uniform, they have several common features: the church's song, especially the singing of psalms; the reading of and reflection upon the scriptures; and prayers in a variety of forms. This basic pattern is often preceded by an opening, whether brief or extended, and concluded with the blessing of God.

In addition to prayer at these three times of day, Responsive Prayer is a simple order that may be adapted to a variety of times and contexts.

Opening

Morning

Dialogue

Doxology

We begin the pattern of daily prayer by opening our hearts and voices to the presence of God.

Evening

Dialogue

Hymn of Light

Thanksgiving for Light

The words that begin morning prayer remind us that this opening is itself the gift of God: "O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise" (Ps. 51:15).

The patterns for evening prayer and night prayer provide for an opening that may be extended: at evening prayer, with a hymn and thanksgiving for the Light that is Christ; at night prayer, with a night hymn and a communal form of confession and forgiveness.

Night

Dialogue

Night Hymn

Confession and Forgiveness

Psalmody

Morning

Morning Psalm

Additional Psalm(s)

Singing the psalms is a primary element of daily prayer.

Using the psalms in worship is a practice inherited from our forebears in faith, the Hebrew people. Christians through the centuries have prayed them daily.

Evening

Evening Psalm

Additional Psalm(s)

Through the singing of psalms we express many things: adoration, praise, thanksgiving for God's deliverance, lament, confession, intercession, teaching. Used in the context of prayer, they are at the same time God's words to us and our response to God. In silence after each psalm, we continue to listen for God's voice.

Night

Night Psalm

Additional Psalm(s)

Morning, Evening, Night

Song

We continue singing from the church's treasury of song.

A hymn that reflects the time of day or the church year is especially fitting.

Central elements of the liturgy are noted in bold type; other elements support the essential shape of Christian worship.

Word

Morning

Reading(s)

Reflection

Gospel Canticle:

Song of Zechariah

Evening

Reading(s)

Reflection

Gospel Canticle:

Song of Mary

Night

Brief Reading

Reflection

Gospel Canticle:

Song of Simeon

As part of daily prayer, we hear and reflect on readings from the Bible. Use of a daily lectionary helps us encounter more of the scriptures than we hear on Sundays. The reading in night prayer is typically brief, a verse or two for meditation as the day comes to a close.

Reflection on the reading(s) includes a time of silence, and may take other forms, too: a response through music or other arts; a brief verbal reflection such as preaching, teaching, or testimony.

Our response to the word of God is summed up in singing one of the great scriptural songs from the gospel of Luke. With these songs the church both proclaims and hears the liberating good news.

Prayers

Morning, Evening, Night

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Peace

Although all of daily prayer is in a sense praying, we conclude with intentional forms of prayer: giving thanks for the gifts of God; praying for others and for ourselves; and the Lord's Prayer. The word of God's blessing concludes daily prayer, and may be followed by the sign of peace.

OR

at **Morning Prayer**

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Peace

Especially on Sundays and during the Easter season, morning prayer may conclude with a thanksgiving for baptism. One form of this thanksgiving, the paschal blessing, tells the Easter story and includes the singing of "We praise you, O God."

Morning Prayer

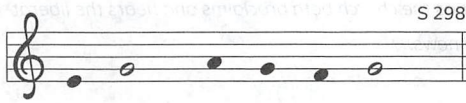
Matins



Opening

The assembly stands.

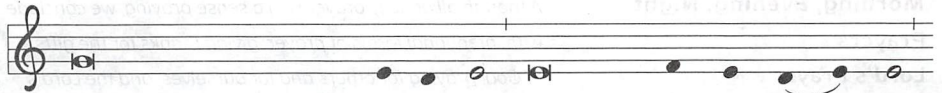
The leader begins the dialogue, and the assembly responds, concluding with a doxology.



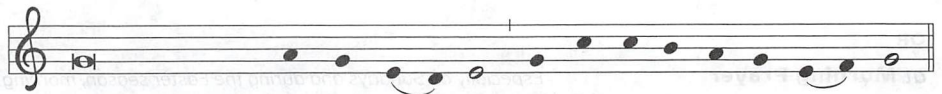
O Lord, o - pen my lips,



and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - - it:



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

The alleluia is omitted during Lent.



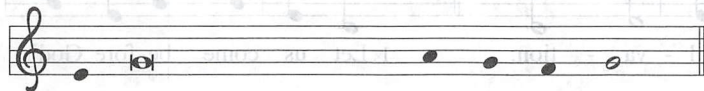
Al - le - lu - ia.

OR

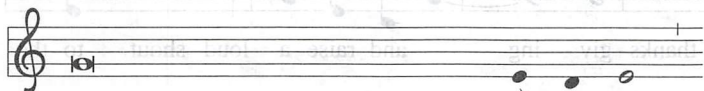
S 299



Satisfy us in the morning with your stead - fast love, O God,



that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.



Praise to the blest and holy Trinity, one God,



who gives us life, salvation, and res - ur - rec - tion.

The alleluia is omitted during Lent.



Al - le - lu - ia.

Psalmody

The psalmody begins with a morning psalm of praise: Psalm 95:1-7a (the Venite), Psalm 63:1-8, Psalm 67, Psalm 100, or another appropriate psalm.

The psalm may be preceded and followed by a general or seasonal invitatory. When the invitatory is sung, the following or a similar tone may be used, the assembly echoing the leader.

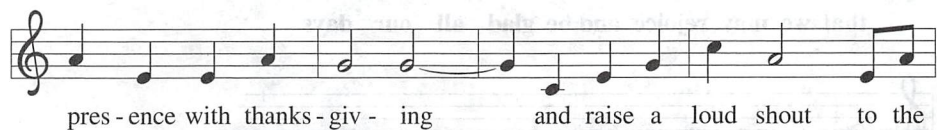
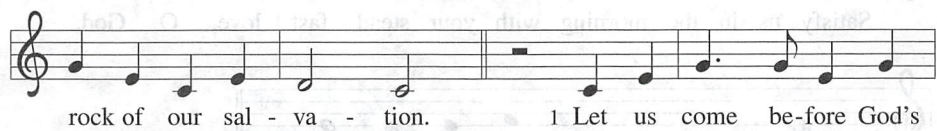
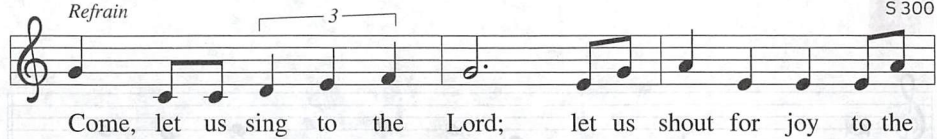


Give glory to God, our light and our life.

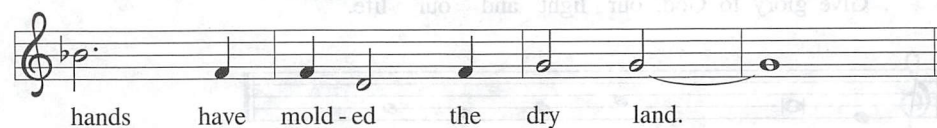
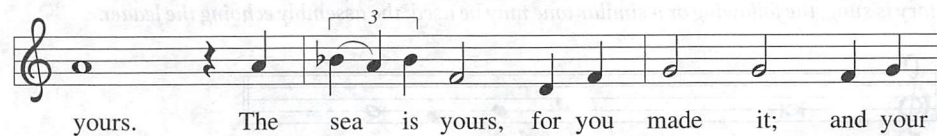
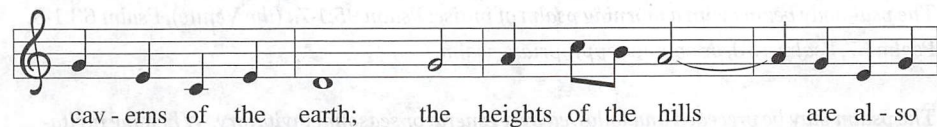
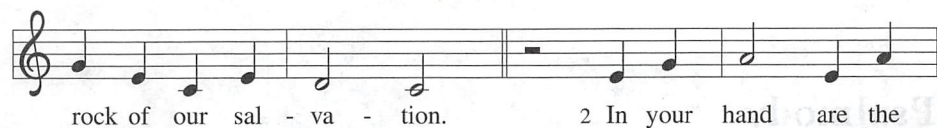
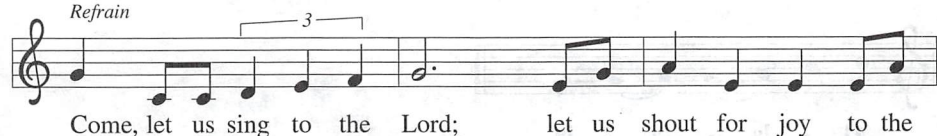


Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

Refrain



Refrain



Refrain



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion. 3 Come, let us wor-ship and bow



down; let us kneel be-fore the Lord our mak - er. For the

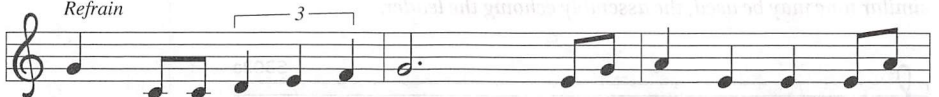


Lord is our God, and we are the peo-ple of God's

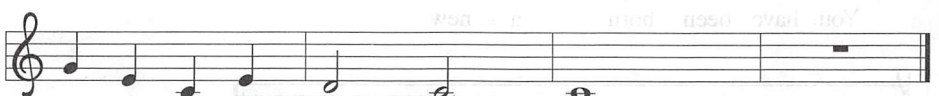


pas - ture and the sheep of God's hand.

Refrain



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion.



Give glory to God, our light and our life.



Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

The assembly is seated.

Gospel Canticle

The assembly stands to sing the gospel canticle for morning, the song of Zechariah, using the following or another musical version (#226, 250, 552). "We praise you, O God" (#227, 228, 414) may be used in place of the Benedictus.

Refrain S 303

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God the
dawn from on high shall break up - on us.

1 Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
2 You have raised up for us a might - y Savior,
3 Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,
4 to show mercy to our forebears,
5 This was the oath you swore to our fa - ther Abraham:
6 free to worship you without fear,
7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
8 to give God's people knowledge of sal - vation
9 In the tender compassion of our God
10 to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,

1 you have come to your people and set them free.
2 born of the house of your ser - vant David. *Refrain*
3 from the hands of all who hate us,
4 and to re - member your ho - ly covenant,
5 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
6 holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life. *Refrain*
7 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare the way,
8 by the for - give - ness of their sins.
9 the dawn from on high shall break up - on us,
10 and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Refrain*

Prayers

The assembly kneels or stands. The following or another form of the prayers may be used.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

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 sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

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

for the gifts of relationship with others . . .

for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Other thanksgivings may be added.

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 . . .

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

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .

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

Other intercessions may be added.

One or more of the following prayers and other appropriate prayers may be used.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity. In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is sung or spoken.

S 305

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The assembly stands.

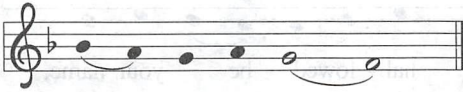
Especially on Sundays, morning prayer may include a thanksgiving for baptism. One of the forms on pp. 307–308 may be used. If the thanksgiving for baptism is omitted, the service concludes as follows.

Blessing

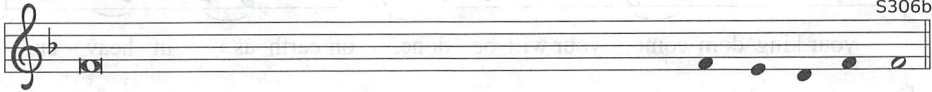


S306a

Let us bless the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



S306b

Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve us.



A - men.

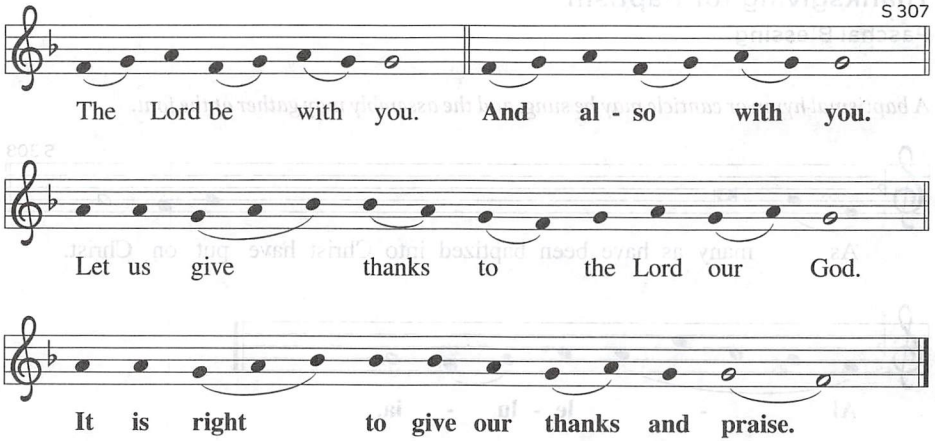
A hymn may be sung.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

S 307

A baptismal hymn or canticle may be sung, and the assembly may gather at the font.



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Water may be poured into the font as the leader gives thanks.

Ever-living God, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water, and “We praise you, O God” (#227, 228, 414) or another hymn or canticle related to baptism may be sung.

The leader addresses the assembly in these or similar words.

Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.



Thanksgiving for Baptism

Paschal Blessing

A baptismal hymn or canticle may be sung, and the assembly may gather at the font.

S 308

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Al - le - lu - ia.

The resurrection narrative is sung or spoken.

On the first day of the week at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them: “Why do you look for the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”

“We praise you, O God” (#227, 228, 414) is sung. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing of the canticle.

O God, for our redemption you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin so that we may rise to live with Christ forever; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Almighty God bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in peace.

Amen.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.



Evening Prayer

Vespers



Opening

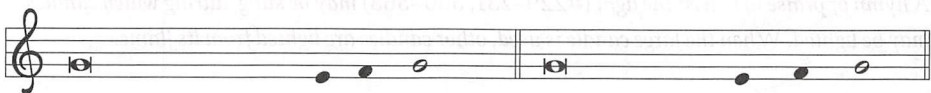
The assembly stands. A large, lighted candle may be carried to its place.

A dialogue may accompany or follow the procession. When it is sung, the following or a similar tone may be used, the assembly echoing the leader.

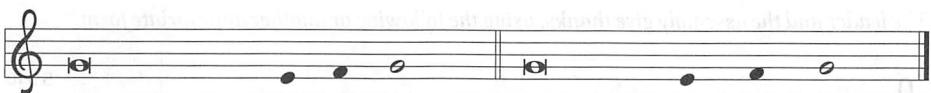


S 309

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, **the light no darkness can o - ver - come.**



Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, **and the day is al - most over.**



Let your light scat - ter the darkness **and illu - mine your church.**

OR

One of the following dialogues may be sung to the above or a similar tone.

General

God is our light and **!** our salvation,
our refuge **! and our stronghold.**
 From the rising of the sun **!** to its setting,
we praise your **! name, O God.**
 For with you is the foun - **!** tain of life,
and in your light **! we see light.**

Advent

The Spirit and the **!** church cry out:
Amen. **! Come, Lord Jesus.**
 All those who await
 his ap - **!** pearance pray:
Amen. **! Come, Lord Jesus.**
 The whole cre - **!** ation pleads:
Amen. **! Come, Lord Jesus.**

Christmas—Baptism of Our Lord

The light shines **!** in the darkness,
and the darkness has not **! overcome it.**

The Word became flesh and **!** lived among us,
and we have be- **! held Christ's glory.**

To us a child is born, to us a **!** Son is given.

In the Word was life, and the life was the light **! of all people.**

Lent

Behold, now is the accept- **!** able time;
now is the day **! of salvation.**

Turn us again, O God of **!** our salvation,
that the light of your face
may **! shine on us.**

May your justice shine **!** like the sun;
and may the poor be **! lifted up.**

Easter

Jesus Christ is risen **!** from the dead.
Alleluia, alleluia, **! alleluia!**

We are illumined
by the brightness **!** of his rising.

Alleluia, alleluia, **! alleluia!**

Death has no more dominion **!** over us.
Alleluia, alleluia, **! alleluia!**

If the hymn of light and thanksgiving for light are omitted, the service continues with the psalmody on p. 312.

Hymn of Light

A hymn of praise to Christ the light (#229–231, 560–563) may be sung, during which candles may be lighted. When the large candle is used, other candles are lighted from its flame.

Thanksgiving for Light

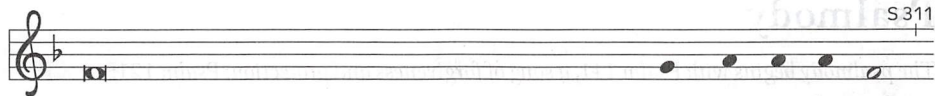
The leader and the assembly give thanks, using the following or another appropriate form.

S 310

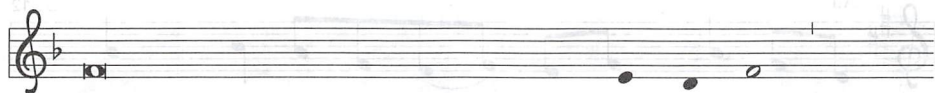
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

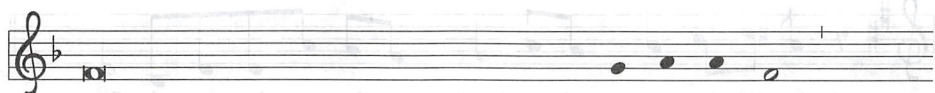
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light in - to being,



and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.



In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night



you led your peo - ple in - to freedom.



Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be



a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are mer-ci - ful,



and you love your whole cre-a-tion, and with all your crea-tures we give you glory,



through your Son Je - sus Christ, in the unity of the Ho - ly Spirit,



now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The assembly is seated.

Psalmody

The psalmody begins with Psalm 141, a song of forgiveness and protection; Psalm 121; or another psalm appropriate for evening.

All S 312

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;

the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Group One or All

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when

All

I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;

the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac - ri - fice.

Group Two or All

Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

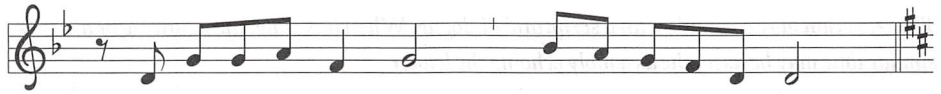
Group One or All

Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil -

Group Two or All

do - ers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;



in you I take ref - uge. Strip me not of my life.



Glo-ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense;



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

*The psalmody may continue with one or more additional psalms. Each is followed by a time of silence, which may be concluded by a psalm prayer; the assembly responds **Amen**.*

Song

Additional assembly song may follow the psalmody. A hymn appropriate to the time of day or the season is normally sung, the assembly standing.

Word

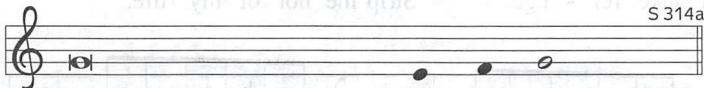
Readings

The assembly is seated.

*The service includes one or more scripture readings. After the conclusion of each reading, the assembly may respond **Thanks be to God**.*

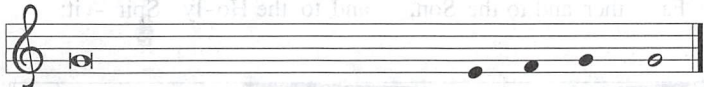
The reading of scripture is followed by silence for reflection. Other forms of reflection may also follow, such as brief commentary, teaching, or personal witness; non-biblical readings; interpretation through music or other art forms; or guided conversation among those present.

The reflection may conclude with a scriptural dialogue. When it is sung, the following or a similar tone may be used, the assembly echoing the leader.




S 314a

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.



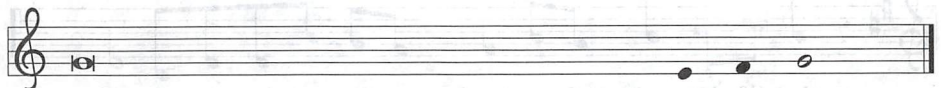
Whoever follows me will never walk in dark - ness.

OR



S 314b

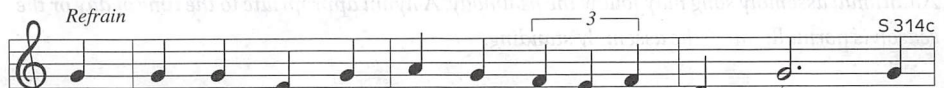
Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,



but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

Gospel Canticle


The assembly stands to sing the gospel canticle for evening, the song of Mary, using the following or another musical version (#234–235; 251, 573, 723, 882).



Refrain

S 314c

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord, my



spir - it re - joic - es in God my Sav - ior.



1 My soul proclaims the great - ness of the Lord,
 2 You have mer - cy on those who fear you,
 3 You have filled the hun - gry with good things



my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
 from generation to gen - er - ation.
 and sent the rich a - way empty.



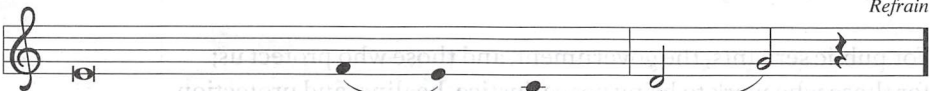
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your low - ly servant.
 You have shown . . . strength with your arm
 You have come to the aid of your ser - vant Is - ra - el,



From this day all generations will call me bless'd:
 and scattered the proud in their con - ceit,
 to remember the prom - ise of mercy,



you, the Almighty, have done great things for me
 casting down the might - y from their thrones
 the promise made to our . . . fore - bears,



and holy is your name.
 and lifting up the low - ly.
 to Abraham and his chil - dren for - ev - er.

Refrain

Prayers

The assembly kneels or stands. The following litany or another form of the prayers may be sung or spoken.

S 316

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us **^** pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us **^** pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us **^** pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share,
and for peaceful times, let us **^** pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us;
for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection
in this and every place, let us **^** pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering,
and for those who are in captivity, let us **^** pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need,
let us ¹ pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For name/s and all servants of the church, for this assembly,
and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy,
let us ¹ pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Other petitions may be added.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A time of silence follows.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the
communion of name/s and all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and
our whole life to you,

through Christ our Lord. To you, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music consists of a few notes on the treble staff and a few notes on the bass staff, with a double bar line in the middle. The lyrics are written below the notes.

The litany may be followed by one or more additional prayers.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the
ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go
out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is
leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works:
give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts
may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from
the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ
our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Amen.

OR

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is sung or spoken.

S 318

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

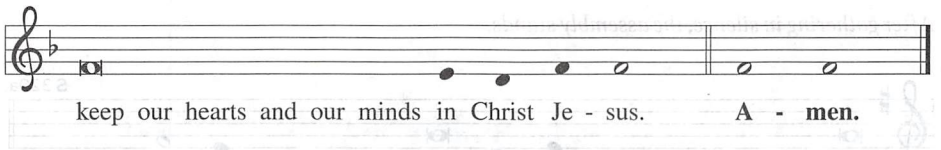
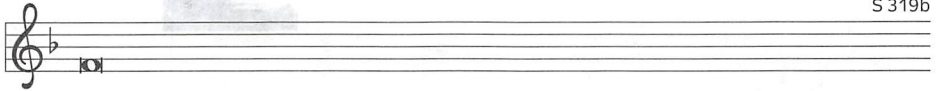
Blessing

S 319a



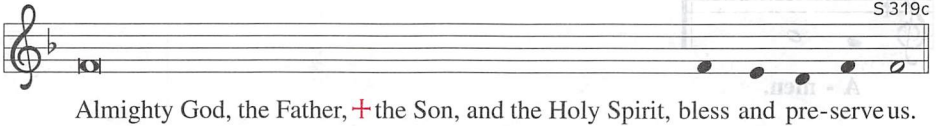
The leader continues:

S 319b



OR

S 319c



A hymn may be sung.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.



Night Prayer

Compline

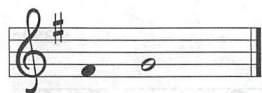


Opening

After gathering in silence, the assembly stands.



Almighty God grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



A - men.

One of the following dialogues is sung.



It is good to give thanks to the Lord, **to sing praise to your name, O Most High;**



to herald your love in the morning, **your truth at the close of the day.**

OR



By day, O God, **you grant your stead - fast love,**



and at night your song is with me, **a prayer to the God of my life.**

Night Hymn

“All praise to thee, my God, this night” (#565) or another night hymn may be sung.

Confession and Forgiveness

The leader invites the assembly into the confession.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or sits and keeps silence for self-examination.

The leader begins the confession.

Holy and gracious God,
**I confess that I have sinned
against you this day.
Some of my sin I know—
the thoughts and words and deeds
of which I am ashamed—
but some is known only to you.
In the name of Jesus Christ
I ask forgiveness.
Deliver and restore me,
that I may rest in peace.**

By the mercy of God
we are united with Jesus Christ,
in whom we are forgiven.
We rest now
in the peace of Christ
and rise in the morning to serve.

OR

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty
to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.
**Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon, and
forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.**

**I confess to God Almighty, before
the whole company of heaven,
and to you,
my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.
I pray God Almighty
to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.
Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon, and
forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.**

Psalmody

One or more psalms (such as 4, 33, 34, 91, 130, 134, 136) are sung or said. Each is followed by a time of silence, which may be concluded by a psalm prayer, to which the assembly responds Amen.

Song

A hymn or song appropriate to the time of day or the season may be sung.

Word

Reading

The service includes one of the following or another brief scripture reading.

You, O LORD, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; do not forsake us, O LORD our God. (*Jeremiah 14:9*)

Do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" Indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the dominion and the righteousness of God, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow. (*Matthew 6:31-34*)

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

Peace is my parting gift to you, my own peace, such as the world cannot give. Set your troubled hearts at rest, and banish your fears. (*John 14:27*)

I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*Romans 8:38-39*)

It is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. (*2 Corinthians 4:6-7*)

Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand, so that God may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on the one who cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion, your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist the devil, steadfast in your faith. (1 Peter 5:6-9a)

There will be no more night; the servants of God need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever. (Revelation 22:5)

The reading of scripture is followed by extended silence for reflection and meditation. The silence may conclude with the following responsory.

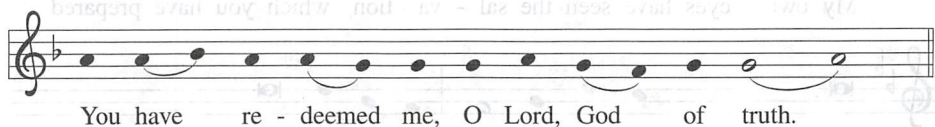
S 323



In-to your hands, O Lord, I com - mend my spir - it.



In-to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



You have re - deemed me, O Lord, God of truth.



In-to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.



Glory to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it.



In-to your hands I com - mend my spir - it.

Gospel Canticle

The assembly stands to sing the gospel canticle for night prayer, the song of Simeon, using the following or another musical version (#200–203, 313, 440). As an alternative, the canticle may be sung after the Lord's Prayer and before the concluding blessing.

Leader S 324



Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing;



that a-wake we may watch with Christ and a-sleep we may rest in peace.

All



Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been ful-filled.



My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have prepared



in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to reveal you to the



na - tions and the glory of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



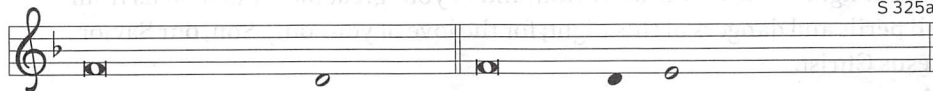
Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing;



that a-wake we may watch with Christ and a-sleep we may rest in peace.

Prayers

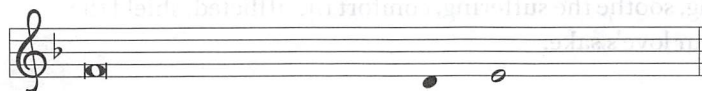
S 325a



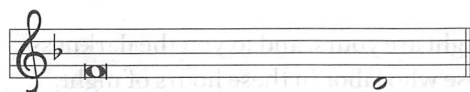
Hear my prayer, O Lord; **listen to my cry.**



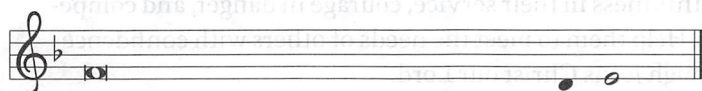
Keep me as the apple of your eye;



hide me in the shadow of your wings.



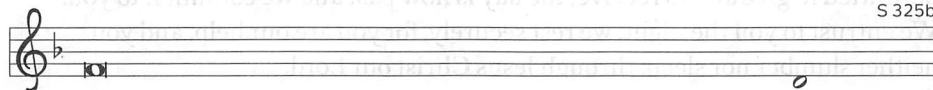
In righteousness I shall see you;



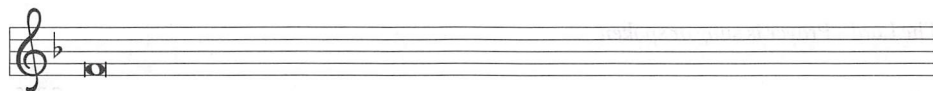
when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

One or more of the following prayers or other appropriate prayers may be prayed.

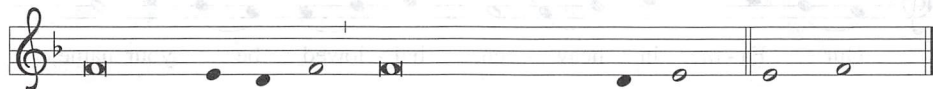
S 325b



Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night,



so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may



find our rest in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **A - men.**

OR

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

Be our light in the darkness, O God, and in 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.

OR

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

Amen.

OR

Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are yours, and to you the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OR

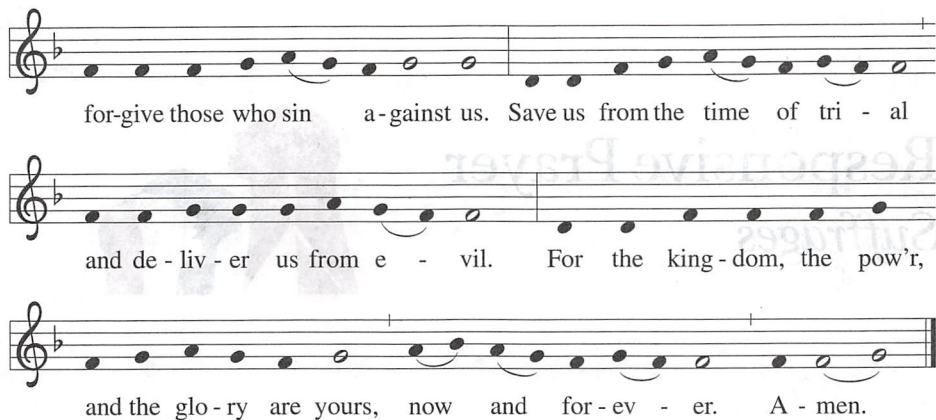
Gracious God, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest securely, for you are our help, and you neither slumber nor sleep; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is sung or spoken.

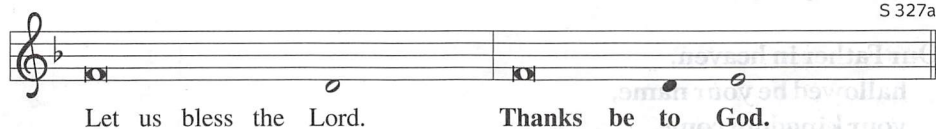
S 326

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



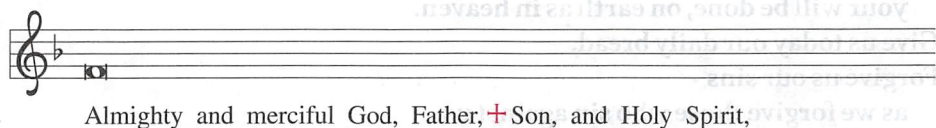
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Blessing

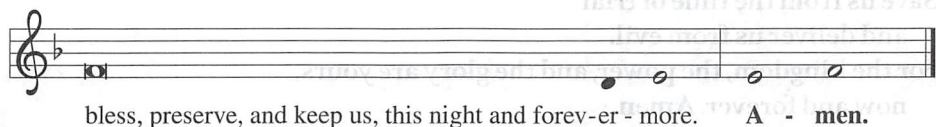


Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

S 327a

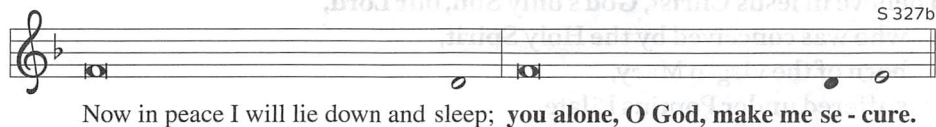


Almighty and merciful God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,



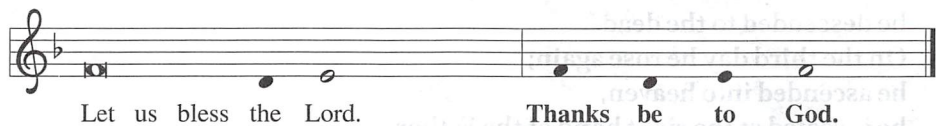
bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forev-er - more. A - men.

OR



Now in peace I will lie down and sleep; you alone, O God, make me se - cure.

S 327b



Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

Responsive Prayer

Suffrages



Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

**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.**

Morning

O Lord, I cry to you for help.

**In the morning
my prayer comes before you.**

Let my mouth be full of your praise
and your glory all the day long.

Every day will I bless you,
**and praise your name
forever and ever.**

Awesome things will you show us
in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
**O hope of all
the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
**and all that is within me,
bless God's holy name.**

You redeem my life from the grave,
**and crown me with mercy
and steadfast love.**

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you.

At other times

Show us your mercy, O God,
and grant us your salvation.

Give us the joy
of your saving help again,
**and sustain us
with your bountiful Spirit.**

Give peace in all the world;
for only in you can we live in safety.

Keep the nations under your care,
**and guide us in the way
of justice and truth.**

Let your way be known upon earth;
**your saving health
among all nations.**

Let not the needy be forgotten,
**nor the hope of the poor
be taken away.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
**and sustain me
with your Holy Spirit.**

Lord, hear my prayer,
and let my cry come before you.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

The prayer of the day may be said.

Response after the prayer: Amen.

Additional prayers may be said. The final prayer is one appropriate to the time of day or the occasion.

Morning

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

Noon

Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever.

Amen.

Afternoon

O God, in you we live and move and have our being. Guide and govern us in this day by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but remember that always we are walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Evening

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

Daily work

God our creator, you have given us work to do and call us to use our talents for the good of all. Guide us as we work, and teach us to live in the Spirit who made us your sons and daughters, in the love that made us sisters and brothers, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Before travel

O God, our beginning and our end, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us now as we set out to travel. Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our heavenly home, where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ and the life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.